

**RECREATION AND CONSERVATION FUNDING BOARD SUMMARIZED AGENDA & ACTIONS**  
**February 9-10, 2016**

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<b>Item</b>	<b>Formal Action</b>	<b>Board Request for Follow-up</b>
1. Consent Calendar	Motion to amend the Consent Calendar: Approved	The board removed Item 1A from the Consent Calendar.
A. Extend Temporary Closure Period: City of Spokane Riverfront Park Combined Sewer Overflow (RCO #72-040)	Motion: Approved, as amended February 10, 2016	The board approved the extension of the temporary closure waiver for the Combined Sewer Overflow tank only, with Director Authority. The board directed staff to report at timely intervals, no extension beyond 12 months. Follow up in June and later meetings with updates. Post St Bridge Staging needs proposal, or to find alternate.
B. Scope Change: Farmland Preservation Grant, RCO Project #12-1580 Ebey's Reserve Farmland-3 Sisters Family Farms	Resolution 2016-01 Decision: Approved, as amended	
2. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes from November 18-19, 2015	Motion: Approved, as amended February 9, 2016	No follow-up action requested.
3. Director's Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Director's Report</li> <li>• Legislative, Budget, &amp; Policy Update</li> <li>• Grant Management Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Projects of Note</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Fiscal Report (<i>written only</i>)</li> <li>• Performance Report (<i>written only</i>)</li> </ul>	Briefings	No follow-up action requested.
4. State Agency Partner Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Department of Natural Resources</li> <li>• State Parks and Recreation Commission</li> <li>• Department of Fish and Wildlife</li> </ul>	Briefings	No follow-up action requested.
5. Washington Administrative Code Updates	Briefing	The Chair directed staff to seek additional feedback from partners and from board on forming the definition of "project area." A proposal will be formed and presented to the board for direction at the April 27-28 meeting.
6. Adoption of Policy and Evaluation Criteria by Grant Category	Briefing	

A. Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Critical Habitat Category	Resolution 2016-02 Decision: Approved	No follow-up action requested.
B. Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account	Resolution 2016-03 Decision: Approved	No follow-up action requested.
C. Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Local Parks Category	Resolution 2016-04 Decision: Approved	No follow-up action requested.
D. Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Water Access Category	Resolution 2016-05 Decision: Approved	No follow-up action requested.
E. Land and Water Conservation Fund	Resolution 2016-06 Decision: Approved	No follow-up action requested.
F. Recreational Trails Program, General	Resolution 2016-07 Decision: Approved	No follow-up action requested.
G. Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Trails Category	Resolution 2016-08, as amended Decision: Approved	Resolution amended to incorporate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "Trail Separation from Roadways" policy approved with three edits;</li> <li>• "Design" question approved with one edit;</li> <li>• Split "Water Access, Views, and Scenic Values" into 2 questions, adopted with edits,</li> <li>• A simplified SCORP Question approved, striking all sub-parts and guidance;</li> <li>• Cost Efficiencies Question Approved as written.</li> </ul> <p>No follow-up action requested.</p>
H. Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, General	Resolution 2016-09, as amended Decision: Approved	A simplified SCORP Question approved, striking all sub-parts and guidance. No follow-up action requested.
I. Boating Facilities Program	Resolution 2016-10 Decision: Approved	No follow-up action requested.
J. Boating Infrastructure Grants	Resolution 2016-11 Decision: Approved	No follow-up action requested.
7. Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, State Parks Category: Evaluation Criteria Changes	Request for Direction	The board directed staff to solicit public comment on the proposed changes and present the results at the April 2016 meeting for board decision.

8. Policy Updates for Firearms and Archery Range Projects	Request for Direction	The board directed staff to solicit public comment on the proposed changes and coordinate a public hearing at the April 2016 board meeting.
9. Follow-up on Climate Change Policy Proposal	Request for Direction	The board directed staff to include an unscored question in the 2016 grant round. Staff will also investigate whether climate change is an appropriate topic to include in the 2017 statewide comprehensive outdoor recreation plan (SCORP).
10. Performance Measures A. Demonstration of Trust for Public Lands' Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Demographic Data B. Board Performance Measures C. Discussion of Changes to the Board's Strategic Plan	Briefings & Discussion	The board directed staff to develop performance measures using existing data from the annual RCO Director's Report; comments offered by Member Bloomfield as part of the staff memo for this item; data regarding underserved communities; U.S. Census Bureau general population data; and synthesizing board and legislative feedback and to add to the new SCORP in development.  Staff will follow up by updating the performance section of the strategic plan and present for board approval at the next meeting.
11. Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program Review: Expectations for the Board to implement legislative changes and other policy recommendations	Briefing	No follow-up action requested.
12. Conversions A. City of Yakima Chesterley Park YMCA (RCO #75-030) B. Okanogan County Methow Community Trail (RCO #91-147AD, #97-1181AD)	Briefings	No follow-up action requested.
13. Overview of State Parks' Acquisition Strategy and Prioritization Process	Briefing from Partner	The Department of Natural Resources will present their land acquisition and prioritization strategy at the April 2016 board meeting.

## RECREATION AND CONSERVATION FUNDING BOARD SUMMARY MINUTES

**Date:** February 9, 2016

**Place:** South Puget Sound Community College, Lacey Campus, Lacey, WA

### Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Members:

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<b>Ted Willhite</b>	Vice Chair, Twisp	<b>Joe Stohr</b>	Designee, Department of Fish and Wildlife
<b>Betsy Bloomfield</b>	Yakima	<b>Jed Herman</b>	Designee, Department of Natural Resources
<b>Pete Mayer</b>	Renton	<b>Peter Herzog</b>	Designee, Washington State Parks
<b>Mike Deller</b>	Mukilteo		

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**It is intended that this summary be used with the materials provided in advance of the meeting. The Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) retains a recording as the formal record of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) meeting.**

### Opening and Call to Order

Acting Chair Willhite called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. Staff called roll and determined a quorum. Member Hermann arrived mid-morning. Member Mayer was excused from the afternoon portion of the meeting.

