



STATE OF WASHINGTON

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## **\$2.5 Million in Boating Grants Awarded to Projects in Six Counties**

OLYMPIA—Boating projects in six communities will receive funding totaling more than \$2.5 million, the Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation announced today.

The Interagency Committee, which is responsible for evaluating and distributing the Boating Facilities Program grants, made the grant awards at its quarterly meeting Nov. 18 in Olympia.

“Boating in Washington is such an important part of our culture, recreation and economy, we want to make sure boaters have top-notch facilities,” said Laura Johnson, director of the Interagency Committee. “These grants will help cities and ports tailor projects to fit the needs of boaters in their communities.”

Projects in the following counties were awarded funding:

<b>County</b>	<b>Grant Recipient</b>	<b>Grant Amount</b>
▪ Benton	City of Prosser	\$15,000
▪ Clark	Port of Camas-Washougal	\$200,000
▪ Jefferson	Port of Port Townsend	\$96,744
▪ Pacific	City of South Bend	\$421,611
▪ Pierce	City of Tacoma	\$1 million
▪ Snohomish	Port of Everett	\$772,127
Total		\$2,505,482

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Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation  
Boating Grants  
Nov. 22, 2004

This year, the Interagency Committee received 15 applications, requesting more than \$5 million in funding. The grant applications were reviewed and ranked in September by a 10-member evaluation team comprised of representatives of county park departments, state natural resource agencies, ports and recreational boaters.

Created in 1964 by voter Initiative 215, the Boating Facilities Program offers grants to state and local governments to plan for, buy, develop or renovate boating facilities, including launch ramps, short-term moorage and other support facilities, for motorboats. The program is funded by a portion of the gasoline taxes paid by boaters and not refunded as allowed by law.

A summary of the grant program is available at the Interagency Committee Web site at:  
<http://www.iac.wa.gov/iac/grants/bfp.htm>.

The Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation was established in 1964 to finance recreation and conservation projects throughout the state.

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(NR-007)



## Boating Facilities Program

Projects Recommended for Funding  
November 2004

### Benton County

#### **Planning for an expanded boat launch on the Yakima River** **\$15,000**

The City of Prosser will receive a grant to help them plan for the improvement of the only public boat launch on the Yakima River between Yakima and the Tri-cities. The boat launch, near the entrance of 7.3-acre Crawford Riverfront Park, is popular for recreational boaters, anglers, and users of personal water craft (commonly called Jet Skis). The city plans to upgrade the current launch, which is nothing more than a concrete ramp into the water. Proposed improvements to the area include adding a floating dock with a log boom, providing parking, landscaping around the launch and adding signs, benches, picnic tables and a fish cleaning station. The proposed planning grant is an integral part of the city's comprehensive strategy to implement its tourism-based economic development plan. The city has partnered with organizers of the fishing tournament that uses the launch, the local Veterans of Foreign War organization, and local residents who have volunteered their labor. The city will match this grant with \$15,000. This project was ranked 2 out of 15 competing for funding in the Boating Facilities Program grants to local governments. (04-1316N-FY05)

### Clark County

#### **Planning for a new Columbia River Boat Launch** **\$200,000**

The Port of Camas-Washougal will use this grant to design and submit permit applications to build an eight-lane boat launch on the Columbia River. The new launch will be in Washougal at the end of 6<sup>th</sup> Street. It will replace an existing four-lane launch that was built in 1973 about 1/8-mile downstream. The current launch, which handles more than 18,000 launches a year, has no room to expand and its location in a 350-slip marina causes congestion in the summer. Parking for the lot is limited to 200 cars with trailers, and many boaters must park on nearby roads not designed for this type of parking. In addition, the Oregon Marine Board reports that about 30 percent of boaters using Oregon launches on this section of the Columbia River are Washington residents who cannot find a place to launch in Washington. Clark County has the 5th highest number of registered boats in Washington but ranks 25th among counties in number of launch facilities. When the new launch is completed, the existing launch will be used to support marina activities, and overflow launching during peak-use periods. The port will match this grant with \$300,000. This project was ranked number 1 of 15 competing for funding in the Boating Facilities Program grants to local governments. (04-1337N-FY05)

