



Renewing Support for Parks and Habitat Increasing State WWRP Funds to \$100M

In a bold step last June, the Coalition's board voted to advocate for increasing the legislature's appropriation for the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) to \$100 million. WWRP grants help Washington's communities buy and develop new parks, trails, habitat and working farms.

This year state and local agencies submitted over 200 WWRP applications for WWRP grants. At \$100 million, the WWRP would fund \$36M for outdoor recreation; \$36M for fish and wildlife habitat; \$19M to buy or restore fresh and salt-water riparian habitat; and \$9M for farmland preservation.

It's time for the state to increase funding for WWRP grants because:

- **Funding Hasn't Increased Since the Program Started in 1990** – Inflation and real estate prices have eroded the WWRP's buying power.
- **Planning for Future Generations** – Our state has grown by 25% since 1990 and is projected to add 2 million people in the next 25 years.
- **Our Quality of Life Drives the Economy** – If we don't act now, we will lose the natural values that help attract qualified employees and retain jobs.

- **New Categories Need Funding** – The new Farmland and Riparian grants are not well funded unless the appropriation approaches \$100 million.
- **Broad Support & Increased Demand** – The new categories passed the legislature with bipartisan support and attracted more than an 80% increase in applications over the last grant cycle.

We are asking the Governor and your legislators to support \$100 million for WWRP grants next legislative session.



Dept. of Fish and Wildlife

Funding for the Methow Watershed would protect habitat for spring Chinook, steelhead, and bull trout.

Annual Report Inside

LAND NEWS
FALL 2006



Save the Date for the Coalition's Fall Reception

**November 14, 2006
6:00 – 8:00 PM**

*The Burke Museum
University of Washington, Seattle
RSVP to Amelia@WildlifeRecreation.org
or (206) 748-0082
Admission is complimentary*

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Annual Report

Dear Friends,

We made incredible strides in 2005. As members of the Coalition, we secured \$50 million for 75 parks, trails, ball fields, and wildlife habitat areas around our state.

And we didn't stop there! After three years of work, we passed legislation to expand the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) to include grants to protect riparian habitat and to conserve vanishing farmland.

Now that's what I call a good year!

In 2005, the Coalition also increased its assets, setting more aside for a rainy day. We hired our first Development Director, ensuring our fiscal stability.

When I joined the Coalition in 1990, I was impressed with the organization's accomplishments. Over the years, I've watched us mature and grow. Since 1989, we have secured more than \$450 million to protect over 250,000 acres of Washington's most special places.

I'm reminded of those special places every time I travel over the Cascades to the Methow Valley, a region that holds a special place in my heart. The Coalition has done much for the Methow from protecting the state's



largest mule deer herd to building needed parks in the Valley's communities to boosting the region's economy through development of the Methow Valley trail system.

The Methow Valley is not an isolated example of success. The achievements of the Coalition are evident in communities throughout Washington.

Please read more to learn more about our accomplishments in 2005. And thanks again for being part of the Coalition!

Sincerely,

Maggie Coon
Board President



Leveraging Public Funds to Protect Washington's Parks, Habitat and Working Farms

HOW TO CONTACT US

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The Coalition leverages public funds to protect Washington's parks, habitat and working farms

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A New President

This spring we said goodbye to Coalition President Craig Lee. Craig moved to the east coast to accept a position as Director of International Programs for National Audubon Society. Congratulations Craig!

Longtime board member, Maggie Coon, has ascended to the presidency of the Coalition. As a key member of our policy team, Maggie has been instrumental in crafting the Coalition's legislative strategy. Maggie currently serves as the Director of External Affairs for The Nature Conservancy of Washington.

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The WWRF, the Coalition's 501c3 affiliate, works to develop a constituency for parks and conservation through public education and outreach. Donations to the WWRF are tax deductible.

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Washington Wildlife and Recreation Foundation Annual Financial Report

For the 12 month period:
January 1, 2005 – December 31, 2005

Income

Contributions	\$110,699
Income and Other Revenue	\$382
Total	\$111,081

Expenses

Program Services	\$98,649
Management and General	\$13,084
Fundraising	\$8,580
Total	\$120,313

Net Assets at End of Year \$36,555



Sunny Walter



Sunny Walter



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2005 Major Accomplishments

Leveraging Public Funds to Protect 75 Parks and Habitat Areas

In 2005, the Coalition successfully advocated for a \$50 million capital appropriation for the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP), our state's premier habitat and recreation program. This appropriation provided funding to 75 of the best parks, habitat, and outdoor recreation projects around the state.