Chair Willhite asked board members, staff, and audience to honor the passing of Harriet Spanel, Chair of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board and legislator. Director Cottingham shared a brief biography commemorating Ms. Spanel and recognizing her for decades of service to Washington. Chair Willhite invited all to share memories and stories of Ms. Spanel.

### Management Reports

#### Item 1: Consent Calendar

The board reviewed Resolution 2016-01, Consent Calendar, which included two requests: 1A) to extend the temporary closure period, waiving the normal policy, for the City of Spokane Riverfront Park Combined Sewer Overflow (RCO #72-040); and 1B) to approve a scope change for the Farmland Preservation Grant, RCO Project #12-1580 Ebey's Reserve Farmland-3 Sisters Family Farms.

Member Mayer moved to remove the decision items from the consent calendar; Member Deller seconded.

The board first discussed Project 72-040, the needs of the sponsor (City of Spokane), and potential alternative options. Member Mayer moved to delegate authority to the RCO Director to grant an extension for the CSO utility work, with the staging issues for the parking and Post Street Bridge be brought back to the board, expressing concerns that park areas remain protected from development effects. Member Deller seconded.

Chair Willhite requested that the board table a decision on the bridge staging project until representatives from the City are present. The board tabled decision on the project until the following day. The board reviewed Consent Calendar, Resolution 2016-01, as amended to remove Item 1A for a separate motion.

**Resolution 2016-01, as amended to remove Item 1A**

**Moved by:** Member Mike Deller

**Seconded by:** Member Jed Herman

**Decision:** Approved

**Item 2: Approval of Board Meeting Minutes**

Member Mayer moved to approve the November 18-19, 2015 meeting minutes, as amended; Member Bloomfield seconded. The motion carried.

**Item 3: Director's Report**

**Director's Report:** Director Kaleen Cottingham introduced several new RCO employees: grant managers Scott Thomas and Alison Greene; performance and policy analyst Brent Hedden; fiscal analyst Sandy Scott; and technical support intern Joshua Geforos.

**Legislative Update:** Wendy Brown, Policy Director, shared information about the RCO-request legislation for 2016. All three of our request bills have been introduced and heard in the various policy committees. Ms. Brown shared information about RCO's supplemental budget request to increase spending authority in the Boating Facilities Program (BFP) and Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) program was included in the Governor's budget. The increased funds coming into these two programs resulted from an increase in the gas tax last session. In the Governor's budget, our spending authority is increased by \$4.85 in BFP and \$2.5 in NOVA. Should RCO receive the increased authority, existing lists will be used to fund alternate projects.

Member Herman informed the board of several NOVA projects sponsored by the Department of Natural Resources that were not able to certify match. Since the board has decided to use the ranked list to approved projects, the DNR projects for which they did not certify match will not be funded. Director Cottingham suggested that staff research the issue and present to the board for discussion at the April meeting.

Ms. Brown concluded by sharing the direction provided by the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee (JLARC) regarding RCO's response to their study. Agencies should develop a single, accessible source of land acquisition and maintenance information. RCO will continue to use the information maintained by the Habitat and Recreation Lands Coordinating Group, contingent upon approval of the Legislature. If that option is not funded, RCO will pursue the no-cost option to enhance the Lands Group's reports.

**General Public Comment:**

**Andrea Doyle**, Washington Wildlife and Recreation Coalition (WWRC) Interim Executive Director, thanked the board for the work put into the review of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP). The WWRC will continue their partnership through the legislative session and into the implementation phases for changes to the WWRP.

**Tom Bugert**, The Nature Conservancy, commented on the WWRP review and other related legislation. He highlighted the recent increase in restoration funding, recognition of local values, addition of underserved populations, addition of land trust eligibility, and reauthorization of the Lands Group. He urged the board to monitor the PILT (payment in lieu of taxes) bill and encouraged moving the bill forward towards a solution.

**Hannah Clark**, Washington Association of Land Trusts (WALT) Director, thanked the board for their efforts in the WWRP review. The review enhanced the respect and integrity of the program, supporting

positive momentum, and continued funding. WALT will continue working with the board in these endeavors.

**Grant Management Report:** Marguerite Austin, Recreation and Conservation Section Manager, provided an update on the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Legacy Program. The National Park Service (NPS) has yet to release the notice of funding opportunity. Staff will keep the board informed of the pending announcement. Ms. Austin provided further updates on the work of the grants team and an upcoming application webinar on February 17, 2016 to introduce and provide information about the 2016 grants cycle for recreation, conservation, and farmland preservation projects.

**Featured Project:** Kyle Guzlas, Outdoor Grants Manager, presented information about the Kettle Falls Shooting Range development project (RCO #[12-1717](#)), sponsored by the Kettle Falls Gun Club.

#### **Item 4: State Agency Partner Reports**

**Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR):** Member Herman provided an update on the current legislative session, commenting on the impact of the past two years' extreme fire conditions and the resulting budget requests for restoration and emergency preparedness. Mr. Herman shared information about an aquatic reserve on the Hood Canal, for which a legislator has requested considerable review and auditing; DNR is currently facilitating discussions and working to resolve these issues. The PILT discussions continue to be a priority, and DNR is working with partners to support moving forward as much as possible.

**Washington State Parks & Recreation Commission (State Parks):** Member Herzog provided an update on behalf of State Parks. Member Herzog continued to explain that a budget proviso regarding transfer of trail ownership affected the John Wayne trail issues. State Parks' has been working with legislators and interested land owners to plan and develop of trail management process that addresses the concerns raised, such as weeds, vandalism, trespassing, etc. State Parks' is also involved in two issues this session: the extension of long-term leases, as well as the process to approve a long-term lease.

**Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW):** Member Stohr provided an update on behalf of WDFW. He shared information about the Wild Future report, detailing species and habitat, status of populations, and adaptability and climate change. The report is accessible to the public for educational purposes, available on the WDFW website at: <http://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/01768/wdfw01768.pdf>.

Member Stohr concluded by commenting on salmon and steelhead fisheries' continued use and sustainability. WDFW is settling a suit with the [Wild Fish Conservancy](#) regarding impacts to spring steelhead runs. He shared that WDFW is seeking to create a [steelhead license plate](#). He provided a brief update on agency request bills and legislation that WDFW is monitoring.

