



Boating Infrastructure Grant (BIG)

The Boating Infrastructure Grant program provides federal funding to help communities address their needs for guest boating facilities, targeting recreational boats 26 feet and larger.

Accomplishments

The Recreation and Conservation Funding Board has awarded nearly \$3 million for nine projects since the start of the program in 1998. Grant recipients, while only required to provide 25 percent matching resources, have far exceeded that

amount by contributing more than \$8.2 million or nearly 74 percent of the total costs. To date, the total investment is more than \$11 million.

How are Projects Selected?

Applications are evaluated in an open, competitive process by a team of experts. Scores are based on technical merits, public-private partnerships, cost efficiencies, and economic impacts. The team submits a ranked list of projects to the Recreation and

Conservation Funding Board for approval and funding. Projects costing more than \$95,000 are forwarded to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to compete nationally for funding.



The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission is using a \$95,000 grant to add power and water to Blake Island State Park in Kitsap County.

Funding Information

Funding comes from a portion of the federal Aquatic Resources Trust Fund, which is administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

In addition to a statewide grant to expand a Web page with boat launch information (www.rco.wa.gov/maps), grants have been awarded for projects in the following counties (1998-2007):

- Benton
- Jefferson
- Kitsap
- Snohomish
- Thurston
- Wahkiakum

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board Members

Val Ogden, chair, Vancouver
 Bill Chapman, Mercer Island
 Karen Daubert, Seattle
 Steven Drew, Olympia
 Jeff Parsons, Leavenworth
 Department of Fish and Wildlife
 Department of Natural Resources
 State Parks and Recreation Commission

Who Can Apply?

- Local governments, including special districts
- Nonprofit organizations, such as yacht clubs, with public facilities
- Private marinas open to the public
- State agencies
- Tribes