

No Child Left Inside Grants Awarded 2023

Projects in Chelan County

Peshastin-Dryden and Alpine Parent Teacher Organization Funding Mountain Bikes for Cascade Youth

Grant Awarded: \$24,990

The Peshastin-Dryden and Alpine Lakes Parent Teacher Organization will use this grant to buy a fleet of thirty mountain bikes and helmets, along with a utility trailer for bike storage and transport for use by the Cascade School District. The district plans to teach mountain biking skills and bike safety to 550 students in grades three through eight during physical education classes and offer an after-school mountain biking club that will take two trips to trails in Lake Wenatchee and Squilchuck State Parks. The classes and club will introduce students to a lifelong sport that provides physical and mental health benefits. The district serves rural, north central Washington students in Peshastin, Dryden, Lake Wenatchee, Plain, and Leavenworth, where 47 percent of the students are economically disadvantaged. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2341)

Wenatchee Valley YMCA Providing Outdoor Experiences at Lake Wenatchee

Grant Awarded: \$150,000

The Wenatchee Valley YMCA will use this grant to subsidize kids' participation for two years in its Outdoor Experience Program and cover 75 percent of a new outreach and program coordinator position to sustain the program. The YMCA will work with six regional organizations that reach traditionally underserved youth to recruit participants for the program. Across 2023-2025, about 1,170 youth will participate in programming at the Lake Wenatchee YMCA Camp in Chelan County, next to Lake Wenatchee State Park. The goals of the program are to transition to year-round programming; enhance regional partnerships that expand the reach, impact, and capacity of partners; and increase efforts to serve traditionally underserved youth. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2036)

For additional projects funded in this county, see page 35.

Projects in Clallam County

Clallam County Teaching Kids How to Canoe

Grant Awarded: \$25,000

Clallam County Parks, Fair and Facilities Department will use this grant to develop and implement canoe skills training and a canoe trip as part of the Camp David Jr. Aquatics Program. Participants will learn the basic skills associated with successful canoe use, the "anatomy" of a

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canoe and paddle, canoe safety and use of lifejackets, basic strokes for a single and pair, basic canoe function and how to right a capsized canoe, and how to create a trip plan. Youth who master the skills will participate in a lengthy canoe tour. Camp David Jr. is a nearly nine-acre Clallam County facility on the shores of Lake Crescent in the Olympic National Park. It hosts 2,300 youth annually. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project.](#) (22-2041)

Naturebridge **Grant Awarded: \$75,000** **Providing Scholarships for Environmental Education in Olympic National Park**

NatureBridge will use this grant to provide scholarships to 650 underserved kids, primarily ages eight to seventeen, to attend an overnight, Environmental Science Education Program in Olympic National Park during two years. Of the participants, 47 percent are economically disadvantaged, and 5 percent are learning English. The youth will increase their understanding of the region's ecological processes as they hike or snowshoe to waterfalls, paddle a canoe, and conduct real-world research and hands-on stewardship projects using a place-based science curriculum. NatureBridge incorporates social and emotional learning and equity and inclusion concepts into lessons. Students reflect on their ancestral history, that of others in the group, and that of Native peoples surrounding the campus. Through their NatureBridge experience, students develop comfort in and an appreciation of the natural world, a deeper interest in science and the environment, and greater resilience and interpersonal relationship skills. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project.](#) (22-2089)

Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition **Grant Awarded: \$24,978** **Creating a Salmon Camp for Middle Schoolers**

The Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition will use this grant to create a summer camp program, called Salmon Camp, for Forks Middle School students. The camp will engage kids in a variety of outdoor activities, including fishing, hiking, restoring habitat, identifying and dissecting plants and animals, and journaling and photographing. The camp will run each summer for two years, with the goal of expanding it to other age groups. The camp will be designed to get children outside and enjoying nature, use salmon as a catalyst to encourage students to connect to the community, and teach students to be environmental stewards. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project.](#) (22-2138)

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission **Grant Awarded: \$22,500** **Creating Nature Discovery Programs in State Parks**

Sequim Bay State Park will use this grant to start Nature Discovery School and Rainshadow Outdoor Adventures programs at Sequim Bay State Park, Ramblewood Retreat Center, and

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Miller Peninsula State Park. The programs will offer fields trips for up to sixty kids in kindergarten through high school during the school year. The children will learn about water filtration, marine organisms, and habitat restoration, and perform science experiments. Overnight retreats will be offered for groups with up to thirty kids between twelve and eighteen years old. The trips can occur all year and the teens will learn to mountain bike, hike, kayak, ride horses, and build fires and shelters. The goal is to bring youth into nature and give them new experiences that they do not have the means to achieve themselves. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2388)

Projects in Clark County

Confluence Project

Grant Awarded: \$123,375

Offering Camp Confluence Taught by Indigenous Educators

The Confluence Project will use this grant to offer six, week-long day camps for 150 youth during two years. Participants will be taught by sixty Native American educators and ecologists. Each day will offer a variety of outdoor activities, such as canoe culture, native plants, and storytelling, as youth engage with Indigenous educators offering traditional ecological knowledge and place-based lessons that integrate environmental education, science, culture, and language arts. Camp Confluence participants will visit the Pearson Air Museum Historic Hangar site on the Fort Vancouver National Reserve, the Vancouver Land Bridge, Cape Disappointment in Ilwaco, Columbia Hills Historical State Park, and the Sandy River Delta in Troutdale, Oregon. The goal is to broaden youths' understanding of river-, land-, and people-based Columbia River ecologies. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-1900)

YWCA Clark County

Grant Awarded: \$22,992

Taking Kids Outside as a Source of Healing

The YMCA will use this grant to take thirty preschoolers in its Children's Program on all-day visits to environmental learning centers in two state parks each season. Many of the children's families do not have the resources or time to take their children on excursions outside the city. Of the families, 29 percent are economically disadvantaged. The program will emphasize nature as a source of peace and healing from trauma. Its goals are to foster a strong connection to nature and spending time outside and providing kids with tools so they can use that connection to support their emotional wellbeing. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2143)

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Projects in Cowlitz County

Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership

Grant Awarded: \$74,775

Providing Outdoor Education to Cowlitz County Elementary Schools

The Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership will use this grant to provide environmental science lessons and field trips for 640 students in fourth and fifth grades at Wallace and Lexington Elementary Schools, and other high-need schools. Through its Cowlitz Education Outdoors program, the partnership will provide three lessons at school and one, full-day field trip at Seaquest State Park and Silver Lake during the next two years. The targeted schools have a majority of economically disadvantaged students, a high percentage of students with disabilities, and up to 17 percent of students who are English language learners. The students will explore forests and wetlands, watershed concepts, water quality indicators, and canoeing the partnership's 29-foot-long canoes on Silver Lake. The primary goals of the project are to expand outdoor education programming to elementary students in Cowlitz County and provide accessible, fun, and enriching outdoor science learning for students with greater barriers to the outdoors. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2069)

Mount Saint Helens Institute

Grant Awarded: \$74,000

Expanding the Volcano Outdoor School for All

The Mount Saint Helens Institute will use this grant to expand its Volcano Outdoor School for All program. The program brings about 2,000 students in kindergarten through high school to the Mount Saint Helens National Volcanic Monument and Seaquest State Park for outdoor adventures and learning. Using the Pacific Northwest's youngest and most active volcano as an outdoor lab, the students experience camping, hiking, navigating, teambuilding, snowshoeing, stretching and mindfulness, field investigations, outdoor career awareness, foraging, and outdoor cooking. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2110)

Projects in Douglas County

Orondo School District

Grant Awarded: \$22,900

Offering an After-school Outdoor Education Camp

The Orondo School District will use this grant to provide outdoor programming during the school year and in the summer for up to 120 students in kindergarten through eighth grade. The students will learn about forestry, ecology, earth science, and cooking over a camp fire. The students also will take field trips to conservation sites, hike on the surrounding foothills, build a

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garden, and experience geocaching, snowshoeing, and cross-country skiing. The goal is to improve student performance in reading, math, and science as well as their social behaviors. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2012)

For additional projects funded in this county, see page 35.