**Break: 10:40 a.m. – 10:55 a.m.**

#### **Board Business: Briefings & Discussions**

##### **Item 5: Washington Administrative Code Updates**

Leslie Connelly, Natural Resource Policy Specialist, summarized the proposed amendments to Title 286 of the Washington Administrative Code (WAC), and requested direction on whether to proceed with preparing amendments for formal public comment and adoption by the board. She also requested that the board continue their discussion on the definition of "project area."

#### *Phase IV of Draft WAC Amendments*

Ms. Connelly explained that the proposed amendments represent the fourth phase of changes since 2014. As part of this fourth phase, RCO is reorganizing some sections and adding additional information on the advisory committee roles. The board did not have additional comment about the next phase of amendments, and directed staff to prepare the WAC amendments for formal public comment and for a public hearing at the July meeting.

#### *Definition of Project Area*

In April 2015, staff briefed the board about the concept of a "project area" related to a funded project. The "project area" definition in part addresses the area "protected forever" and affects long-term obligations. Ms. Connelly revisited several examples, noting that many project types are not included due to time constraints (e.g., trails, FARR, etc.), focusing on the most common, basic projects.

The board discussed policies regarding useful life and potential conversions, control and tenure policies for respective grant categories, and obsolete facilities on funded property. Ms. Connelly explained that the property must continue to be available and open to the public until the end of the term of obligation; but facilities (e.g., restrooms) may be closed.

The board discussed the need to provide a definition and clarify the difference between various, similar terms, e.g., geographic envelope, work site, project site, etc. The board also expressed agreement that an all-inclusive definition is not necessary, and likely limiting, for all project types. Ms. Connelly explained that the "project area" is limited by what the sponsor actually controls.

Director Cottingham suggested continuing the discussion on "project area" at future meeting and allowing the other amendments to move forward in the rule-making process. The board decided to table any firm direction on the definition until a broader, more informed discussion can be held that also incorporates feedback from stakeholders. Chair Willhite suggested that the board provide written comment to staff prior to April meeting, at which a proposal will be presented to the board for direction. The board also discussed the potential creation of a subcommittee to address this work.

***Lunch Break: 12:05 p.m. – 1:05 p.m.***

#### **Board Business: Decisions**

##### **Item 6: Adoption of Policy and Evaluation Criteria by Grant Category**

Leslie Connelly and Adam Cole, Natural Resource Policy Specialists, described the process for updating the policies and evaluation criteria for respective grant categories in preparation for the 2016 grant round. To begin, Ms. Connelly refreshed the board on the public comment process. The public comment period was held from December 10-31, 2015 for the changes presented today for board decision. Additional comment not addressed in today's decisions is included in Item 6, Attachment K of the board materials.

##### *Item 6A: Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program Criteria Habitat Category*

Ms. Connelly summarized the proposed changes: to incorporate local planning into the "Ecological and Biological Benefits" question, and to include grazing in the "Management and Viability" question. She summarized the public comment received, which resulted in minor edits, before coming to the board.

**Board Discussion:** The board did not have any questions or comments.

**Public Comment:** No further public comment was provided at this time.

#### **Resolution 2016-02**

**Moved by:** Member Betsy Bloomfield

**Seconded by:** Member Joe Stohr

**Decision:** Approved

*Item 6B: Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account (ALEA)*

Ms. Connelly summarized the proposed changes to adjust scoring to allow for evaluating both elements of acquisition and development/restoration applications, specifically in the "Urgency and Viability" and "Project Design and Viability" questions. She summarized the public comment received and shared the staff recommendation.

**Board Discussion:** The board did not have any questions or comments.

**Public Comment:** No further public comment was provided at this time.

**Resolution 2016-03**

**Moved by:** Member Mike Deller

**Seconded by:** Member Betsy Bloomfield

**Decision:** Approved

*Item 6K: Additional Public Comment*

*\*Presented out of order*

Ms. Connelly summarized the proposed changes to add a SCORP question and remove the bonus point from the Cost Efficiencies. She summarized the public comment received from 19 individuals related to the two evaluation questions, which apply to the remaining grant program categories to be presented. The comments specific to each grant program, along with the staff reply, are located in each grant program category's attachment in the board materials. Additional comments related to other aspects of the board's grant programs are also included in Item 6, Attachment K of the materials, and will be considered by staff in the future.

Ms. Connelly asked for board direction regarding the removal of the bonus point and the addition of a SCORP question, based on public comment received. Member Herman expressed concerns that the scope of the SCORP question may be too narrow, or may not apply to all grant categories. Chair Willhite added that further review may be necessary via the formal SCORP advisory committees. Ms. Connelly added that the questions adopted for grant programs may need to be revised based on their feedback in the future.

**Public Comment:**

**Glenn Glover**, DNR, and **Jeff Chapman**, Backcountry Horsemen, commented on the SCORP priorities and encouraged a broader incorporation of the SCORP findings in the grant criteria. The proposed SCORP question is too narrow; additional SCORP findings should be included that address limited access and barriers. He highlighted the NOVA motorized category, stating that the SCORP question included should be specific to each grant program. Chair Willhite asked whether the removal of NOVA from the categories proposed for the SCORP question would address his concerns. Mr. Glover responded that it would be an improvement, but doesn't completely resolve issues such as trails.

The board discussed the proposed questions and public comment, and considered dropping the question from the NOVA and the WWRP Trails categories, moving forward with the question as written for other programs. Director Cottingham suggested addressing the language in each subsequent resolution as appropriate, considering the suggestion to remove NOVA and WWRP Trails.

*Item 6C: Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Local Parks Category*

Ms. Connelly summarized the proposed changes to add a SCORP question and to remove the bonus point from question #10 (Cost Efficiencies). She summarized public comment received and shared the staff recommendation. The board did not have any questions or comments.

**Public Comment:** No further public comment was provided at this time.

**Resolution 2016-04**

**Moved by:** Member Jed Herman

**Seconded by:** Member Mike Deller

**Decision:** Approved

*Item 6D: Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Water Access Category*

Ms. Connelly summarized the proposed changes to add SCORP question and to remove the bonus point from question #10 (Cost Efficiencies). She summarized public comment received and shared the staff recommendation. The board did not have any questions or comments.

