

## State Parks Category

This project category is reserved for the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission for acquisition and/or development of state parks.

### Summary of Criteria

Criteria	Project Type	Maximum Points Possible	Focus*	
<b>Scored by the Advisory</b>				
1	Public Need	All Projects	5 points	State Focus
2	Project Significance	All Projects	15 points	Agency Focus
3	Acquisition Priority	Acquisition Projects	10 points	State Focus
		Combination Projects	5 points	
4	Project Design	Development Projects	10 points	Technical Focus
		Combination Projects	5 points	
5	Resource Stewardship	All Projects	10 points	State Focus
6	Expansion/Phased Project	All Projects	15 points	State Focus
7	Project Support	All Projects	10 points	Agency Focus
8	Partnership or Match	All Projects	5 points	State Focus
9	Readiness to Proceed	All Projects	10 points	Agency Focus
10	Commission Priorities	All Projects	6 points	Agency Focus
<b>Scored by RCO</b>				
11	Proximity to People	All Projects	1.5 points	State Focus
12	County Population Density	All Projects	1.5 points	State Focus
<b>Total Points Possible:</b>			<b>89</b>	

\*Focus—Criteria orientation in accordance with the following priorities:

- State—those that meet general statewide needs (often called for in Revised Codes of Washington or the *Washington State Recreation and Conservation Plan*)
- Agency—those that meet agency needs (usually an item of narrower purview, often called for in the State Parks and Recreation Commission’s plans)
- Technical—those that meet technical considerations (usually more objective decisions than those of policy).

## Detailed Evaluation Criteria

**1. Public Need.** What is the need for the proposed project? Consider whether the project is cited in an agency, regional, or local plan.

▲ Point Range: zero to five points

Zero points	Not included in a plan.
One to two points	Not included in, but consistent with, a plan.
Three to four points	Included in and consistent with state, regional, or local plans.
Five points	High priority in state, regional, or local plan.

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**2. Project Significance.** Describe how this project supports one or more of the following goals of State Parks' Statewide Acquisition and Development Strategy:

- Places to Be: Connecting people with Washington's iconic landscapes
- Stories to Know: Engaging people in authentic Washington stories
- Things to Do: Providing Washington's recreation mainstays
- Ways to Grow: Inviting novices to experience Washington's outdoors
- Something for Everyone: Improving the quality of life for all Washingtonians

▲ Point Range: zero to five points, which are multiplied later by three

Zero points	Does not directly support any of the goals
One to two points	Indirectly supports one or two goals
Three to four points	Directly supports at least one goal
Five points	Strongly and directly supports multiple goals

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**3. Acquisition Priority** (acquisition and combination projects only). Describe why it is important to acquire the property now. Consider the following:

- Does the acquisition satisfy the described need?
- Does the acquisition expand access and provide opportunity for people of all races, tribal affiliations, ethnicities, national origins, genders, sexual orientations, abilities, religions, veteran status, incomes, ages, and more?
- Is there an immediate threat to the property that will result in a loss in quality or availability of habitat or future public use?
- Is the acquisition needed to adapt to climate change?

▲ Point Range: zero to five points, which are multiplied later by two for acquisition projects

Zero points	No evidence the property addresses the considerations above.
One to two points	The property addresses some of the considerations above.
Three to five points	The property addresses most or all the considerations above.

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**4. Project Design** (development and combination projects only). Is the project well designed? Describe the project in detail. Consider the following:

- Does the design satisfy the described need?
- Which design phase describes the status of the project (e.g., concept, schematic, detailed, completed construction documents)?
- Does this property support the type of development proposed? Describe the attributes: size, topography, soil conditions, natural amenities, location and access, utility service, wetlands, etc.
- How have the potential impacts to or from climate change been considered in the design?
- How does this project exceed current universal accessibility requirements and provide equal access for people with disabilities?
- How does the project design address the needs and desires of the state's

diverse population? What specific improvements or features are designed to serve people of all races, tribal affiliations, ethnicities, national origins, genders, sexual orientations, abilities, religions, veteran status, incomes, ages, and more?

- Does the nature and condition of existing or planned land use in the surrounding area support the type of development proposed?
- Is the project permissible? What are the likely environmental permitting complications? What, if any, are the mitigation requirements?
- Describe how the project will integrate sustainable elements such as low-impact development techniques, green infrastructure, environmentally preferred building products, or reduced greenhouse gas emissions.
- Is the cost estimate realistic?

▲ Point Range: zero to five points, which are multiplied later by two for development projects

Zero points	Design does not address any of the considerations above.
One to two points	Design addresses some of the considerations above.
Three to four points	Design addresses several of the considerations above.
Five points	Design addresses most or all the considerations above.

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**5. Resource Stewardship.** What techniques or resources are proposed to ensure the project will result in a quality, sustainable, recreational, heritage preservation, or educational opportunity, while protecting and/or improving the integrity of the ecological resources? Describe how the project will protect and/or enhance natural and cultural resources.

▲ Point Range: zero to five points, which are multiplied later by two

Zero points	No stewardship elements.
One to two points	Contains stewardship elements and avoids impacts to natural or cultural resources.