Projects in Ferry County

Friends of Stonerose Fossils Teaching Kids about Fossils

Grant Awarded: \$24,485

Friends of Stonerose Fossils will use this grant to host a series of two-day programs from May through October during two years to educate about 450 rural youth in the scientific study of the Earth. With its "Fossils: Then and Now" program, the friends group will target youth between the ages of eight and fourteen from isolated and underserved Ferry County, including the Okanogan highlands, Kettle Mountains of northeast Washington, and the Colville Reservation. The majority of youth participants are economically disadvantaged. The students will learn about the importance of fossils in the current climate and earth science debates and have lessons in entomology and botany as they learn to identify fossils. Student will participate in paleontology digs exposing fossils never seen by humans. Program activities will take place at Curlew Lake State Park, the Stonerose Interpretive Center, and the Eocene Fossil Site in Republic. The primary goal is to get students outside the classroom and excite them about the scientific study of the environment, leading to a better understanding of the Earth, a lifelong love of Earth science, and possibly a future career in the Earth science fields. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2374)

Republic School District Enhancing an Outdoor Education Program

Grant Awarded: \$25,000

The Republic School District will use this grant to expand and improve its Republic Outdoor Adventure Ranger (ROAR) program, which provides about 170 kids, age five to twelve, with outdoor recreation and environmental education. The grant will pay for program implementation, staff, recreational equipment and supplies. In the program, students learn experientially by hiking, snowshoeing, fishing, camping, and digging for fossils. The program includes five to six outdoor experiences for each grade level on state lands throughout Ferry County. The goal of the program is to increase students' critical thinking skills, academic success, peer collaboration, relationships, and engagement in the community. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-1940)

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Projects in Franklin County

Pasco

Grant Awarded: \$25,000

Offering a Summer Outdoor Adventure Series

The City of Pasco will use this grant to provide summer outdoor adventures for twenty-four youth from the traditionally underserved community in and around the Martin Luther King Jr. Center in Pasco. The program will take kids on three adventures: fishing with certified fishing guides, a trip to Sacajawea State Park to work with park staff to complete the Junior Ranger Program, and a trip to the YMCA's Camp Dudley to participate in a planned adventure week. The goals of the Outdoor Adventure Series are to give youth, who normally would not have the opportunity to get outside, new experiences in nature and to help them learn new skills, build confidence and new friendships, and experience healthy relationships. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project.](#) (22-2213)

Projects in Grant County

Foster Creek Conservation District

Grant Awarded: \$25,000

Offering Camp Sagebrush

The Foster Creek Conservation District will use this grant to provide a three-day camp for sixty-five students in fifth through seventh grades from Douglas, Grant, Lincoln, and Okanogan Counties at Camp Delany in Sun Lakes-Dry Falls State Park. Campers will create and implement a monitoring plan to study shrub steppe and its resources like soil, water, vegetation, and wildlife. They will hike and boat to explore the landscape while implementing their monitoring plan using different technology and processes. They will develop their knowledge of the resources, gain an understanding of scientific concepts, and learn the geological and cultural history that has shaped the landscape today. Campers will spend their free time exploring the different recreational opportunities in the park such as swimming and hiking. The goal of Camp Sagebrush is to help area youth learn about shrub steppe and its natural resources, while building a recreational relationship to help protect and sustain it for future generations. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project.](#) (22-2259)

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Projects in Jefferson County

Camp Beausite Northwest

Grant Awarded: \$75,000

Offering Camp Experiences for Youth with Disabilities

Camp Beausite Northwest will use this grant to expand its camps for youth with disabilities to serve up to 500 campers annually for two years. Camp Beausite Northwest and its programs operate year-round both at the camp itself and on the Olympic Peninsula for field trips and a new overnight program. Campers create nature crafts, build bird houses, follow nature scavenger hunts, hike, watch wildlife, swim, beachcomb, ride horses, and cook outside. People with disabilities are one of the most underserved of all populations. The special needs community has suffered almost a complete loss of services and respite programs due to the pandemic. The goal of this project is to meet this growing need for out-of-home, outdoor opportunities for care and experience. The programs allow campers to participate in outdoor activities that may otherwise not be available to them. Staff help campers learn social and adaptive recreation skills, learn new routines, increase their independence, sample different outdoor recreation activities, learn how to follow group and individualized safety instructions, and acquire memories to share with friends and families. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2275)

Northwest Watershed Institute

Grant Awarded: \$73,590

Offering Summer Internships for Environmental Work

The Northwest Watershed Institute will use this grant to support its Headwater to Bay Youth Environmental Education & Restoration Program, which includes a two-week, paid summer field internship for fifteen high school students each year for two years. During the school year, the students will help lead eight restoration projects for 100 younger students and community members. During the two years, this program will get more than 230 students outside. This program is based in the Tarboo-Dabob Bay watershed in Quilcene, which the institute has been working to protect and restore for twenty years. Students will work on projects from upland forests to floodplains to salmon habitat along Tarboo Creek to shellfish tidelands to globally rare forests and coastal saltmarsh. Conserving and restoring natural ecological systems is vital to sustaining life on earth but students rarely are empowered to solve the many challenges. This program will empower low-income and high-risk students to restore and protect the environment through direct action. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2391)

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The ReCyclery of Jefferson County Teaching Bike Safety and Maintenance

Grant Awarded: \$25,000

The ReCyclery of Jefferson County will use this grant to re-tool its bike safety and education program for 850 students in Salish Coast Elementary, OCEAN (Opportunity, Community, Experience, Academics, Navigation—a family partnership program), Blue Heron Middle School, and Port Townsend High School. The program includes bike safety checks, rules of the road instruction, bike maintenance and fittings, warm-ups, and guided bike rides through state parks. The project's goals are to ensure every student knows how to ride a bike safely and can perform basic maintenance on a bicycle. The project also will provide access to tricycles and bicycles for kids learning to ride, facilitating bike ownership for youth in need of financial assistance, and provide access to state parks to foster a lifelong interest in outdoor recreation. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2086)

Projects in King County

Adult and Youth Learning Center Offering a Summer Youth Outdoor Learning Program

Grant Awarded: \$25,000

The Adult and Youth Learning Center will use this grant to launch a Summer Youth Outdoor Learning Program focused on African immigrant youth living in Seattle and King County. The center will engage up to sixty youth each year for two years in weekly hikes and outdoor activities at nearby state parks and nature areas. The program will culminate in a weekend day camp focused on outdoor and personal skill building. The participants will get exercise, build a personal connection with nature, try new outdoor recreation activities, and build knowledge and skills related to nature awareness, environmental education, and personal wellbeing. The center is an immigrant-led organization providing tutoring, mentoring, and enrichment activities that address the unique needs of African immigrants and other youth of color. It offers after-school programming in schools and libraries to help first- and second-generation immigrant youth overcome cultural, linguistic, and structural barriers to help them gain skills, improve school performance, and grow into healthy adults. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2303)

African Community Housing and Development Getting African Youth Outside in Outdoor Explorers Program

Grant Awarded: \$150,000

African Community Housing and Development will use this grant to support its Outdoor Explorers Program, a year-round program that provides 175 African immigrant and refugee students in south King County with after-school outdoor programming, weekend excursions,

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family days, a family camping trip, and week-long school break intensives. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2158)

Bike Works

Grant Awarded: \$150,000

Getting Youth into Cycling and Bicycle Mechanics

Bike Works will use this grant to support its Cycling, Mechanics, and Leadership Pipeline for youth ages two to eighteen in southeast Seattle and south King County. Bike Works hopes to provide eight hundred youth with access to bicycles and repair services and with progressive educational, leadership, and paid apprenticeship opportunities. Bike Works offers year-round programs where kids can explore different types of cycling including road biking, cyclocross, mountain biking, and long-distance riding. The goals are to spark lifelong passion for cycling and the outdoors; provide a supportive environment where youth explore their identities and communities; cultivate young leaders and integrate youth decision-making power into Bike Works' organizational structure; and teach vocational and other skills related to science, technology, engineering, math, complex problem-solving, and environmental stewardship. This grant will support Bike Works' efforts to build more customized programs for youth of color, who have gender identities underrepresented in cycling and who are economically disadvantaged. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2257)

Boys & Girls Clubs of Bellevue

Grant Awarded: \$75,000

Offering the Eastside Outdoor Teen Explorers Camp

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Bellevue will use this grant to develop a weeklong summer camp program. Each week, the Eastside Outdoor Teen Explorers Camp will provide about ninety-six youth in grades six through eighth with outdoor recreation, environmental education, and stewardship activities. About 75 percent of the campers are disadvantaged economically. The teens will learn about the natural world as they hike, bike, kayak, do a challenge course, zip line through forests, and engage in hands-on stewardship. In this summer camp, the teens travel to a different destination every day of the week. The camp will occur four times in July. The primary goal is to offer outdoor experiences to youth who otherwise would not have the opportunity to venture into the wilderness at levels of this kind. The program builds heightened awareness of the outdoors, inspires the spirit of adventure, and results in other enriching attributes that can be critically important to the lives of each teen. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2297)

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Braided Seeds Getting Kids of Color Outdoors