**Public Comment:** No further public comment was provided at this time.

**Resolution 2016-05**

**Moved by:** Member Mike Deller

**Seconded by:** Member Betsy Bloomfield

**Decision:** Approved

*Item 6E: Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)*

Ms. Connelly summarized the proposed change to remove the bonus point from question #9 (Cost Efficiencies). She summarized public comment received and shared the staff recommendation. The board did not have any questions or comments.

**Public Comment:** No further public comment was provided at this time.

**Resolution 2016-06**

**Moved by:** Member Betsy Bloomfield

**Seconded by:** Member Peter Herzog

**Decision:** Approved

*Item 6F: Recreational Trails Program (RTP), General*

Ms. Connelly summarized the proposed change to remove the bonus point from question #8 (Cost Efficiencies). She summarized public comment received and shared the staff recommendation. The board did not have any questions or comments.

**Public Comment:** No further public comment was provided at this time.

**Resolution 2016-07**

**Moved by:** Member Mike Deller

**Seconded by:** Member Joe Stohr

**Decision:** Approved

### *Item 6G: Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Trails Category*

Mr. Cole summarized the proposed changes to policy and evaluation criteria for the WWRP, Trails Category.

#### *Trail Separation From Roadways (Policy)*

Regarding situations when natural barriers cannot be addressed, Mr. Cole explained that the "Separating Trails from Roadways" policy, as currently written, dictates that the trail can be immediately adjacent to a roadway, but a barrier of some kind will be required. Mr. Cole demonstrated an example from the State of Minnesota that aligns closely with the board's trail separation policy.

Mr. Cole recommended that the board review some minor verbiage changes to the policy as outlined in the board materials, which will help staff interpret this policy. Specifically, these changes within specific statements of the policy include:

- "Barriers ~~may-need~~ not be contiguous where needed to allow drainage, create trail or pedestrian connections, to allow room for utilities such as a light pole, or create access for emergency or maintenance services."
- "A strip of land separating a trail from a roadway may not be required at or approaching a road crossing, if the trail needs to be located on a bridge or in a tunnel, or in other areas that have severe spatial limitations due to geography or landownership. In these instances, a barrier, ~~other than a curb, as described above~~ is still required."
- "The ~~director -board~~ may waive non-statutory requirements."

#### **Public Comment:**

**Jeff Chapman**, Backcountry Horsemen, addressed the board. Mr. Chapman shared that he currently lives on the Olympic Discovery Trail, and the "separation" barrier criteria is not exceedingly firm; in some cases, a barrier is not possible. He added that in other places the barrier may be rather unconventional, citing the example of a "mound of dirt" created in limited space to serve as a barrier. Although he supported adoption of the policy, he emphasized that there needs to be some flexibility in the policy. Mr. Cole explained that the space requirement was removed, and although the policy would not allow a non-contiguous barrier, the RCO Director could make a variance to this requirement on a case-by-case basis.

#### *Evaluation Criteria Changes*

Mr. Cole summarized the proposed changes to the evaluation criteria for the following questions: Trails and Community Linkages; Project Design; Water Access, Views, and Scenic Values; Wildlife Habitat Connectivity; Cost Efficiencies; and SCORP Priorities.

#### **Public Comment:**

**Karen Daubert**, Washington Trails Association (WTA), explained that the WTA interprets the policy to state "Water Access or Views" that are not necessarily "Water Access" and/or "Water Views." This interpretation, as explained by Adam Cole, is in opposition to the Attorney General's interpretation. The literal interpretation is preferred. Mr. Cole explained that this would be explained to evaluators to score/evaluate "Water Access" or "Views" and not both.

Chair Willhite thanked Ms. Daubert for commenting. He agreed that interpreting the current policy as is, in line with Ms. Daubert's explanation, is in current statute and should be the position the board takes.

Member Willhite asked about her opinion of the SCORP question, as it pertains to the WWRP, Trails category. She agreed that it was not a disadvantage to leave out the category as part of the policy revisions that will add a SCORP question.

**Glenn Glover**, Department of Natural Resources, addressed the Water Access/Views concern. He suggested revisiting the original legislative statute, or to be silent and let the sponsor determine which aspect the application will address. The board discussed the interpretation, considering both the traditional interpretation, the Attorney General's interpretation, and the interpretation of stakeholders. Mr. Glover stated that SCORP not be applied to the WWRP-Trails category, specifically because the age requirements disadvantage the scoring and do not reflect the real-world recreational activity taking place.

**Yvonne Kraus**, Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance, explained that in order to continue to be competitive, trails that do not have water as a component should not be precluded from scoring in this area. Ms. Kraus also shared that back-country and high-country trails would not be penalized under the recommended criteria; her organization was pleased to see the changes set forth for public comment as soft-surface trails have been out-competed in the past based in part on this criteria.

**Jeff Chapman**, Backcountry Horsemen, shared that the WWRP trails category did not really apply to horsemen. Within recent years, horse trails began to see more applicability in various grant categories which generated excitement, participation, and encouragement in the grant arena. He stated that broadening the category to account for horse trails will generate advocacy and support funding for the program.

**Break: 3:05 – 3:15 p.m.**

Chair Willhite asked the board to review the proposed amendments to the updated policy, specifically the separation of Water Access and Scenic Values of the Site. The board also discussed whether each question should have weighted or equal scoring values.

The board discussed excluding SCORP from the WWRP-Trails category. Staff explained the related Trails Plan, an appendix to SCORP, as well as that it is part of the Outdoor Recreation Account and meant to be similar in scoring and evaluation criteria. Member Herman suggested the narrowing of SCORP is awkward for the particular cases proposed in the question – age, health, underserved communities. A generic SCORP question may be added, as presented in Ms. Connelly's section, that would provide the necessary breadth.

Mr. Cole also suggested an additional change to the "Project Design" criteria, specifically:

"If trail is adjacent to a roadway, is there adequate separation from the roadway to ensure a ~~safe and~~ quality recreation experience?"

