

## Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP)

<b>Agency</b>	The Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) administers grants to state agencies, local governments, nonprofits, and other entities
<b>Year Established</b>	1990
<b>Relevant Statute</b>	79A.15 RCW; WAC 286-27
<b>Program Goal</b>	To acquire recreation and habitat lands before they are developed, and develop recreation areas for a growing population.
<b>Agency Summary</b>	<p>WWRP provides funding for 12 categories of projects (critical habitat, farmland preservation, local parks, natural areas, riparian protection, state lands development and renovation, state lands restoration and enhancement, state parks, trails, urban wildlife habitat, water access, and forestland preservation) that acquire recreation and habitat lands.</p> <p>Citizen and expert committees score proposed projects based on specific criteria for each project category. Ranked project lists are approved by the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board and submitted to the Governor and Legislature for approval and funding. Funding is provided through the sale of general obligation bonds and allocated to each project category.</p>
<b>Existing Outcome Measures</b>	<p>RCO's PRISM database records outputs of WWRP projects, including dollars spent, acres acquired, and number of asset types acquired or protected.</p> <p>Grant recipients may conduct monitoring and evaluation of their projects, but these efforts are not coordinated by RCO.</p>
<b>Other benefits identified by agencies</b>	<p><b>Community:</b> access for people with disabilities, social interaction, educational opportunities</p> <p><b>Economy:</b> economic contributions</p> <p><b>Environment:</b> species preservation, restoration of ecological functions on farmland, wildlife viewing, habitat connectivity, water access, environmental stewardship</p> <p><b>Safety:</b> trail maintenance, physical and mental health benefits</p>