Grant Awarded: \$25,000

Braided Seeds will use this grant to support its summer outdoor trips for more than forty kids of color. The nonprofit offers six day-trips, two overnight trips, and a backpacking trip. Each trip centers on connection, exploration, history, experiential learning, and play for youth ages five to seventeen. Of the youth served in this program in the past year, more than 75 percent are economically disadvantaged. Activities include hiking, farming, and kayaking and include trips along Washington's coast, the Olympic Peninsula, and Hood Canal. The goals of these trips are to provide youth with new experiences that connect them to the outdoors, empower them to take risks, nurture their curiosity, and root them in a history of Black outdoor excellence and rich environmentalism. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2247)

Burien Offering an Outdoor Explorers Summer Camp

Grant Awarded: \$150,000

The City of Burien will use this grant to offer an environmental education and outdoor recreation summer camp in Seahurst Park. The program will provide a gateway for underserved youth to experience adventures and gain environmental skills in the outdoors. Youth, ages ten to fourteen, will be able to hike, mountain bike, kayak, track wildlife, build shelters and survival skills, participate in team building, create art using elements from nature while learning about salmon habitat, protecting waterways, the impact people make on the outdoors, native plants and species, climate change, and deforestation. The program will build skills for a variety of outdoor recreational activities, increase environmental awareness, encourage an appreciation of nature, generate a feeling of safety, and build leadership skills. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2254)

Friends of North Creek Forest Offering the Friends of North Creek Forest Summer Camp Program

Grant Awarded: \$25,000

The Friends of North Creek Forest will use this grant to host a free summer camp program. Up to seventy-seven kids, from six to fourteen years old, will participate in different six day-camps in August 2023 and July-August 2024. Located in North Creek Forest, a Bothell city park, and Saint Edward State Park, camp activities are built around science, technology, engineering, art, and math investigations in the forest. Campers will learn to identify native plants and animals, test water quality in streams, practice forest restoration, and see the benefits of stewardship implemented through games, child-led research, and hands-on projects. Campers will have the opportunity to learn more about local ecological systems and the role state parks play. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2290)

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Highline School District Providing Outside Recreation Experiences and Instruction

Grant Awarded: \$15,612

The Highline School District will use this grant to support the Highline Big Picture Outside! program that will provide up to 240 students from ages eleven to nineteen with school- and field-based outdoor recreation activities. The district serves a disproportionate number of students who have struggled to engage in traditional schools, are economically disadvantaged, or have had minimal exposure to outdoor recreation and the many benefits to health and wellness associated with it. This project will run throughout the school year and include guided experiences (hikes, camping trips, backpacking trips) and instructional seminars on hiking, outdoor safety, bicycling, rock climbing, backpacking, winter camping, and environmental stewardship. The primary goal of the project is to build outdoor recreation enthusiasts and student leaders, who can spread that enthusiasm to families and the whole community. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2373)

Interim Community Development Association Supporting the Wilderness Inner-city Leadership Development Program

Grant Awarded: \$25,000

The Interim Community Development Association will use this grant to support year-round outdoor recreation and environmental education programming for low-income, immigrant, refugee, and predominantly Asian and Pacific Islander youth in its Wilderness Inner-city Leadership Development (WILD) program. The program engages about eighty youth in outdoor activities, many of whom have never been in the wilderness. Activities include hiking, camping, maintaining trails, and restoring salmon habitat. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2258)

Journeyman Institute Providing Mentoring and Outdoor Experiences for Traumatized Youth

Grant Awarded: \$25,000

The Journeyman Institute, in partnership with Oakland High School in Tacoma, will use this grant to provide a year-end wilderness camping experience for seventy-five youth involved with CIRCLES, an in-school mentoring program. CIRCLES fosters individual and collective healing, positive identity development, and healthy intergenerational relationships. The program will provide scholarships for youth of color and low-income youth to attend the camps. The outdoor experience includes camping, quests, and courses to help youth transition into healthy adulthood. The primary goals of CIRCLES are to create safe spaces for youth to begin to process their personal and shared traumas and provide pathways to success in school and beyond. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2411)

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Mentoring Urban Students & Teens

Grant Awarded: \$101,250

Providing Black Teens with Outdoor Experiences and Mentors

Mentoring Urban Students & Teens (M.U.S.T.) will use this grant to provide sixty Seattle Black teens with mentors and experiences during their high school years to help them discover their path in life. In addition to one-on-one mentoring, participants embark on biweekly outings and multiday trips throughout the year. The outings are designed to offer unique, experiential educational opportunities, often in spaces and places the teens would otherwise not have access to, such as guided beach and marine exploration, temperate rain forest hiking, boating and fishing camps, salmon education, and winter activities. The goal of these outings is to broaden participant's knowledge of their world and expose them to new opportunities and experiences while learning about environmental stewardship. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2155)

Mountains to Sound Greenway

Grant Awarded: \$64,920

Providing the Greenway Education Program

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust's Greenway Education Program will use this grant to engage about 625 students in fourth through eighth grades from King County schools and ten teens in a paid summer internship program. The trust's two curricula, "Next Generation Stewards" and "Forests and Fins," teach kids about forest ecology and salmon through a combination of classroom lessons, field trips, and restoration projects that together follow a logical progression from knowledge to exploration to action. The ten teen interns from Highline and Riverview School Districts who participate in Youth Engaged in Sustainable Systems will learn about conservation careers and gain restoration ecology skills while earning a stipend and graduation credit. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2315)

Outdoors for All Foundation

Grant Awarded: \$69,000

Offering Summer Camps for Youth with Disabilities

The Outdoors for All Foundation will use this grant to provide summer camps for up to eighty youth, from seven to eighteen years old, with disabilities in the greater Puget Sound region. The goal is to enrich the quality of life for children and adults with disabilities through outdoor recreation. Camp activities will include kayaking, rock climbing, cycling, hiking, swimming, and visiting museums, libraries, and science centers. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2148)

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Post 84

Grant Awarded: \$50,000

Providing Scholarships for Student-led Outdoor Education

Post 84 will use this grant to provide scholarships for 250 teens from Seattle high schools to attend student-led trips in the outdoors. Post 84 will bring 800 teens on camping, backpacking, climbing, snow shoeing, kayaking, and stewardship projects, creating pathways for those same teens to assume leadership roles and continue the program into the future. Participants are between thirteen and eighteen years old and one-quarter are economically disadvantaged. Post 84 offers about fifteen field trips throughout the year and teen leaders plan, manage, and lead the curriculum, logistics, and activities on the trips. The teen leaders meet weekly before school and serve on the board for Post 84. They work in every capacity running the nonprofit. The primary goals of Post 84 are to encourage environmental awareness, leadership, diversity, self-confidence, and knowledge of the outdoors. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-1993)

Rainier Prep

Grant Awarded: \$19,000

Providing Outdoors Experiences for Students

Rainier Prep will use this grant to provide 80 elementary and 270 middle school students seasonal camping trips and field studies in King County through the new Pathfinders program. The program integrates local field studies, grade-level curriculum, career pathway instruction, and development of outdoor skills. The program builds on science and physical education curriculum through quarterly elective enrichment classes that prepare students for off campus experiences where they can hike, backpack, camp, snowshoe, kayak, garden, and engage in stewardship activities. The primary goals of the program are to connect students to Washington's natural and cultural heritage, to provide memorable recreational and educational experiences that enhance their lives, and to encourage them to be environmental stewards. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2410)

Summer Search

Grant Awarded: \$150,000

Offering a Wilderness Exploration Program and Mentoring to Sophomores

Summer Search will use this grant to support its Wilderness Exploration Program, which sends more than two hundred high school sophomores on one- to -two-week backpacking trips in the Olympic or North Cascades National Parks. The students are from south King County and 97 percent are youth of color and 93 percent are economically disadvantaged. During each trip, participants learn and practice the leadership, stewardship, and wilderness skills they need to survive and enjoy the outdoors. In addition to the wilderness experience, Summer Search provides year-round mentoring, including supporting student preparation for the trips, guidance processing the experience when they return home, and mentorship throughout the rest of their

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high school and post-secondary careers. The Wilderness Exploration Program is a critical component of Summer Search's mission to help youth overcome barriers to thrive. The program's goals are to help youth leverage this personal growth during the following nine years to help them achieve success in life, to increase their access to outdoor experiences, and to cultivate their leadership skills. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project.](#) (22-2342)

The Seattle PlayGarden Offering Inclusive Summer Programs

Grant Awarded: \$75,000

The Seattle PlayGarden will use this grant to support its summer programs for children with and without disabilities. From May-September, the PlayGarden will provide free outdoor play to more than 3,000 children ages three to eighteen and a fee-based summer camp to an additional 225 children. Of PlayGarden participants and staff, 70 percent have one or more physical, cognitive, or social-emotional disability. Summer camp fees operate on a sliding scale, with half the families receiving financial aid and no child turned away due to lack of money. During the school year, these children's days are filled with school, doctors' appointments, and physical, occupational, and speech therapy. In the summer, the PlayGarden gives them a chance to make friends; learn to grow, harvest, and cook from gardens; sing; make art; share stories; pick lavender; hammer flowers into bookmarks; and learn how to care for the flock of chickens and ducks. Campers are also given unstructured time for imaginative play on the fully accessible play structures. The primary goal of the summer programs is to offer safe, accessible, adventurous outdoor play closer to home. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project.](#) (22-2221)