**Public Comment:**

Hal Bates spoke against removing "safe" from criteria, stating that it is important to take into account the safety of the trail. Mr. Cole explained that as grant staff or for advisory committees, it may be difficult to evaluate "safety" objectively and it opens the door to liability issues for the board.

The board discussed revisions to the "Trail Separation from Roadways" policy, that the trail need not be contiguous, that the statement "barrier other than a curb" is still required, and that the RCO Director may have authority to waive non-statutory requirements. It was determined that the SCORP question as written should be broader to the more generic initial statement: "How will this project address statewide or regional priorities as described in the Statewide Outdoor Comprehensive Recreation Plan?"

**Resolution 2016-08, amended to incorporate the revised policy for “Trail Separation from Roadway,” the revised policy for the division of Water Access” and “Views,” to remove the term “safe and” from the “Project Design” criteria, and the addition of generic SCORP question.**

**Moved by:** Member Jed Herman

**Seconded by:** Member Mike Deller

**Decision:** Approved

*Item 6H: Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities (NOVA), General*

Mr. Cole summarized the proposed changes to add a SCORP question, expand the sustainability question to address planning projects, and to clarify scoring for combination projects. He summarized public comment received and shared the staff recommendation. The board stated they would like to use the broader SCORP question in NOVA as they approved for WWRP Trails.

**Public Comment:** No further public comment was provided at this time.

**Resolution 2016-09, as amended to include a generic SCORP question**

**Moved by:** Member Betsy Bloomfield

**Seconded by:** Member Jed Herman

**Decision:** Approved

*Item 6I: Boating Facilities Program (BFP)*

Mr. Cole summarized the proposed changes to add a SCORP question, to add a question on whether the project will serve boats on trailers, and to add a sustainability question and expand it to address planning projects. The revisions to the guidance for evaluating question 3b included deleting “Environmental Impacts.” He summarized public comment received and shared the staff recommendation.

Member Herman confirmed that the more detailed SCORP question statement was well-received by the boating community.

**Public Comment:** No further public comment was provided at this time.

**Resolution 2016-10**

**Moved by:** Member Mike Deller

**Seconded by:** Member Betsy Bloomfield

**Decision:** Approved

*Item 6J: Boating Infrastructure Grants (BIG)*

Mr. Cole summarized the proposed changes to the evaluation criteria and grant limits for Tier 1, for the eligibility of maintenance projects, and to change the long-term compliance period from 20-years to a single useful life for the entire project. Mr. Cole also provided information about the grant limits which normally follow the maximum federal allocation. The result would be formulaic, where the board would adopt the federal maximums while accounting for the needed administrative rate.

Member Herzog asked about components of a project that fail sooner than others. Myra Barker, Compliance Specialist, explained board process and policy, including options for when a conversion might be necessary. Mr. Cole shared that the option for a single useful life is one of the options offered by the federal requirements, as a set compliance period is no longer permitted. The alternate federal option is to have separate useful life periods for various components of the project.

**Public Comment:** No further public comment was provided at this time.

**Resolution 2016-11**

**Moved by:** Member Mike Deller

**Seconded by:** Member Betsy Bloomfield

**Decision:** Approved

**Board Business: Briefings & Discussions**

**Item 7: Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, State Parks Category: Evaluation Criteria Changes**

Mr. Cole summarized the proposed changes to the evaluation criteria of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, State Parks Category. Although the criteria adopted in January 2014 were well-received, the WWRP State Parks Advisory Committee, the Commission, and State Parks staff had additional suggestions in preparation for the 2016 grant cycle. Mr. Cole presented Attachment C, the proposed changes to the evaluation criteria, which is a draft of the new State Parks criteria summary.

Mr. Cole advised that State Parks' staff presented an overview of these criteria changes to the State Parks and Recreation Commission on January 28, 2016. Member Herzog confirmed that the Commission approves of the recommended changes.

Mr. Cole explained next steps, including soliciting public comment on the proposed changes and presenting the results at the April 2016 meeting for board decision. The board approved staff moving forward.

**Item 8: Policy Updates for Firearms and Archery Range Projects**

Mr. Cole summarized three potential updates to grant programs that provide funding for Firearms and Archery Range (FARR) projects: expanding the safety policy to other board-funded programs; limiting the number of range evaluations (and reports) eligible for reimbursement; and ensuring containment for Archery Park Guide projects. Mr. Cole summarize the staff recommendation for each update and requested board direction.

Mr. Cole explained that next steps include soliciting public comment and bringing recommendations for decision at the April 2016 board meeting. The board approved staff moving forward.

**Item 9: Follow-up on Climate Change Policy Proposal**

Leslie Connelly, Natural Resource Policy Specialist, summarized the board discussion from the November 2015 meeting, in which the board addressed potential ways to incorporate the impacts of climate change within the grant programs' evaluation criteria. The board directed RCO staff to research the possibility of drafting a non-scored application question that focuses on the big picture of climate change. Within a designated sub-committee, RCO staff discussed alternatives with Member Willhite and Member Stohr. The sub-committee recommends that the board direct RCO to include a generic question on climate change in the *unscored* grant application questions.

Ms. Connelly advised that, based on direction from the board, staff is prepared to finalize the application question on climate change and include it in the application requirements for 2016 for all grant categories. All applications will be completed by Fall 2016, at which time staff would compile all applicants' responses, analyze them, and report to the board in early 2017 on the findings. In addition, staff will investigate whether climate change is an appropriate topic to include in the 2017 statewide comprehensive outdoor recreation plan (SCORP). Staff will look more closely at what other states have

done and see if addressing climate change helps meet Washington State's outdoor recreation and conservation needs.

Chair Willhite supported the staff recommendation to include an unscored question in the 2016 grant round; Member Stohr concurred. Gathering information from applicants in this way will be largely beneficial and will inform future efforts. Member Herzog shared that the Commission recently passed a resolution stating that all decisions must consider climate change moving forward.

**Closing: Day One**

The meeting was adjourned for the day at 4:45 p.m. by Acting Chair Willhite.