### Jefferson County

#### **Fixing the Port Hadlock boat launch** **\$96,744**

The Port of Port Townsend will use this grant to acquire a permanent easement for boat trailer parking at the Port Hadlock Boat Ramp, and complete the design and permitting to develop the boat launch, parking lot, and access trail. The Port Hadlock ramp, on the southern portion of Port Townsend Bay, experiences heavy use year-round and has increasing silt problems. Regular cleaning only opens the ramp for a few days before newly deposited sand prevents most trucks and trailers from safely using the ramp. Also, this ramp has never had dedicated parking, which creates traffic flow and safety problems. The port is teaming up with the Northwest School of Wooden Boat Building for this grant. This project ranked 3 of 15 competing for funding in the Boating Facilities Program grants to local governments. The port will match this grant with \$37,000 in cash and donated land. (04-1367P-FY05)



## Boating Facilities Program

Projects Recommended for Funding  
November 2004

### Pacific County

#### **Providing boat floats and handicap access to the water** **\$421,611**

The City of South Bend will use this grant to replace public floats and extend a pier to the floats to provide access for people with disabilities. Located near the 1100 block of West Robert Bush Drive and U.S. 101 in downtown South Bend, the current floats are dangerous, sit on the ground at low tides and have no handicapped access. This grant will allow the city to install low-maintenance floats for about 380 feet and place them 30 feet further into Willapa Bay than the current floats. In addition, the city will extend the Ray Spurrell walkway about 35 feet and build an 88-foot gangway to connect the walkway to the floats. The pier extension will have the added benefits of providing a bridge that will allow boat access to the landward side of the floats and will eliminate a barrier that was causing mud to build up, making the floats unusable. The grant also will help pay to install a log boom upstream to reduce the level of siltation under the floats. The city will team with the Willapa Community Development Association, Boondocks Recreation, Inc., South Bend Industries, Ben B. Cheney Foundation and the Willapa Bay Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group. The city will match this grant with \$141,000 in cash, labor and other grants. This project ranked 4 out of 15 competing for funding in the Boating Facilities Program grants to local governments. (04-1603D-FY05)

### Pierce County

#### **Expanding the Point Defiance Boat Ramp** **\$1 million**

The City of Tacoma, in partnership with the Tacoma Metropolitan Park District, will use this grant to expand the existing boat ramp from four to eight lanes, resurface the ramp, extend one lane to serve extremely low tides and install a floating breakwater with finger piers. In addition to protecting the ramp from the open water, the breakwater and piers will add a substantial amount of moorage slips. This boat launch is the busiest saltwater launch in the county accommodating 16,500 launches a year and drawing boaters from Federal Way, Sumner, Puyallup, Tacoma and eastern Pierce County. The project was ranked 5 of 15 competing for funding in the Boating Facilities Program grants to local governments. (04-1191D-FY05)

### Snohomish County

#### **Creating short-term moorage** **\$772,127**

This grant will allow the Port of Everett to provide short-term moorage to support an adjacent 12-lane boat launch and a waterfront redevelopment that contains more than 300,000 square feet of restaurants, hotels, shops, an amphitheater and a boardwalk. Short-term moorage slips will be equipped with modern amenities for full service overnight stays. The port will install a moorage float that will provide 960 lineal feet of side-tie moorage with internal pile hoops to provide flexible moorage for about 32 boats. An approach pier will extend from the shore and connect to the new moorage float with an 80-foot gangway that is handicapped accessible. A new building will provide restroom, shower and laundry facilities. Central Puget Sound contains 34 percent of the state's recreational boats but only 14 percent of the available temporary moorage. This project ranked 6 of 15 competing for funding in the Boating Facilities Program grants to local governments. The city will match the state grant with \$862,900. (04-1272D-FY05)