Win With Warriors Offering an Environmental Leadership Camp

Grant Awarded: \$23,000

Win With Warriors will use this grant to expand its Environmental Leadership Camp into three, two-week summer camps for ninety students. The students, who are all from low-income families of color, will spend all their time outside, without screen time. Activities will include introductions to celestial navigation, meteorology forecasting, wilderness survival labs, first aid labs, traditional herbal knowledge, foraging science, swimming, and hiking. Students will work along the Cedar River and progress to Saltwater, Dash Point, and Flaming Geyser State Parks. The primary goals are to empower youth with the knowledge, skills, and confidence to navigate the increasingly chaotic future, show leadership in presenting a practiced discipline, and learn cutting edge environmental remediation sciences to fix the world they will inherit. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project.](#) (22-2214)

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YMCA of Greater Seattle Providing Pathways to Parks

Grant Awarded: \$150,000

The YMCA of Greater Seattle will use this grant to provide outdoor experiences for 2,000 youth, ages eight to eighteen, in its statewide Pathways to Parks project. The YMCA will create an urban boating program, expand its one- and two-day outdoor activities, and develop a mobile gear library, for two years. These efforts will create year-round outdoor opportunities for youth, about half of whom will be youth of color and half will be disadvantaged economically. Youth will hike, boat, rock climb, snowshoe, camp, and backpack while spending an average of 40 hours outdoors. The project's goals are to expand outdoor opportunities for youth by reducing barriers to participation, cultivating connection to the outdoors through wilderness adventure, and building leadership, values, and skills. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-1973)

Youth Experiential Training Institute Expanding the All Youth in Nature Project

Grant Awarded: \$150,000

The Youth Experiential Training Institute will use this grant to grow its All Youth in Nature Project, by bringing weekly outdoor programming year-round to eight schools in King County during two years. The majority of participants will be economically disadvantaged, youth of color, ages five to eighteen. Activities will include hiking, snowshoeing, backpacking, camping, kayaking, fishing, rock climbing, and mountain biking. Through these activities, youth can develop life, communication, and leadership skills; build outdoor skills in areas such as environmental stewardship and responsible recreation; become lifelong outdoor adventurers and nature stewards; increase their sense of safety and comfort in outdoor spaces for youth of color; and connect with caring adults who can support positive decision-making. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2383)

Young Women Empowered Getting Urban Teens Outside in Nature Connections Program

Grant Awarded: \$150,000

Young Women Empowered will use this grant to support Nature Connections, a year-round education program serving primarily girls, women, non-binary, and transgender youth ages thirteen to eighteen. Along with adult mentors, the teens learn about the natural world as they hike, rock climb, backpack, camp, snowshoe, kayak, and garden. This Seattle-based group serves teens, 85 percent of whom identify as people of color and who have few opportunities to explore the natural world. The overall goal of the Nature Connections program is to create youth who are engaged learners with a personal connection to nature, a commitment to healthy living, and increased awareness of ways to access nature and outdoor recreation activities. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2379)

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Projects in Kitsap County

Great Peninsula Conservancy Supporting the Land Labs Program

Grant Awarded: \$25,000

The Great Peninsula Conservancy will use this grant to support its Land Labs Program, which provides 600 Bellingham students in fifth through eighth grades with in-class and outside conservation education content. Land Labs lessons are designed to empower the next generation of environmental decision makers by engaging students directly in big picture environmental concerns affecting their local communities through modules such as climate-resilient forests, salmon supporting streams, and Puget Sound shorelines. The program's goals are to help youth develop meaningful relationships with Washington's diverse landscapes and help bridge gaps in science learning at many underserved schools. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2382)

Projects in Klickitat County

CultureSeed Expanding an Outdoor Immersion and Mentorship Program

Grant Awarded: \$150,000

CultureSeed will use this grant to expand its outdoor immersion and mentoring programs to seventy kids, year-round for two years. Youth attend outings with seasonal recreational activities like snowboarding, skiing, bouldering, mountain biking, hiking, canyoneering, rafting, and rock climbing. CultureSeed is the only organization in southwest Washington that offers year-round outdoor immersion, outdoor mentorship, and access to the outdoor economy to underserved youth. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2142)

Projects in Lewis County

Cowlitz Indian Tribe Creating the Cowlitz Youth Horse Camp

Grant Awarded: \$24,960

The Cowlitz Indian Tribe will use this grant to create a seasonal horse camp fused with tribal teachings to help tribal youth reconnect and strengthen their cultural bond to the land and horses that the tribe is known to have once had. The camp will be offered to twenty-four Cowlitz Indian Tribe youth ages seven to seventeen at Horses Guiding Humans in Graham and at Millersylvania State Park in Olympia. Outdoor activities will include horsemanship (riding, handling, and training horses), swimming, nature walks with plant education, traditional

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storytelling and cultural lessons, volleyball, lawn darts, and other games. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2031)

Projects in Mason County

Girl Scouts of Western Washington Expanding LGBTQ+ Affinity Camp

Grant Awarded: \$150,000

Girl Scouts of Western Washington will use this grant to expand its LGBTQ+ Affinity Camps. The camps will provide an estimated two hundred girls and gender-expansive youth in the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and more (LGBTQ+) community with a safe space to explore and learn with peers in the outdoors. The camps will include three, week-long overnight camps and likely a week-long day camp. The camps will include kayaking, hiking, and swimming. The Girl Scouts of Western Washington is one of the first Girl Scout Councils in the country to provide openly LGBTQ+ programs. Since 2015, the council has led the organization's national movement in specifically including transgender and gender-expansive youth in all programming. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2058)

Hood Canal School District Supporting Recreation and Education Programs

Grant Awarded: \$139,790

The Hood Canal School District will use this grant to support its BOOTS and BYRDS programs. This program consists of four separate programs: BOOTS, BYRDS, Jr. BOOTS, and the Advanced Summer Wilderness Program. The programs operate through the entire year. Across the four programs, 640 students will participate in various activities such as hiking in nearby state parks, taking multiday wilderness backpacking trips, mountaineering, kayaking, building and maintaining trails, doing hands-on field studies, and taking vocational modules. The goals for the programs are to increase student interest in positive school activities, improve attendance and academic attainment, and develop a sense of stewardship and appreciation for the natural world. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2171)

Squaxin Island Tribe Offering Stepping Stones Outdoor Education

Grant Awarded: \$149,842

The Squaxin Island Tribe will use this grant to pay for mentors and an outdoor education program called Stepping Stones Outdoor Education. The program engages teens who are thirteen and fourteen in outdoor activities and Squaxin cultural practices for five weeks each summer for two years. The goal is for these youth to become grounded in their culture and their

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community and be able to define themselves through their environment, friends, mentors, and culture while learning about appropriate decisions, conflict resolution, and personal and community responsibility. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2198)

Projects in Okanogan County

Northwest Outward Bound School **Grant Awarded: \$75,000** **Providing Environmental Education in North Central Washington**

The Northwest Outward Bound School will use this grant to hire a part-time manager and support its North Central Washington Youth Outdoor Program, which provides outdoor education and community service projects for youth in Okanogan County. The program promotes personal development, leadership skills, social and emotional development, and a love of the outdoors. The program focuses on providing outcomes in the five key areas of social and emotional learning—self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills, and responsible decision making. The youth learn about goal setting, trust progression, self-reflection, leadership styles, conflict resolution, and transference of skills to everyday life. They will learn this while also learning rock climbing and rappelling, camping, hiking in the north Cascade Mountains, and performing service projects such as maintaining trails or clearing invasive plants. Finally, the students also learn about Indigenous land history, environmental stewardship, and a sense of place as they connect to their surrounding environment. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-1835)

For additional projects funded in this county, see page 35.