**RECREATION AND CONSERVATION FUNDING BOARD SUMMARY MINUTES**

**Date:** February 10, 2016

**Place:** Olympia, WA

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Members:**

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<b>Ted Willhite</b>	Acting Chair, Twisp	<b>Joe Stohr</b>	Designee, Department of Fish and Wildlife
<b>Betsy Bloomfield</b>	Yakima	<b>Jed Herman</b>	Designee, Department of Natural Resources
<b>Pete Mayer</b>	Renton	<b>Peter Herzog</b>	Designee, Washington State Parks
<b>Mike Deller</b>	Mukilteo		

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**Call to Order**

Acting Chair Willhite called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. Staff called roll and a quorum was determined. Member Stohr was excused.

**Request from the City of Spokane, Continued Discussion**

Kyle Guzlas, Outdoor Grant Manager, provided an update to questions that arose at day one of the RCFB meeting regarding the City of Spokane's request to extend the temporary closure period for the Riverfront Park Combined Sewer Overflow project (RCO #72-040). The City of Spokane requested an extension for the temporary twelve-month period, set to begin in April 2016; staging for the Post Street Bridge has been delayed until 2017.

Chair Willhite proposed a motion for approval to extend the policy waiver for the temporary closure period for the CSO tank only, with authorization given to RCO Director to negotiate, monitor construction, and report to board at regular intervals, but not beyond 12 months authorized by the board. Member Bloomfield moved to approve the motion; Member Mayer seconded. The motion carried.

**Item 10B: Performance Measures**

*\*Presented out of order due to technical delays.*

Scott Robinson, Deputy Director, provided a brief update in continuing its discussion about revising its performance measures.

Member Deller spoke to narrowing gaps in data collection, similar to the comments submitted by Members Mayer and Bloomfield (see Item 10, Attachments A and B of the board materials). He suggested that the board should identify statutory deficiencies and continue to move forward with the current strategic plan, as it is a good business model.

The board discussed the difficulty of selecting measures that show results, as some may take decades to be realized. Member Mayer addressed the language included in the State of Colorado's outdoor recreation plan, stating that the clearly defined "benchmarks" model is straightforward and could be a model for Washington. Using data to inform the benchmarks would provide a mechanism by which the board could monitor achieving each of their strategic plan goals. The board should be able to communicate how they are breaking down silos to achieve tangible conservation and recreation goals. The data that speak to these accomplishments seems to be already collected, but is not being reported in a meaningful or clear way.

Member Bloomfield suggested that by reframing the strategic plan questions (as suggested in her submitted comments) she hopes that the board can "roll up" the data so that it is visible where the actions are being taken place and how the grant awards are affecting these goals.

Scott Robinson will work with Member Bloomfield's suggestions and bring a final set of performance measures to the April Board meeting.

#### **Item 10A: Demonstration of Trust for Public Lands GIS and Demographic Data**

Breece Robertson, Trust for Public Lands, provided a demonstration of TPL's GIS and demographic data. She provided an overview of TPL's mission, plan, method of operations, and goals to protect land and educate the public.

Ms. Robertson provided details on several of the Trust for Public Lands' programs for cities and parks. The Trust for Public Lands' created a Park Evaluator Tool to help cities plan, evaluate, and adjust according to public needs. The "Park Score Index" rates and ranks cities' park systems, looking at metrics such as acreage, facilities, investment, and uses GIS to calculate access. GIS and statistics are also used to estimate the need, tell stories to funders and partners, and strategize what future actions need to be taken, and measure successes. The Climate Smart Cities Program aims to connect citizens to the outdoor world, cool cities by reducing the urban heat island effect, mitigate storm water impacts, and protect coastal cities from sea level rise, flooding, etc.

The board discussed the applicability and feasibility of the TPL programs and tools within Washington State, as well as necessary funding and data collection efforts. The board also discussed options for incorporating GIS into their metrics and how technology may present challenges and unique opportunities.

To summarize what outcomes or follow-up actions the board should direct staff to take prior to the next meeting, given the discussion today, Deputy Director Robinson suggested curating existing, general population data from the U.S. Census Bureau (contingent upon what the board intends to measure), using Member Bloomfield's submitted comments to improve the strategic plan framing questions, using data from the annual director report for measuring progress and monitoring long-term actions, and synthesizing the board and legislative feedback and adding it to SCORP. Acting Chair Willhite commented on the use of the U.S. Census Bureau population data, as it may additionally support changes that need to be made to address underserved communities.

#### **Item 11: Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program Review: Expectations for the Board to implement potential legislative changes and other policy recommendations**

Wendy Brown, Policy Director, provided information about what might follow from the passage of the legislation updating the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program. In addition to the statutory changes proposed in the bill (SB 6227), there are many policy changes that will need to be addressed by the board, as outlined in the board materials. She concluded by sharing a proposed implementation timeline.

**Public Comment:**

**Tom Bugert**, The Nature Conservancy and Washington Association of Land Trusts Advocacy Committee Chair, requested that two WWRP areas – “Underserved Communities” and “Multiple Values” – involve stakeholder outreach processes. Mr. Bugert also cautioned that during these outreach efforts, the board should be mindful that opinions during the WWRP review process were often divisive and to try not to push those divisions further.

The board discussed language in the WWRP as it pertains to public access and conservation easements, the definition of working lands, and using the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) as a resource for social equity when looking at underserved communities.

**Item 12A: Conversions – City of Yakima, Chesterley Park YMCA (RCO #75-030)**

Ms. Barker summarized a request from the City of Yakima regarding the conversion of 7.5 acres at Chesterley Park. The City plans to lease a portion of the park to a YMCA for development of an indoor aquatics facility and fitness center. Ms. Barker began by reminding the board of their responsibility and authority in the conversion process, as well as the process for resolving a conversion.

Ms. Barker asked for comments and questions from the board at this time in order to prepare for a board decision at the April 2016 meeting, if ready.

**Public Comment**

**Ken Wilkinson**, Yakima Parks and Recreation Manager, was present at the meeting and offered to answer board questions as requested.

**Jeff Cutter**, Interim City Manager/City Attorney with City of Yakima, was present at the meeting and offered to answer board questions as requested.

**Scott Schafer**, Public Works Director for the City of Yakima, was present at the meeting and offered to answer board questions as requested.

