

Capital Project Request

2017-19 Biennium

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Version: BD 17-19 Capital Budget

Report Number: CBS002

Date Run: 9/8/2016 11:33AM

Project Number: 30000413

Project Title: Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account

Description

Starting Fiscal Year: 2018

Project Class: Grant

Agency Priority: 20

Project Summary

The purpose of the Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account (ALEA) is to provide grants for projects involving or adjacent to state-owned aquatic lands throughout Washington. It is intended to create more opportunities for people to access state-owned aquatic lands. Project examples include removing a bulkhead to restore natural beach functions, replacing a waterfront boardwalk, and developing a waterfront park. This program is funded from income earned through DNR's leasing of state-owned aquatic lands or sale of products harvested from state-owned aquatic lands. Funded projects located in Puget Sound through the ALEA grant program support the habitat restoration and protection goals of the Puget Sound Action Agenda by preserving unspoiled land and restoring damaged areas.

Project Description

In 1984, the Washington State Legislature created the ALEA program to ensure that money generated from aquatic lands was used to protect and enhance those lands. ALEA grants provide for the acquisition, improvement, or protection of aquatic lands for public purposes. They also are used to provide or improve public access to the waterfront.

The ALEA program is targeted at re-establishing the natural, self-sustaining ecological functions of the waterfront, providing or restoring public access to the water, and increasing public awareness of aquatic lands as a finite natural resource and irreplaceable public heritage.

Eligible Grant Recipients:

- * Local governments: cities, towns, counties, and special purpose districts (ports, park, and school districts);
- * State agencies; and
- * Tribal governments

The request supports IT related activities only to the extent that RCO uses a portion of its administrative funds to support its IT infrastructure and PRISM project database. All larger IT enhancements follow the OCIO review process.

Local and tribal government grant recipients must provide a match of at least 50% of the total project cost. The match may be either cash or in-kind contributions. Except for state agencies and tribal governments, at least 10% of the total project cost must be provided in the form of a non-state, non-federal contribution.

Eligible Projects: The ALEA Grant Program provides grants for projects that acquire, restore, or improve state-owned aquatic lands and adjacent lands for public purposes, and for projects that provide and improve public access to aquatic lands and associated waters. All projects must be consistent with the local shoreline master program and must be located on lands adjoining a water body that meets the definition of "navigable." Projects intended primarily to protect or restore salmon habitat must be consistent with the appropriate lead entity strategy or regional salmon recovery plan. In Puget Sound, these projects also support key elements of the Action Agenda, including the Salmon Habitat strategic initiative.

RCO's mission is to work with others to protect and improve the best of Washington's natural and recreational resources, enhancing the quality of life for current and future generations. This request is in direct alignment with the agency's mission and helps Washington meet recreation needs identified in the state's 2013 State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan and supports the strategic direction of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board.

Revenue Source: Funds come from revenue generated from Department of Natural Resources managed state-owned aquatic lands.

Location

City: Statewide

County: Statewide

Legislative District: 098

Project Type

Grants

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Grant Recipient Organization: See project description for full list of eligible recipients

RCW that establishes grant: RCW 79.105

Application process used

Grant applications are evaluated biennially in a competitive process by teams with expertise specific to this grant program. Criteria adopted by the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (Board) are used in the evaluation process. Final prioritized lists are approved by the Board. RCO submits prioritized lists of projects to the Governor and legislature for final approval.

Growth Management impacts

GMA is considered for this program through the adopted criteria used for project evaluation.

Funding

Acct Code	Account Title	Estimated Total	Expenditures		2017-19 Fiscal Period	
			Prior Biennium	Current Biennium	Reapprops	New Approps
02R-1	Aquatic Lands Acct-State	33,000,000				6,600,000
	Total	33,000,000	0	0	0	6,600,000
		Future Fiscal Periods				
		<u>2019-21</u>	<u>2021-23</u>	<u>2023-25</u>	<u>2025-27</u>	
02R-1	Aquatic Lands Acct-State	6,600,000	6,600,000	6,600,000	6,600,000	
	Total	6,600,000	6,600,000	6,600,000	6,600,000	

Operating Impacts

No Operating Impact

Narrative

This is a grant pass-through program.