Projects in Pacific County

Dylan Jude Harrell Kids Community Center **Grant Awarded: \$96,750** **Starting a Get Outside! Program in Long Beach**

The Dylan Jude Harrell Community Center in Long Beach will use this grant to hire an employee to develop a new program, "Get Outside!" with the goal of getting most of the kids in the Ocean Beach School District to visit at least one Washington state park during the biennium. The employee will work in the after-school program to partner on field trip development and to enhance the center's summer youth programs with the goal of creating young environmental stewards. The center serves more than 60 percent of the kids in kindergarten through fifth grades in its after-school program and will use the grant to expand the program to sixth through twelfth grades. Youth on the Long Beach Peninsula primarily are economically

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disadvantaged, specifically living in generational poverty. Activities will include hiking, gardening, rock climbing, beachcombing, completing stewardship projects, visiting state parks, and participating in environmental education. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-1869)

Projects in Pierce County

Asia Pacific Cultural Center **Grant Awarded: \$104,348** **Offering Outdoor Cultural Connections to Asian American and Pacific Islander Youth**

The Asia Pacific Cultural Center will use this grant to offer thirty youth, ages twelve to eighteen, a chance to experience their cultural heritage through dragon boating and canoeing, during two years. The students are from twenty-four different schools and at risk of dropping out or failing school. The goals of the Outdoor Cultural Connection for At Risk Asian American and Pacific Islander Youth are to incorporate water safety, fitness, and physical and mental health in combination with acceptance, exploration, and appreciation for cultural heritage. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2124)

Buffalo Soldiers Museum **Grant Awarded: \$48,000** **Planting a SEED-Summer, Excitement, Exploring and Discovery Program**

The Buffalo Soldiers Museum will use this grant to expand its American History Summer Learning program and outdoor exploration for underserved youth. The program will provide youth, 80 percent of whom are youth of color from high-need communities in King and Pierce Counties, with a total of 120 hours of instruction, primarily outdoors this summer. Many of these youth do not have the opportunity to explore the natural world, parks, and locations of historical significance. The museum will present lessons in American history and social justice in an outdoor setting. During three weeks, students will take part in hands-on American history then-and-now exploration, particularly as it pertains to the Buffalo Soldiers and Native Americans of the Pacific Northwest, and complete projects to preserve wildlife and their habitat and limit air pollution. Through hiking, horseback riding, archery, presentations and discussions, art, music, dance, and skits, the youth will be immersed in authentic learning. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-1873)

Chief Leschi Schools **Grant Awarded: \$75,000** **Supporting a Traditional Canoe Journey**

Chief Leschi Schools will use this grant to help fund a traditional canoe journey. Students who participate on the canoe journey spend ten or more days outside, traveling on the Salish Sea. They learn the indigenous plants, waterways, navigation, and how to cook and live outdoors.

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Each day ends with a talking circle where participants reflect on the day and share their learnings. The primary goals are for youth to feel connected to the Earth and their traditional ways and to see how they play important roles in their community and in protecting the planet. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project.](#) (22-2312)

Child and Family Hope Center Offering Tacoma Outdoor Learning Opportunities

Grant Awarded: \$56,137

The Child and Family Hope Center will use this grant to offer once to twice weekly outdoor field trips for 300 of Tacoma's inner-city youth. The Tacoma Outdoor Learning Opportunities Project (TOLO) works with low-income, predominantly youth of color, throughout the year to remove barriers to outdoor learning adventures. This project provides environmental instruction, teaches stewardship principles, and offers outdoor recreation opportunities for youth. The youth learn plant and animal identification and preservation principles and help clean up parks. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project.](#) (22-2364)

Communities for a Healthy Bay Offering Environmental Justice Camps in Tacoma

Grant Awarded: \$150,000

Communities for a Healthy Bay will use this grant to continue and expand its Environmental Justice Camp program in Tacoma. The camps are designed to reach girls and gender-expansive youth from underserved communities in Tacoma by providing education about the local environment and environmental justice and advocacy. The program will serve about 150 students at day camps and about 50 youth at multiday summer camps. Tacoma schools lack consistent environmental education experiences across the district, which results in students from less resourced schools having little access to quality environmental education. Additionally, low-income and communities of color are underrepresented significantly in natural science fields nationally. The camps aim to spark the next generation of environmental stewards, with a focus on uplifting young women and gender-expansive youth by getting them outside. Camp activities include going on patrols through Commencement Bay, paddleboarding, kayaking, hiking, and exploring tide pools. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project.](#) (22-273)

Foss Waterway Seaport Offering Eco-Kayaking on the Foss Waterway

Grant Awarded: \$73,232

The Foss Waterway Seaport will use this grant to offer kayaking and marine environmental education to about 100 disadvantaged and underserved students in Tacoma middle schools. The seaport, located on the Thea Foss Waterway in Tacoma, is a facility equipped with a marine

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science classroom and docks suited for hand-powered craft. Many students have never experienced boating and lack opportunities for on-water recreation, which can enrich their understanding of Puget Sound, its health, the benefits it provides, and its connection to the region's collective wellbeing. The program will provide 90 hours of instruction for each student. During their daily instruction times, students will learn how to kayak and improve their knowledge of the marine environment. This eco-kayaking experience has demonstrated that youth improve their academic performance, self-esteem, sense of personal responsibility, and health. This program is a partnership between the seaport, Tacoma Public Schools, and the Metropolitan Park District of Tacoma. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2102)

Pierce County

Grant Awarded: \$147,600

Expanding the LIFE Outdoor Program to Disadvantaged Youth

Pierce County Parks and Recreation Services will use this grant to support its LIFE program, which offers five, six-week sessions to economically disadvantaged youth living in the Parkland-Spanaway area of unincorporated Pierce County. The youth experience hiking, archery, backpacking, fishing, and other outdoor recreation activities, as well as outdoor education and leadership training. Each youth spends six hours on six Saturdays in the outdoors gaining knowledge and skills that will support a healthy curiosity and appreciation for the outdoors. Youth are referred by Pierce County Juvenile Court, middle and high school intervention specialists in Franklin Pierce and Bethel School Districts, and community service organizations. Pierce County Parks serves one hundred youth annually. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2265)

Sahale Outdoors

Grant Awarded: \$59,545

Offering Outside Experiences to Homeless Youth

Sahale Outdoors will use this grant to develop its Belong Outside program, which will offer outdoor experiences to homeless youth in the Tacoma area. A partnership between Sahale Outdoors, FUSION Federal Way (an emergency shelter and transitional housing facility), and The Coffee Oasis (a teen shelter and drop-in center), Belong Outside will offer one to two day trips a month throughout the year and up to three overnight trips in the summer for an average of 480 students during the year. The youth will spend this time hiking, exploring local parks, snowshoeing, caving, camping, and backpacking and will learn about plant and animal identification, geology, cultural history, and outdoor skills. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2268)

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Washington Student Cycling League Getting Urban Girls on Mountain Bikes

Grant Awarded: \$25,000

The Washington Student Cycling League will use this grant to create a curriculum for a five-week-long course that will teach underserved, urban people identifying as females to mountain bike. This pilot program will establish a connection with local after-school programs in Tacoma to build a roster of girls between twelve and eighteen years old who want to learn to mountain bike. Teaching the basics of mountain biking will grow their understanding of self and body awareness, build self-esteem, and foster a connection with nature. About 90 percent of Urban Girls on Mountain Bikes are economically disadvantaged. As part of the program, the youth also will explore the natural world and build skills in small groups off the trails. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2174)

Projects in San Juan County

Lopez Island Family Resource Providing an Outdoor Education Program for Lopez Island Youth

Grant Awarded: \$54,655

The Lopez Island Family Resource Center will use this grant to support its Youth Outdoor Education Program, which is a series of activities during two years for 200 youth between two and eighteen years old in San Juan County. Outdoor activities vary by age group and range from Tots in Trees to multiday overnight kayaking trips to land stewardship projects. The program focuses on kids of color, English language learners, youth with disabilities, youth in foster care or the juvenile justice systems, youth experiencing homelessness or poverty, youth with mental health challenges, and youth who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning, intersex, and asexual. The goal of each workshop is to support social, emotional, and intellectual development. Students who learn in a safe and supportive setting outdoors develop a sense of self, independence, confidence, creativity, decision-making and problem-solving skills, empathy towards others, motor skills, self-discipline, and initiative. A long-term goal is to build the next generation of public lands learners and stewards. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2387)

San Juan Island Conservation District Providing Youth Stewardship Activities in the San Juan Islands

Grant Awarded: \$69,500

The San Juan Island Conservation District will use this grant to support more than sixty students, ages twelve to eighteen, as they implement at least eight projects during the next two summers in San Juan County. Projects include collecting eelgrass shoots for seed propagation, analyzing forest stands, improving local food access in the community, building trails, removing weeds,

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and doing community outreach. The students also will learn about restoring near-shore marine habitats, forest health, local food and agriculture, and endangered species recovery. At the end of the season, the students receive stipends of up to \$1,000, which is often a student's first paycheck. The primary goals of the projects are to help youth understand and solve local ecological issues by engaging directly in tasks that are challenging and rewarding. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2234)