Critical Habitat

Cowiche Watershed, Yakima Co.
Methow Watershed, Okanogan Co.
Reardan's Audubon Lake, Lincoln Co.
Sharp-tailed Grouse, Douglas Co.
Tieton River Canyon, Yakima Co.
Trout Lake Wetlands, Klickitat Co.

Local Parks

Barbour Recreation Complex, Chewelah
Bowen Field, Sumas
Bradley Lake Park, Puyallup
Bremerton Skatepark
Burlington Northern Landing, Skagit Co.



Wa. State Parks

In 2005, Deception Pass State Park was awarded a WWRP grant. The students pictured here learn about the diverse plants and animal communities found in Washington State while hiking at Deception Pass.

Columbia Park Regional Skate/Bike Park, Kennewick
Creston Multi-Sport Complex, Lincoln Co.
Cusick Community Park, Pend Oreille Co.
East Hill Skatepark, Kent
East Mill Plain, Vancouver
Ercolini Park, Seattle
Hockinson Meadows, Clark Co.
Klemgard Park, Whitman Co.
Lacey Regional Athletic Complex
Lakeshore Park, Vancouver
Maritime Park and Amphitheater, Everett
Mount Vista Park, Vancouver

New protections for Riparian Habitat and Working Farms

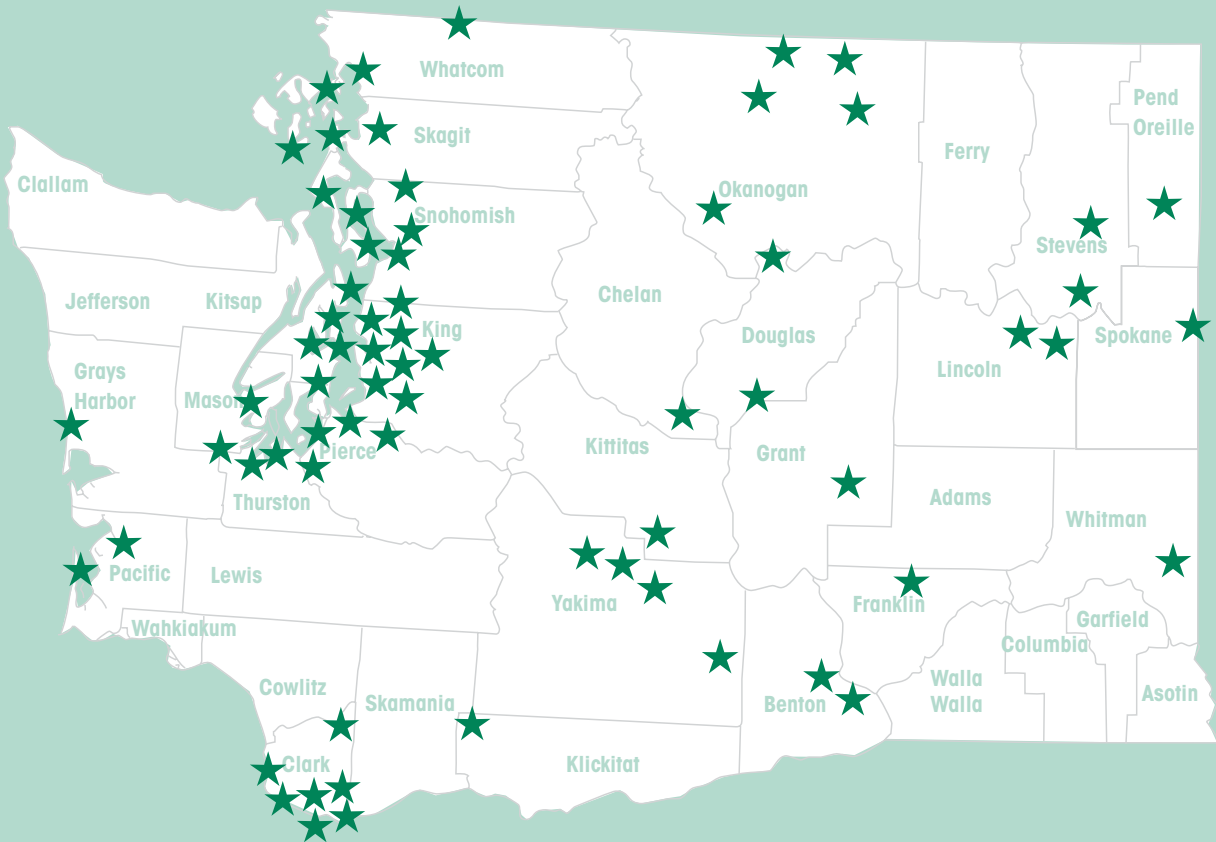
After five years of persistent work, the Coalition passed legislation in 2005 to expand the WWRP grant program to include new grants for the conservation of working farms and the protection of freshwater streams and riparian habitat. In May, Governor Gregoire signed the new legislation into law.

