



# Recreational Trails Program (RTP)

Washington statistics estimate that 11 percent of the population ventures into the backcountry annually to recreate. People are hiking, biking, riding horses, cross-country skiing, and using off-road vehicles and snowmobiles.

To accommodate these sports, the national Recreational Trails Program provides federal funding to maintain trails and facilities that provide a backcountry experience.

Maintenance and rerouting of trails, development of trail-side and trail head facilities, and operation of environmental education and trail

safety programs are all eligible projects.

## Accomplishments

The Recreation and Conservation Funding Board has awarded more than \$14 million for 425 projects in 36 of the state's 39 counties since beginning in 1994.

While a match of 20 percent is required, grant recipients have far exceeded that by contributing more than \$21 million or 60 percent of total costs. To date, investments total more than \$36 million.

## How are Projects Selected?

Grant applications are evaluated in an open, competitive process by a team of recreational trail users.

The team recommends a ranked list of projects to the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board, which approves a list and forwards it to the Federal Highway Administration for review and final approval.



*The U.S. Forest Service used an \$18,000 grant to replace a log bridge on the Methow River in Okanogan County.*

## Funding Information

Funding comes from federal gas taxes attributed to recreational, non-highway uses.

### 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
- Federal agencies
- Nonprofit organizations
- State agencies
- Tribes

Grant recipients must provide at least 20 percent in matching resources.

## Grant Recipients (1994-2008)

Anacortes  
 Apple Country Snowmobile Club  
 Backcountry Horsemen of Washington  
 Benton County  
 Bremerton Cruisers Motorcycle  
 Butte Busters Snomobile Club  
 Chinook Trail Association  
 Clallam County  
 Clark County  
 Coal Mines Trail Commission  
 Corps of Engineers-Clarkston  
 EarthCorps  
 Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance  
 Foothills Rails to Trails Coalition  
 Friends of the Trail  
 Grays Harbor County  
 Hi-Country Snowmobile Club  
 High Country Cruisers  
 Issaquah  
 Issaquah Alps Trail Club  
 Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe  
 Jones Creek Trail Riders Association  
 Junco Snowmobile Club  
 King County  
 Kitsap Land Trust  
 Lake Cle Elum Ridge Ryders  
 Lake Wenatchee Recreation Club  
 Loup Loup Ski Education  
 Methow Valley Snowmobile Association  
 Methow Valley Sport Trail Association  
 Mount Tahoma Trails Association  
 Mountain Trails Grooming Association  
 Mountaineers  
 Mountain Trails Grooming Association  
 Mountains to Sound Greenway  
 National Park Service
 

- Olympic National Park

 Nooksack Nordic Ski Club  
 Pacific Northwest Trail Association  
 Palisades  
 Peninsula Trails Coalition  
 Sky Riders Snomobile Club  
 Snohomish County  
 Spokane Nordic Ski Education Foundation  
 Spokane Winter Knights  
 Trout Unlimited Grays Harbor  
 U.S. Forest Service
 

- Colville National Forest
- Gifford Pinchot National Forest
- Idaho Panhandle National Forest



*The Washington Trails Association used a \$50,000 grant to lead two dozen backcountry work parties to help maintain trails, remove brush and downed trees, and repair drainage structures and bridges throughout the state.*

- Mount Baker National Forest
  - Okanogan National Forest
  - Umatilla National Forest
  - Wenatchee National Forest
- Vancouver Snobusters  
 Volunteers for Outdoor Washington  
 Washington Department of Natural Resources  
 Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission  
 Washington State Snowmobile Association  
 Washington Trails Association  
 Washington Wilderness Coalition  
 Whatcom County  
 Winter Knights Snowmobile  
 Yakima Greenway Foundation