Projects in Skagit County

Anacortes Waterfront Alliance Introducing Latinx Kids to Water Activities

Grant Awarded: \$24,945

The Anacortes Waterfront Alliance will use this grant to host a four-day Introduction to Water Activities camp for two weeks in August for the next two years. The alliance hopes to reach up to fifty-two underserved Latinx youth between eight and eighteen years old. Campers will learn skills in cold water safety, stand-up paddle boarding, kayaking, and sailing. Additionally, they will learn about the unique aquatic lands and ecological features of Fidalgo Island and about the life of a park ranger at the Kukulali Preserve and Deception Pass State Park. The primary goal is to allow youth to connect with the marine landscape and gain confidence while experiencing meaningful outdoor water activities and enrichment. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2361)

Camp Korey Providing Outdoor Camps for Children with Medical Conditions

Grant Awarded: \$150,000

Camp Korey will use this grant to provide therapeutic recreational camp programs for more than nine hundred children living with serious medical conditions and their family members. Participants will explore the two hundred-acre campus and join in archery, arts and crafts, horseback riding, nightly campfires, Stage Night and Silly Olympics, as well as fishing, boating, and swimming in nearby Lake McMurray. The camps help children living with life-altering medical conditions experience the joys of childhood and increase their confidence. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2163)

Swinomish Indian Tribe Supporting the Swinomish Youth Program: Between Two Worlds

Grant Awarded: \$150,000

The Swinomish Indian Tribe will use this grant to pay for teachers and an outdoor education program called Between Two Worlds for high school students. The program integrates science and tribal culture and provides students experiential, outdoor learning in Indigenous science, fosters the next generation of stewards, and exposes youth to tribal role models and tribal

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careers in science, technology, engineering, and math. Each teaching unit includes field activities at local beaches, forests, and estuaries of historic and cultural value to the tribe, consistent with traditional place-based values. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2406)

The Salish Sea School Offering Marine Conservation Leadership Programs

Grant Awarded: \$75,000

The Salish Sea School will use this grant to offer 1,500 kids in pre-kindergarten through twelfth grades, year-round marine science adventures, field research initiatives, and stewardship projects designed to engage and mentor students to take an active role in restoring the health of the Salish Sea. Participants come from, Island, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish, and Whatcom Counties and include students who are disadvantaged economically, have disabilities, are youth of color, are first generation college bound, or are English language learners. The hands-on curriculum includes shore and boat exploration of the sea, Indigenous culture lessons, underwater drone and intertidal exploration, listening to orca calls on a hydrophone, and participation in service projects such as tree planting and stormwater sampling. The program aims to introduce students to the Salish Sea, inspire interest in outdoor marine science and conservation, mentor leadership behaviors, and build an active student community for the region. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2167)

For additional projects funded in this county, see page 35.

Projects in Skamania County

Kiwanis Camp Wa-Ri-Ki Providing a Counselor-in-Training Program

Grant Awarded: \$25,000

Camp Wa-RiKi will use this grant to develop and introduce a leadership training program, Counselor-in-Training, for teens fifteen to eighteen years old. Through this three-week program, up to thirty teens will be trained and deliver a camp program and other outdoor education experiences, each spending more than eighty-two hours outdoors. The goals of the program are to introduce and train youth in the field of environmental education, help deliver programs at Camp Wa-Ri-Ki, and provide career development skills. Camp Wa-Ri-Ki is in Washougal, on more than eighteen acres in the heart of the Gifford Pinchot National Forest. On average, 60 percent of campers are economically disadvantaged. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2235)

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Lifeline Connections

Grant Awarded: \$74,000

Offering Outdoor Adventures to Kids from Substance Use Homes

Lifeline Connections will use this grant to offer Camp Mariposa's Blazing Trails program, a program that teaches kids from nine to twelve years old, who have family members with substance use disorders, about hiking, trail building, and trail mapping. The program's objective is to give kids the knowledge, tools, and coping skills to prevent them from developing a substance use disorder of their own. It also offers opportunities these kids otherwise would not have to experience the outdoors. The camp runs for six, two-day weekends a year at Camp Wa-Ri-Ki in Skamania County, with day activities held between camp weekends at outdoor locations in Clark County. The focus of Blazing Trails is to restore the trails at Camp Wa-Ri-Ki into educational nature trails and develop trail maps. U.S. Fish and Wildlife staff will teach the kids about trail mapping and how to use Global Positioning System navigators. The participants will receive free hiking boots and socks and bus transportation to and from camp weekends. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project.](#) (22-2354)

Stevenson-Carson School District

Grant Awarded: \$12,830

Supporting Forest Youth Work Crews

The Stevenson-Carson School District will use this grant to pay up to twenty-four teens to work alongside natural resource professionals and learn the basics of environmental stewardship as part of its Forest Youth Success program. Many of the teens come from at risk backgrounds that include trauma, poverty, food insecurity, and substance abuse. They choose to apply because they want to have something to do, identify their interests for the future, and earn money. The crews work for eight weeks in the summer on special projects to complete trail maintenance, land surveys, habitat restoration, and land improvement. The program includes weekly educational opportunities with guest speakers and field trips that include hiking, kayaking, swimming, archery, and other activities in the Columbia River Gorge. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project.](#) (22-2248)

Projects in Snohomish County

Glacier Peak Institute

Grant Awarded: \$150,000

Providing Outdoor Experiences for Washington Youth

The Glacier Peak Institute will use this grant to support its PROMISE (Propagating Resiliency through Outside Momentum with STRaMs Education) programs. The institute will offer a variety of science and outdoor recreation programs for more than one thousand youth through outings with an array of activities such as natural resource career discovery and school forest days to

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canoeing and foraging. PROMISE invests in underserved, diverse, marginalized youth and organizations to lift three barriers to spending time outside—transportation, equipment, and mentorship. All programs focus on science, technology, recreation, engineering, art, and math skills. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project.](#) (22-2378)

Sound Experience

Grant Awarded: \$69,660

Providing a San Juan Islands Educational Boat Trip

Sound Experience will use this grant to support its Everett at Sea San Juan Islands Discovery project. The project will provide eighty children and teens, from ten to eighteen years old from the Casino Road community of Everett with a weeklong journey through the Salish Sea aboard the schooner Adventuress. The ship is a 133-foot-long, fully restored, National Historic Landmark sailing ship. Casino Road homes have some of the highest rates of poverty in Snohomish County. The youth will travel to and explore the unique ecology and geography of the San Juan Islands. Older teens who participated in the inaugural 2021-22 program can receive paid internships. While learning the skills necessary to become crew, young people will explore topics related to environmental science such as ocean acidification, plankton, marine life, marine debris, and microplastics in the Salish Sea. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project.](#) (22-2359)

Sound Salmon Solutions

Grant Awarded: \$24,358

Making the Salish Scientists Summer Camp Free

Sound Salmon Solutions will use this grant to expand its INVEST Salish Scientists program to be free, removing a barrier to outdoor education. INVEST Salish Scientists is a day-camp that will provide outdoor learning for about eighty students in fourth through sixth grades in Mukilteo and Snohomish School Districts during two weeks this summer and next. The summer camp will take place at the Willow Creek Salmon and Watershed Education Center, a micro hatchery in Edmonds that connects the community to the salmon rearing process and a restored wetland. The curriculum of the camp includes hands-on lessons, arts and crafts, and outdoor games. Students will gain a deeper understanding of the environmental challenges the region faces. The primary goal is to work with local youth from underserved communities to create viable interworking communities of empowerment and stewardship for the surrounding world. Sound Salmon Solutions will provide \$19,475 in volunteer time to support the program. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project.](#) (22-2296)

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Unleash the Brilliance Expanding an Outdoor Education Program

Grant Awarded: \$150,000

Unleash The Brilliance will use this grant to expand its outdoor environmental justice program, Unleash the Brilliance Youth Outside Experience. This grant will provide one hundred youth from five high schools in south King County access to outdoor, cross-cultural enrichment activities like journaling, kayaking, rafting, camping, hiking, monitoring water quality, restoring shorelines, removing invasive plants, and preventing pollution. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2414)

For additional projects funded in this county, see page 35.