In response to the passage of these important bills, the Coalition also formed a Riparian & Farmland Task Force charged with overseeing the implementation of the new grants.



Sunny Walker

The WWRP will help keep farmers farming with new funding for conservation easements.



LAND ACQUISITION & DEVELOPMENT

2005 WWRP PROJECTS

Myrtle Edwards Park, Seattle
 North County Ballfields,
 Snohomish
 Oroville's Eastlake Ballfields,
 Okanogan Co.
 Pacific Community Park, Clark Co.
 Pioneer Park Expansion,
 Franklin Co.
 Rhododendron Park, Burien
 Skansie Brothers Park, Gig Harbor
 Springdale Downtown Pond Park
 Squalicum Fields, Bellingham
 Steven J. Underwood Ballfield,
 Des Moines
 Sunnyview Skatepark, Sunnyside
 Thea Foss Waterway - 21st Street
 Park, Tacoma
 Tonasket B3 Skate & Bike Park,
 Okanogan Co.
 Wenatchee Rotary Park
 West Monroe Sports Facility

Natural Areas

Bone River & Niawiakum River,
 Pacific Co.

Carlisle Bog, Grays Harbor Co.
 Dyer Haystacks and Two Steppe,
 Douglas Co.
 Golden Paintbrush Preserve,
 Island Co.
 Ink Blot and Shumocher Creek,
 Mason Co.
 Kennedy Creek, Thurston Co.
 Lummi Island, Whatcom Co.
 Methow Rapids, Okanogan Co.
 Selah Cliffs, Yakima Co.
 Washougal Oaks, Clark Co.

State Parks

Cape Disappointment Trail,
 Pacific Co.
 Deception Pass, Island Co.
 Green River Gorge, King Co.
 Kanaskat-Palmer, King Co.
 Pearrygin Lake, Okanogan Co.

Trails

Bear Creek Trail, Redmond
 Buckley Foothills Trail, Pierce Co.
 Centennial Trail, Arlington

Cushman Trail, Pierce Co.
 Hansville Greenway, Kitsap Co.
 Heron Trail Boardwalk,
 Moses Lake
 Olympia Woodland Trail
 Shoreline Interurban Trail
 Similkameen Trail, Okanogan Co.

Urban Wildlife

Central Kitsap Greenway
 Gazzam Lake, Bainbridge Island
 Stavis NRCA/Kitsap Forest
 Whipple Creek, Clark Co.
 Woodard Bay, Thurston Co.

Water Access

Blakely Harbor, Bainbridge Island
 Fisherman Bay Spit, San Juan Co.
 Chinese Reconciliation
 Park, Tacoma
 Clinton Beach, Whidbey Island
 Meydenbauer Bay, Bellevue
 Newman Lake, Spokane Co.
 South Lake Union Park, Seattle

What Can You Do?

Do you have a favorite local beach or natural area where you enjoy kayaking or bird watching? A favorite playground or ball field where you take your kids? A favorite walking or biking trail? Many of your treasured outdoor recreation areas and natural spaces were funded through the most significant state-wide land acquisition program in Washington's history, the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program.

Learn What's at Stake

Visit www.WildlifeRecreation.org and use the My Backyard box on the top right of our home page to learn about the proposed park, wildlife and farmland projects in your community.

Contact Your State Legislators

You can help ensure funding for new parks, trails, habitat and working farms in your community by asking the legislature and the governor to support a \$100 million appropriation for the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP). **Take Action** on the Coalition's website www.WildlifeRecreation.org to tell lawmakers about the projects that matter most to you.

Subscribe to Our E-Newsletter

Visit www.WildlifeRecreation.org to sign up for our email newsletter on the right side of our home page. We will keep you informed about funding for parks, habitat and working farms in your community.

Join the Coalition

The Coalition relies on your support. We do not receive any of the funding that we lobby for in Olympia, so please join the Coalition today by selecting "Support Our Work" on our homepage www.WildlifeRecreation.org. Your donation will leverage millions for the protection of parks and habitat!

What's Inside

Coalition seeking \$100 million for parks, wildlife and working farms

2005 Annual Report

WWRP Annual Report



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