



STATE OF WASHINGTON

RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE

March 2008

Item# 11: **Biodiversity Strategy Update**
Prepared By: Lynn Helbrecht, Executive Coordinator, Biodiversity Council
Presented By: Sarah Gage, Senior Project Associate
Approved by the Director:

Proposed Action: Briefing

Summary

The Washington Biodiversity Council was created by Executive Order in 2004 and directed to prepare a comprehensive strategy to conserve the state's important biodiversity resources, among other tasks. The Council released this strategy in December 2007. On March 6, 2008, Governor Gregoire reauthorized the Council to continue to lead this effort, focusing on coordinating implementation of early action items. The new Council met on March 11, 2008, and identified six priority areas of focus for the near term.

These areas include:

- ◆ Strategic investments in conservation,
- ◆ Making conservation incentives more available to landowners,
- ◆ Engaging citizens in active conservation,
- ◆ Improving outreach, and
- ◆ Developing proposals for permanent leadership and accountability for biodiversity.

Several of these areas have potential implications for work conducted by the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) and the various funding boards it supports. Staff will brief the RCFB and identify areas of interest to the Board.

Staff Recommendation, Background, Analysis, Next Steps

None

Attachments

Presentation to be provided at March 2008 meeting