Projects in Spokane County

Camp Fire Inland Northwest Council Offering Year-round Outdoor Learning Experiences

Grant Awarded: \$75,000

The Camp Fire Inland Northwest Council will use this grant to create access to outdoor learning and summer camps for 300 Spokane urban youth during two years. The goal of the program is to remove barriers to outdoor education for youth who are from three to eighteen years old and who are experiencing poverty, are youth of color, or are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or questioning. Many youth participants have experienced homelessness, trauma, and hunger. The program covers fees and provides transportation to the council's wilderness camps from schools with high rates of students living in poverty. The students attend weekly school-year outdoor learning programs at the wilderness camp and/or attend weekly summer camps. Children can participate in hiking, boating, swimming, bouldering, ropes course, archery, pacing, orienteering, knife safety, whittling, fire building, and camp cooking. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2188)

Spokane County Providing Wetland Education at the Doris Morrison Learning Center

Grant Awarded: \$75,000

Spokane County will use this grant to jumpstart Wetland Explorers!, a field trip program at the 600-acre Saltese Wetland Restoration Area in Spokane Valley. The County will host field trips in 2024 and 2025, reaching every fifth grader in two school districts. Through the newly opened Doris Morrison Learning Center, students will be introduced to wetland science including macroinvertebrate identification, hiking, and plant and animal observation in the recently restored wetlands. The grant also will be used to host several teacher workshops at the center where local experts will educate teachers on how to use the Saltese Wetland Restoration Area

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on their own. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-1917)

STIX Diabetes Programs

Grant Awarded: \$75,000

Supporting Camps for Youth with Diabetes

The STIX Diabetes Programs will use this grant to support 800 youth with diabetes in outdoor summer camps in 2023. The program offers four different camps for youth ages six to eighteen. Campers learn to manage diabetes while experiencing new outdoor activities. The main camp will be held at YMCA Camp Reed, which is 555 acres on the banks of Fan Lake in Pend Oreille County. Campers will hike, swim, fish, canoe, kayak, and try rope courses, archery, crafts, and games. Caregivers and parents will have the opportunity to connect with each other to find friends and mentors. The primary goal of the program is to teach diabetic youth self-reliance through self-management in the face of high-impact and high-intensity outdoor activities so they can live robust and active lives while managing diabetes more independently. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-1908)

Projects in Stevens County

Boys & Girls Clubs of Snohomish County

Grant Awarded: \$25,000

Offering Outdoor Education Activities to Native Youth

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Snohomish County will use this grant to implement the Wellpinit Native Traditions Outdoor Education Project for forty low-income Native youth through partnerships with the Spokane Tribe of Indians, the Spokane Tribe Cultural Department, and Tribe elders. Staff will provide cultural lessons and hands-on outdoor activities in the garden in the spring and fall. Tribal elders will provide stories, instruction, and hands-on experiences of traditional outdoor activities including fishing, hunting, hiking, tracking, foraging for edible wild plants, and the Stick Game. The primary goals of this project are to provide culturally aligned outdoor education, healthy snacks, and Native youth development professionals to encourage and guide at-risk Native youth. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2231)

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Projects in Thurston County

Nisqually River Foundation **Grant Awarded: \$74,916** **Supporting a Nisqually Tribal Youth Outdoor Education Program**

The Nisqually River Foundation will use this grant to provide an outdoor education program for up to 106 students from the Nisqually Indian Tribe's Youth Services Program and the Wa He Lut Indian School. Meeting monthly, the students will gain exposure to outdoor recreation, traditional foods, outdoor survival skills, and careers in science, technology, engineering, and math. The program will connect youth with place-based learning throughout the Nisqually River watershed, from the source of the river at the Nisqually Glacier on Mount Rainier, to the estuary at Billy Frank Jr. Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge, and to Puget Sound at Tolmie State Park and Anderson Island. The program combines service and recreation with activities including hiking, camping, kayaking, horseback riding, snowshoeing, and exploring traditional ecological knowledge and food sources. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2336)

Pacific Education Institute **Grant Awarded: \$141,680** **Hiring Youth Environmental Conservation Crews**

The Pacific Education Institute will use this grant to pay sixty-four youth to participate on a Youth Engaged in Sustainable Systems (Y.E.S.S.) crew doing environmental conservation work. The students will come from the North Thurston, Tumwater, and Yakima School Districts and the Sno Isle Skills Center in Mukilteo. The crews spend six weeks learning in the classroom and doing hands-on service activities, including up to three days a week in the field in exchange for Career and Technical Education or college credits and stipends. The project's goals are to create greater opportunities for underserved youth by providing nontraditional pathways to graduation and to introduce those same youth to natural resources careers. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2212)

Puget Sound Estuarium **Grant Awarded: \$75,000** **Providing Environmental Education Experiences**

The Puget Sound Estuarium will use this grant to expand its field trips for students in kindergarten through high school. The Estuarium's Environmental Education Experiences program offers five annual field trips and summer and spring break camps for the most underserved students in Thurston County. About half the students are disadvantaged economically. The students participate in activities such as walking and hiking interpretive tours, water quality testing, plankton tows from a chartered scientific research vessel, building and then piloting remotely operated vehicles in Puget Sound, plant and animal identification, and

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survey methods at local beaches, estuaries, and restoration sites. The camps provide hands-on science, technology, engineering, and math education. These experiences educate youth about the estuaries in their own backyards while encouraging and empowering youth with the resources they need to engage in sustainable behaviors, pursue careers, and take action to promote the stewardship and protection of the South Sound for generations to come. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2253)

Tumwater School District Providing Farming Programs for Youth

Grant Awarded: \$75,000

The Tumwater School District will use this grant to fund two projects at Isabella Bush Park in Tumwater: FRESH, an alternative, outdoor education program for about 50 students, and a district-wide education learning lab for up to 500 students focusing on science, engineering, technology, and math. Activities will include farming, harvesting, preparing meals with wild foods, restoring habitat and removing invasive species, participating in field labs, and studying topics of food justice, food systems, and farming policy. This project goals are to continue to connect historically underserved youth with outdoor learning in which they can steward the land, grow food, make change in their community, and be empowered for greater personal success through gains in communication and leadership skills; expand the site into an outdoor lab for science, technology, engineering, and math learning for middle and high school students in the district, allowing hundreds students to experience outdoor education; and to continue to provide organic produce to the community, school cafeterias, the local food bank, and the Tumwater Senior Center. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2349)

Wa-Ya Outdoor Institute Providing a Youth Camp that Intertwines Native Culture and the Outdoors

Grant Awarded: \$74,873

The Wa-Ya Outdoor Institute will use grant to expand its outdoor adventure and education camp up to 740 youth and create a teen overnight camp. Wa-Ya is a nomadic summer day camp that intertwines Native American culture with the outdoors. The camp offers free before and after care and teaches survival skills; appreciation for the environment; Indigenous beliefs, culture, and values; and science, technology, engineering, art, and math lessons. Students are taught solely through experiential, hands-on learning. Outdoor activities include kayaking, hiking, camping, survival skills, rock climbing, and orienteering. Youth learn about science such as ecological systems, the water system, sustainability, conservation practices, climate change, and earth science. The primary goal of the program is to instill hope and resilience by creating a connection between youth, the outdoors, and each other in a safe, supportive, community environment. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2006)

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Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission Providing a Youth Paddle Program

Grant Awarded: \$53,000

The State Parks' Boating Program will use this grant to expand its Youth Paddle Program, which provides 1,340 youth from under resourced communities across the state with outdoor recreation and stewardship activities. About 65 percent of the participants are disadvantaged economically and 10 percent are English learners. The youth will learn the principles of paddle safety and environmental stewardship while on the water. The primary goal is to give youth the opportunity to experience the health benefits of outdoor recreation, improve self-confidence, gain a sense of personal responsibility for their safety, and understand preservation of the environment. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2365)

Wild Grief Helping Youth and Families Heal in Nature

Grant Awarded: \$66,000

Wild Grief will use this grant to expand its free outdoor grief support programming for youth and families. Wild Grief will provide 202 grieving youth with camping, backpacking, and hiking experiences, creating the space for sharing, connecting, and healing in nature. About 55 percent of the participants are economically disadvantaged. Wild Grief offers a rare program of peer grief support combined with the healing power of nature that aids grieving youth and serves to bond participants to nature in a transformative manner. Wild Grief programming includes four-day backpacking trips for grieving teens, three-day campouts for families, and day hikes throughout the year. Programs take place on public lands throughout western Washington. The goal of Wild Grief's programs is to help grieving youth find a connection with nature and each other through an immersive outdoor experience so they can draw upon nature throughout their lives as a source of support, resilience, and healing. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-1839)

Projects in Walla Walla County

Blue Mountain Land Trust Offering the Free Nature Kids Program

Grant Awarded: \$118,430

The Blue Mountain Land Trust will use this grant to cover salaries, instructor stipends, supplies, transportation, and meals for its Nature Kids program. This program offers free outdoor programming, immersing more than 1,250 youth, ages four to eleven, in more than 35 hours of outdoor learning in rural southeast Washington during three years. The program's purpose is to engage youth with science and art to create meaningful connections and identify reciprocal

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relationships between plants, animals, and humans. A relationship with the land and time outdoors is proven to create healthier and more resilient communities. Nature Kids also sparks children's interest in pursuing careers in natural resources. Youth are from a rural school district where nearly 60 percent of the students are economically disadvantaged, 14 percent are English language learners, and 16 percent have disabilities. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2180)