Three to four points	Has numerous stewardship elements that protect, enhance, or restore natural or cultural resources.
Five points	Maximizes natural or cultural resource protection, enhances or restores natural or cultural resources, and contains innovative and outstanding stewardship elements.

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**6. Expansion/Phased Project.** Does this project implement an important phase of a previous project, represent an important first phase, or expand or improve an existing site? Consider the following:

- Is the project part of a phased acquisition or development?
- To what extent will this project advance completion of a plan or vision?
- Is this project an important first phase?
- What is the value of this phase?
- How does the project complement an existing site or expand usage, preservation, or education within a site?

▲ Point Range: zero to five points, which are multiplied later by three

Zero points	Neither a significant phase or expansion, nor a distinct stand-alone project
One to two points	Project is a quality or important phase or expansion
Three to four points	Project is a key first phase or expansion or moves a project significantly towards realizing a vision
Five points	Project is a highly important first phase, final (or near final phase), moves a project a great deal towards realizing a vision.

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**7. Project Support.** What statewide community and user groups were consulted and what support has been demonstrated for this project? How has the applicant’s organization informed and engaged people about the project including those whose interests have been historically marginalized or excluded?

- Describe the extent of the applicant’s organization’s efforts to identify and

contact all parties, (i.e., an outreach program to local, regional, and statewide entities).

- Describe the extent of the project support. Broadly interpret the term “Project Support” to include, but not be limited to, the following:
  - Public participation and feedback
  - Endorsements or other support from advisory boards and user and friends groups
  - Media coverage

▲ Point Range: zero to five points, which are multiplied later by two

Zero points	No evidence presented.
One to two points	Marginal community support. Opportunities for only minimal public involvement (i.e., a single adoption hearing), or little evidence that the public supports the project.
Three points	Wide support and adequate opportunity presented for participation.
Four to five points	The public has received ample and varied opportunities to provide meaningful input into the project and there is overwhelming support, or the public was so supportive from the project’s inception that an extensive public participation process was not necessary.

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**8. Partnerships or Match.** Describe how this project supports strategic partnerships or leverages secured matching funds. Consider the following:

- Does the project help form strategic partnerships with other agencies, tribes, community-based organizations, or nonprofits? (A strategic partnership is one that ultimately is expected to offset expenses, leverage investments, or stimulate activity that directly or indirectly generates a financial return.)
- Does the partnership facilitate a key State Parks’ goal or objective?
- Does the project have a match of cash, grants, or in-kind services?

▲ Point Range: zero to five points

Zero points	No partners or match
One to two points	One partner or up to 10 percent match
Three to four points	Two partners or 10.01-24.99 percent match
Five points	Three or more partners or 25 percent or more match

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**9. Readiness to Proceed.** Describe the project’s timeline. Is the project ready to proceed? Consider the following:

- For development projects, is it fully designed and permitted?
- For acquisition projects, is there written documentation indicating a willing seller?
- For acquisition projects, is there a written sales agreement or option with the property owner?
- Are there any significant zoning, permitting issues, or encumbrances?

▲ Point Range: zero to five points, which are multiplied later by two

Zero points	Not ready.  (Acquisition) No agreement with landowner.  (Development) No construction drawings.
One to two points	(Acquisition) Willing seller identified  (Development) Construction drawings less than 60 percent complete.
Three to four points	(Acquisition) Property (purchase) secured in some way by legal instrument to include a letter of intent or being held in trust or by a non-governmental organization (for example).  (Development) Construction drawings at or more than 60 percent complete.

Five points

(Acquisition) State Parks has a purchase and sale agreement or option signed, and the purchase will be made within its existing term.

(Development) Plans completed and all permits in hand.

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**10. Commission’s Priority** (applicant does not answer). How well does this project implement the commission’s priorities?

The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission evaluates this criterion. The commission provides RCO with a ranked list of its applications.

RCO assigns a point value to each project based on its rank. The highest priority project shall receive a point score equal to the number of applications ranked. The second highest ranked project shall receive a point score one less than the one above it, and so on. The lowest priority application shall receive a value of 1.

RCO will apply a variable multiplier to the scores so the highest ranked application will receive a point value of 6, and all other applications will have a point value less than 6 and proportional to their rank.

▲ Point Range: zero to six points (after multiplier)

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The example below assumes thirteen projects evaluated, all with a multiplier of six out of thirteen or 0.462.

Project	Commission’s Rank	RCO-Assigned Point Value	Final Point Value
Project A	Ranked 1	13 RCO-assigned points	6 final points
Project B	Ranked 2	12 RCO-assigned points	5.54 final points
Project C	Ranked 3	11 RCO-assigned points	5.08 final points
Project D	Ranked 4	10 RCO-assigned points	4.62 final points
Project E	Ranked 5	9 RCO-assigned points	4.15 final points
Project F	Ranked 6	8 RCO-assigned points	3.69 final points
Project G	Ranked 7	7 RCO-assigned points	3.23 final points
Project H	Ranked 8	6 RCO-assigned points	2.77 final points
Project I	Ranked 9	5 RCO-assigned points	2.31 final points
Project J	Ranked 10	4 RCO-assigned points	1.85 final points
Project K	Ranked 11	3 RCO-assigned points	1.38 final points
Project L	Ranked 12	2 RCO-assigned points	0.92 final points