The board discussed the conversion requirements, classification of the replacement property, parking needs and uses for the proposed installation, community support, and potential alternatives. Member Mayer requested that the sponsor provide details on the interim and future plan as it regards parking on the replacement site. Ms. Barker stated that at the next briefing she will update the board on public comment received, as well as the environmental assessment (which has yet to be published).

**Item 12B: Conversions – Okanogan County**

Ms. Barker summarized a request from Okanogan County regarding the conversion of 1.44 acres located at the Mazama Trailhead. The conversion is due to a land exchange with an adjacent property owner. Ms. Barker reviewed the board’s authority and responsibility in the case of a conversion.

Ms. Barker asked for comments and questions from the board at this time in order to prepare for a board decision at the April 2016 meeting. John Hayes, who has been working with Okanogan County in the exchange, was present at the meeting and offered to answer board questions as requested.

The board discussed the existing trail, alternate parking options, proposed replacement property and facilities, and the removal and maintenance of existing structures.

**Public Comment:**

**Kenneth Madden** addressed the board, sharing that he owns the property adjacent to the east side of the proposed replacement property. He expressed concerns with change of ownership, believing the public process to be incomplete. He requested confirmation that the public will have a chance to review the proposed plan prior to a board decision. Mr. Madden also shared that the property was purchased 18 years ago, and would like to see the board have the commitment from the County to move forward with the parking lot plan within a shorter timeframe.

**John Hayes** explained that the original property was acquired several years ago; it was known that a parking lot for the trail was desired, especially after the trail's popularity increased. The parking area was private land, which causes trail users to park on the side of the road. As a result of the public comments received, it became apparent that there needed to be a buffer between the proposed area and residential land, which would offer Mr. Madden the privacy required and created a boundary line for parcels with restrooms. Mr. Hayes advised all land included in the proposed plan has been donated.

Chair Willhite raised the issues by Mr. Madden, and encouraged the County to publish a schedule and development plan.

**Lunch Break: 12:46 p.m. – 1:25 p.m.**

**Item 13: State Parks'**

Nikki Fields provided an overview of the State Parks' approach to land acquisition. She described five goals that State Parks' set forth to achieve strategic planning. For each goal, she provided examples within Washington that demonstrate the types of landscapes, cultural history, economy and industry, recreational activities, health, conservation, and community identity unique to the state. Within the data collected for each of these goals are the usual data needs, such as population, cultural resources, diversity, natural resources, and economic development.

State Parks' evaluation process includes gap analysis to determine what lands they have, whether it's enough, what's missing, and what other partners may own. Evaluation data is tracked according to the goals established. With this data, GIS is used to assess existing resources and examine things such as proximity to horse trails, bike trails, amphitheaters, etc. or relative to population density.

State Parks worked with Earth Economics to examine the benefits provided by state parks. The tool compares park costs and benefits, including benefits like tax contributions to the general fund, ecosystem services, health and social benefits, and recreational benefits. This tool can be used to compare current parks and properties, or it can be used to evaluate new properties.

Ms. Fields described next steps to build out the existing tools, gather new data, and use public outreach to conduct a gap analysis. She concluded by sharing the strategic direction in State Parks' acquisition approach. Member Herzog (State Parks) shared that the data is largely rhetorical, and while they are working on building the tools to reflect more on-the-ground methods, the intent is to blend the approach to create a high-level vision for land acquisitions.

Chair Willhite asked about the extent of cooperation with other state agencies to share information. Member Herzog replied that the basic mechanism is through their long-term boundary process, which is park by park. Through this method, the review allows them to see who owns the neighboring lands, which

often results in management or coordination agreements. On a higher, landscape scale, only State Parks' specific data is utilized in their analysis. Next steps include integration with the Public Lands Inventory (PLI) and other agencies' data to add meaning to their analysis.

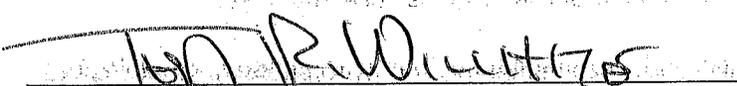
Chair Willhite stated, with regard to new parks, that smaller parks may be a new direction for the board to take in investment.

Director Cottingham asked that the Department of Natural Resources present their strategy at the next board meeting.

### Closing

Acting Chair Willhite adjourned the meeting at 2:03 p.m.

**Approved by:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Theodore Willhite, Acting Chair

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Resolution #2016-01  
February 9-10, 2016 Consent Calendar**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the following February 9-10, 2016 Consent Calendar items are approved:

- A. Request to Extend Temporary Closure Period: City of Spokane Riverfront Park Combined Sewer Overflow (RCO #72-040)
- B. Scope Change: Farmland Preservation Grant, RCO Project #12-1580 Ebey's Reserve Farmland-3 Sisters Family Farms

*Resolution moved by:*                      Mike Deller

*Resolution seconded by:*                Jed Herman

*Adopted Date:*                              February 9, 2016

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Resolution 2016-02  
WWRP Critical Habitat Evaluation Criteria**

**WHEREAS**, the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 79A.15 authorizes the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) to adopt evaluation criteria for the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) Critical Habitat category, and

**WHEREAS**, in 2005, the legislature amended RCW 79A.15 to allow local agencies to apply for funds in the WWRP Critical Habitat category;

**WHEREAS**, since being added as an eligible applicant to the WWRP Critical Habitat category, local agencies have not been successful in competing for grant funds in this category and the board would like to provide incentives for local agencies to compete;

**WHEREAS**, the board adopted an Allowable Use policy in 2011 to allow for grazing of critical habitat lands when it is compatible with habitat conservation goals;

**WHEREAS**, the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO), with board direction, drafted revisions to evaluation questions #1 and #3 to recognize local agency conservation planning efforts and grazing practices during the grant evaluation review; and

**WHEREAS**, RCO solicited comments from over 2,545 members of the public and posted notice on its Web site and other sources, and

**WHEREAS**, staff reviewed the public comments, adjusted the evaluation questions as appropriate and recommends the board approve the proposed revisions to evaluation questions #1 and #3 as presented in Attachments A, and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed evaluation questions are consistent with state law and the board's administrative rules,

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the board adopts the proposed revisions to evaluation questions #1 and #3 for the WWRP Critical Habitat category as described in Attachment A, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the board directs RCO staff to incorporate these changes into the evaluation criteria and in the appropriate grant program manuals; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the evaluation criteria shall be effective beginning with the 2016 grant cycle.