Blue Mountain Community Foundation

Grant Awarded: \$25,000

Providing a Leadership Academy for Kids at Camp Wooten

The Walla Walla Public School Foundation will use this grant to take up to seventy-five students in tenth and eleventh grades from Lincoln High School for two days at the Camp Wooten Retreat Center in the Blue Mountains. Students will take part in educational and group-building activities such as stargazing, geocaching, hiking, journaling, plant identification, fishing, and studying neuroscience, zoology, and behavioral science. Students also will work on social-emotional skills in talking circles, goal setting sessions, trust games, and exercises in self-expression and leadership building. As the alternative high school, Lincoln serves students, 90 percent of whom are economically disadvantaged. Goals for the project include providing hands-on scientific exploration of earth and life systems, giving students a shared experience that will help them strengthen relationships with their peers and teachers, empowering peer leaders, and allowing students who have never been outside Walla Walla or experienced camping to spend two nights in a mountain retreat sixty miles away from home. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2347)

Blue Mountain Community Foundation

Grant Awarded: \$105,771

Providing the Big Balooza Camping Experience

The Blue Mountain Community Foundation will use this grant launch Big Balooza, an overnight, outdoor program for ninth graders at Walla Walla High School. Incoming ninth graders will camp overnight at the Camp Wooten Retreat Center in the Blue Mountains in late September. While there, students will hike, fish, geo-cache, star gaze, try a low ropes course, and create nature crafts while building relationships with their peers, teachers, and upper-class students. The Big Balooza will be offered for 430 students each of two years. The goals are to provide a shared, outdoor, place-based experience for all incoming ninth graders, many of whom have never camped or been outside Walla Walla; help youth forge a connection with the natural world and new classmates; introduce youth to friendly faces in the form of teachers, para-educators, and upper-class students who can provide help and reassurance throughout high school; provide leadership opportunities for upper-class counselors; and introduce outdoor skills and hands-on study of ecological systems. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2266)

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Projects in Whatcom County

Explorations Academy **Grant Awarded: \$25,000** **Offering Environmental Education for Middle and High Schoolers**

Explorations Academy, a nonprofit alternative school, will use this grant to take sixty middle and high school students on field trips to restore habitat, explore the environment, work with horses, and backpack. Based in Bellingham, the program serves students, ages eleven to eighteen, who struggle in school and need an education tailored to their individual strengths and challenges. Outdoor education is core to the curriculum and takes place throughout the school year. Students volunteer on Fridays restoring habitat while learning about ecological systems. They hike each week and explore a variety of landforms and the diversity of life that inhabit them. They spend time connecting with horses and helping with sustainable farm management. Monthly, students visit state parks and urban areas to explore and develop leadership skills. At the end of each school year, the students go on an eight-day backpacking trip in a wild area of the state. The goals of this project are to educate students in ecological literacy, nurture their connection with nature, and help them grow into stewards and leaders of the future. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2376)

Lummi Nation **Grant Awarded: \$119,825** **Supporting Lummi Youth Living and Protecting Shelangen**

The Lummi Nation will use this grant to provide tribal youth with culturally relevant environmental science activities and hands-on education. "Schelangen" is a Lummi word meaning "way of life." It is the living identity of the Lummi people and their collective, shared cultural knowledge. The program integrates environmental science and schelangen in the classroom. Students participate in hatchery tours, salmon rearing and release, spring revegetation projects, planting of culturally important plants, winter stormwater quality labs, and shellfish lessons on the beach. Projects occur in the traditional fishing, hunting, and gathering territory in Island, San Juan, Skagit, and Whatcom Counties. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2010)

Recreation Northwest **Grant Awarded: \$21,480** **Offering Parkscriptions to Options High School Students**

Recreation Northwest will use this grant to teach mindfulness and coping skills through nature-based education to fifty-four students at Options High School in Bellingham. More than 50 percent of the students are economically disadvantaged and 10 percent are homeless. The primary goal of the Parkscriptions program is to teach students how to use the health benefits of nature to improve their emotional and behavioral health while they become environmentally

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conscious, responsible, and productive citizens. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2128)

Vamos Outdoors Project

Grant Awarded: \$21,737

Providing Hiking and Camping Trips for Multicultural Youth

The Vamos Outdoors Project will use this grant to provide backpacking and camping trips in national and state parks for Latine, migrant, and multilingual youth. Vamos will provide six summer trips with ten to twelve participants per trip to the North Cascades National Park, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Larrabee State Park, and Spencer Spit State Park. Many of the participants and their families do not have easy access to resources and spare time to engage in outdoor recreation. Vamos works to reduce barriers to outdoor recreation by providing free programming that includes transportation, food, and equipment. Bilingual mentors lead the trips. On backpacking trips, participants learn how to safely and joyfully spend time together outdoors. Program curriculum includes a variety of ways of connecting with the land, including Indigenous histories, settler colonial histories, and natural histories. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2331)

Projects in Yakima County

Explore Your Wild

Grant Awarded: \$150,000

Offering Explore Your Wild Youth Programs

Explore Your Wild will use this grant to offer twenty field trips to 210 youth in Yakima County during two years. The Explore Your Wild Youth Programs include exploring nature camps and caves, non-motorized boating, hiking, fishing, camping, snowshoeing, star gazing, taking ecological expeditions, learning outdoor survival and preparedness skills, tree planting, and wildlife viewing. The participants are from historically disadvantaged student populations (59 percent are first- and second-generation immigrants, 85 percent are youth of color, and all are disadvantaged economically). A higher percentage of children live in poverty in Yakima County than anywhere else in Washington. The goals are to provide high-quality outdoor recreation and education opportunities for disadvantaged students, unplug youth from excessive technology, eliminate barriers to getting outside, teach kids how to explore safely, and spark curiosity and appreciation for the environment. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2326)

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Iglesia Del Valle Expanding the Royal Rangers' Outpost

Grant Awarded: \$25,000

Iglesia Del Valle's Royal Rangers Outpost in Toppenish will use this grant to expand its outdoor program to serve up to sixty youth between seven and eighteen years old. The program offers youth from small, rural communities outdoor adventures that include camping, hiking, fishing, archery, and target shooting. The majority of youth in the area are economically disadvantaged and many have never experienced traditional outdoor recreational activities nor crossed the Cascade Mountains. The program will provide eight field trips throughout the school year and summer, giving youth the opportunity to experience nature on public lands throughout eastern and western Washington. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2205)

Yakima Valley Farm Workers Providing an Outdoor Adventure Program

Grant Awarded: \$150,000

The Yakima Valley Farm Workers will use this grant to support its Outdoor Adventure Program, an after-school and summer program for 770 economically disadvantaged youth in the Yakima Valley. The program will provide outdoor experiences for youth who have little or no access to Washington's state and national parks and of whom 95 percent are youth of color, 44 percent are English language Learners, and 15 percent have disabilities. The goal is to engage students in recreational learning experiences that promote personal responsibility and improve academic performance through activities including hiking, camping, swimming, backpacking, outdoor cooking, and learning about the environmental. The programs are a culmination of a place-based curriculum emphasizing physical health and academic, social, and emotional growth. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (22-2057)

Projects in Multiple Counties

Chelan, Douglas, and Okanogan Counties

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Offering Wild Washington Outdoor Classrooms

Grant Awarded: \$24,002

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to pilot Wild Washington Outdoor Classrooms, which will provide 1,100 students in Chelan, Douglas, and Okanogan Counties with hands-on learning. Led by local practitioners, students will focus on biodiversity and cultural diversity in pre- and post-classroom sessions at Beebe Springs Wildlife Area Unit. The students will hike, observe and explore nature, and participate in storytelling and team building. The outdoor classrooms will serve all fourth graders in Eastmont, Entiat, and

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Wenatchee School Districts and from the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation. Wild Washington Outdoor Classrooms will be offered in the spring and fall of 2024 and the spring of 2025. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project.](#) (22-2250)

Skagit and Snohomish Counties

Second Chance Outreach Getting At-Risk Youth in Nature

Grant Awarded: \$24,800

Second Chance Outreach will use this grant to provide eighty youth with weekly hikes, beach walks, snowy mountain hikes, gardening, and educational walks to learn about plants and ecological systems. In its Hoods in the Woods program, the organization works with youth of color, ages eight to eighteen, who are at high risk of gang involvement and other serious consequences in Skagit and Snohomish Counties. The goals of Hoods in the Woods are to get these youth out of the four-block radius where they have spent their whole lives, introduce them to the beauty of nature, build self-esteem and teamwork, encourage physical exercise, and have fun. The grant will help fund the program for two years. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project.](#) (22-2236)