

State Parks and Recreation Commission expenditures that expand recreational lands and facilities

| Agency | State Parks and Recreation Commission (State Parks) |
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| Year Established | 1913 |
| Relevant Statute | 79A.05 RCW; 352 WAC |
| Program Goal | Caring for Washington's most treasured lands, waters, and historic places, connecting all Washingtonians to their diverse natural and cultural heritage, and providing memorable recreational and educational experiences that enhance their lives. |
| Agency Summary | <p>State Parks stewards and maintains the state park system, acquires lands to infill and enhance existing parks, develops recreational and support facilities in existing parks, and acquires lands for future parks. The agency develops long-range plans for each of its parks and properties through a Classification and Management Planning (CAMP) process that determines land classifications, long-term park boundaries, and management plans.</p> <p>Most State Parks land acquisitions are of properties within or adjacent to existing state parks, within the designated long-term park boundaries. State Parks targets acquisitions and developments that meet one or more of five goals:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Places to be – Connecting people with Washington's iconic landscapes 2. Stories to know – Engaging people with authentic Washington stories 3. Things to do – Providing Washington's recreation mainstays 4. Ways to Grow – Inviting novices to experience Washington's outdoors 5. Something for everyone – Improving the quality of life for all Washingtonians one or more of five goals: <p>State Parks may seek acquisition of properties within long-term park boundaries through landowner agreements, easements, donations, exchanges with other agencies, or purchase. Acquisitions are funded through grants and donations, and through the sale of surplus park lands or other state funding.</p> |
| Existing Outcome Measures | <p>The State Parks 2014-2019 <i>Strategic Plan</i> states that the agency faces a challenge to establish consistent, measurable standards for public parks and is working to improve quantitative indicators of service level. The Strategic Plan includes agency-wide performance measures for its 7 transformation strategies:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Demonstrate that all Washingtonians benefit from their state parks 2. Adopt a business approach to park system administration 3. Provide recreational, cultural, and interpretive opportunities people will want 4. Provide meaningful opportunities for volunteers, friends, and donors |

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| | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Form strategic partnerships with other agencies, tribes, and non-profits 6. Expand use of land holdings for compatible revenue-generating purposes 7. Develop amenities and acquire lands that advance transformation |
| Other benefits identified by agencies | <p>Community: public services, quality of life, connection to the natural world</p> <p>Economy: travel-related spending,</p> <p>Environment: wetland preservation, water quality, ecosystem services</p> <p>Safety: public health</p> |