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Leavenworth Resident Appointed to State Board

OLYMPIA – Leavenworth resident Jeff Parsons has been appointed to the Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation, a board that issues grants for recreation and conservation projects throughout the state.

Parsons is the director of the Barn Beach Reserve, a multi-purpose, non-profit facility that includes a museum, environmental learning center, and arts room in a historic home on 5 acres in downtown Leavenworth.

Parsons most recently served for seven years as the executive director for Washington Audubon, the state office of the National Audubon Society. He also has served on the staff of Washington's House of Representatives, the Marine Safety Office, and People for Puget Sound.

“We are excited to welcome Jeff to the interagency committee,” said Val Ogden, of Vancouver, who is the committee’s chair. “Jeff has experience in a variety of environmental organizations in Washington and that perspective will help the board as it makes decisions on projects protecting the state’s most sensitive areas.”

Parsons, a Washington native, spent his childhood in eastern Washington. He attended Washington State University in Pullman and then graduated from The Evergreen State College in Olympia. He and his wife, Chris, move to Leavenworth in 2003.

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Interagency Committee
Parson Appointment
Jan. 31, 2005

The Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation was formed in 1964 by a citizen initiative. The committee helps finance recreation and conservation projects throughout the state by giving grants to local communities and others for parks, trails, beaches, boating and recreational facilities, wildlife habitat and natural areas. The committee is composed of five citizens appointed by the governor and three state agency directors.

Since it's inception, the Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation has granted more than \$865,000 for projects in Leavenworth, including work on the Waterfront Park and trail system and Blackbird Island park. In addition, the committee has awarded nearly \$24 million for 239 projects in Chelan County and another nearly \$8 million for 47 projects that span multiple counties, including Chelan.

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