WASHINGTON STATE
Recreation and
Conservation Office

PROPOSED: Nonprofit Match Clarification in WWRP - Habitat

Public Comments requested by December 14, 2026

Background

The Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) requires nonprofit nature conservancies to provide 50 percent match in the Habitat Conservation Account of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program. This appears to have been the intent of all parties (legislature, RCO, nonprofit stakeholders, etc.), but there is no current statute, rule, or policy that determines match requirements for nonprofit nature conservancies in the Habitat Conservation Account. RCO is proposing a clarification that would align board policy with current practice.

RCO staff provided initial context and requested board direction on this clarification at the October 27, 2026 meeting (Item 4).

How to Comment

RCO is requesting public comment on the proposed policies in this document. Comments or questions can be submitted by email to Nicholas Norton, Policy and Planning Specialist, at nicholas.norton@rco.wa.gov. Comments will be accepted until **11:59 pm** on **Monday, December 14, 2026**.

Next Steps

RCO staff will utilize public feedback to inform the final proposed changes to the board. during their January 27-28, 2027 meeting. If the board adopts the proposed clarification, RCO staff will make appropriate updates to *Manual 10b: WWRP Habitat Conservation Account*.