*Resolution moved by:*                    Betsy Bloomfield

*Resolution seconded by:*           Joe Stohr

*Adopted Date:*                        February 9, 2016

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Resolution 2016-03  
Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account Evaluation Criteria**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to state law, the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) administers and approves policies that govern the Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account (ALEA), and

**WHEREAS**, applicants and advisory committee members requested a change to the evaluation criteria to be able to score the acquisition elements and development and restoration elements for combination projects, which is currently not allowed;

**WHEREAS**, the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO), with board direction, drafted revisions to evaluation questions #4a and #4b to allow evaluators to score both aspects of a combination projects; and

**WHEREAS**, RCO solicited comments from over 2,545 members of the public and posted notice on its Web site and other sources, and

**WHEREAS**, staff reviewed the public comments and recommends the board approve the proposed revisions to evaluation questions #4a and #4b as presented in Attachments B, and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed evaluation questions are consistent with state law and the board's administrative rules,

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the board adopts the proposed revisions to evaluation questions #4a and #4b for the ALEA program as described in Attachment B, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the board directs RCO staff to incorporate these changes into the evaluation criteria and in the appropriate grant program manuals; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the evaluation criteria shall be effective beginning with the 2016 grant cycle.

*Resolution moved by:*                      Mike Deller

*Resolution seconded by:*                Betsy Bloomfield

*Adopted Date:*                              February 9, 2016









**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Resolution 2016-08, amended**

**Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program Trails Category Evaluation Criteria and Policy Change**

**WHEREAS**, the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 79A.15 authorizes the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) to adopt evaluation criteria for the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) Trails Category, and

**WHEREAS**, Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) staff requests further policy development for trail and road separation requirements;

**WHEREAS**, applicants and advisory committee members expressed concern about how to respond to the evaluation question on cost efficiencies;

**WHEREAS**, the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO), with board direction, drafted a revision to the cost efficiencies evaluation question to address these concerns; and

**WHEREAS**, the board adopted The 2013 State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) which includes recommendations for meeting the outdoor recreation needs of the residents of Washington State;

**WHEREAS**, the RCO, with board direction, drafted a new evaluation question to incentivize applicants to address the needs identified in SCORP when proposing projects for grant funding; and

**WHEREAS**, RCO solicited comments from over 2,545 members of the public and posted notice on its Web site and other sources, and

**WHEREAS**, staff reviewed the public comments and recommends the board approve the proposed evaluation criteria as presented in Attachments G as revised during the board meeting, and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed evaluation criteria and policy for trail and road separation requirements are consistent with state law and the board's administrative rules,

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the board adopts the proposed evaluation criteria and policy changes for the WWRP - Trails program as described in Attachment G, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the board directs RCO staff to incorporate these changes in the appropriate grant program manuals; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the revised evaluation criteria and policy changes shall be effective beginning with the 2016 grant cycle.

*Resolution moved by:* Jed Herman

*Resolution seconded by:* Mike Deller

*Adopted Date:* February 9, 2016



**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Resolution 2016-10  
Boating Facilities Program Evaluation Criteria Changes**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to state law, the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) administers and approves polices that govern the Boating Facilities Program, and

**WHEREAS**, the board adopted The 2013 State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) which includes recommendations for meeting the outdoor recreation needs of the residents of Washington State including meeting the needs of underserved populations and promoting and supporting healthy populations;

**WHEREAS**, the RCO, with board direction, drafted a new evaluation question to incentivize applicants to address the needs identified in SCORP when proposing projects for grant funding;

**WHEREAS**, board resolution 2011-22 encourages the use of sustainable design, practices, and elements in grant funded programs,

**WHEREAS**, The Boating Grants Program Plan (April 2015) adopted by the board calls for funding boating facilities to address the most important boater needs and the most popular types of boating, and the 2007 Boater Needs Assessment called on RCO to fund more motorized boat launches as the top priority rather than marinas and other boating facilities;

**WHEREAS**, RCO solicited comments from over 2,545 members of the public and posted notice on its Web site and other sources, and

**WHEREAS**, staff reviewed the public comments and recommends the board approve the proposed evaluation criteria as presented in Attachments I, and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed evaluation criteria changes are consistent with state law and the board's administrative rules,

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the board adopts the proposed evaluation criteria changes for the Boating Facilities Program as described in Attachment I, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the board directs RCO staff to incorporate these changes in the appropriate grant program manuals; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the evaluation criteria and policy changes shall be effective beginning with the 2016 grant cycle.

*Resolution moved by:* Mike Deller

*Resolution seconded by:* Betsy Bloomfield

*Adopted Date:* February 9, 2016

**Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
Resolution 2016-11  
Boating Infrastructure Grant Program Evaluation Criteria and Policy Changes**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to state law, the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) administers and approves polices that govern the Boating Infrastructure Grant Program, and

**WHEREAS**, Federal Register Vol 80, No 87 (May 6, 2015) and 50 CFR Part 86 create a need for the board to consider changes to evaluation criteria and program policies;

**WHEREAS**, RCO solicited comments from over 2,545 members of the public and posted notice on its Web site and other sources, and

**WHEREAS**, staff reviewed the public comments and recommends the board approve the proposed evaluation criteria as presented in Attachment J, and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed evaluation criteria changes are consistent with state law and the board's administrative rules,

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the board adopts the proposed evaluation criteria changes for the Boating Infrastructure Grant Program as described in Attachment J, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the board directs RCO staff to incorporate these changes in the appropriate grant program manuals; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the evaluation criteria and policy changes shall be effective beginning with the 2016 grant cycle.

*Resolution moved by:*                      Mike Deller

*Resolution seconded by:*                Betsy Bloomfield

*Adopted Date:*                              February 9, 2016