

PROJECT: 20-2172 DEV, LAKE WHATCOM PARK TRAIL DEVELOPMENT

Sponsor: Whatcom County Parks & Rec Program: NOVA Nonmotorized Status: Application Returned

Parties to the Agreement

PRIMARY SPONSOR

Whatcom County Parks & Recreation
Address 3373 Mount Baker Hwy
City Bellingham **State** WA **Zip** 98226
Org Type County-Parks Department
Vendor # SWW0002425-18

UBI

Date Org created

Org Notes

[link to Organization profile](#)

Org data updated

SECONDARY SPONSORS

No records to display

Project Contacts

Contact Name Primary Org	Project Role	Work Phone	Work Email
Allison Dellwo Rec. and Conserv. Office	Project Manager	(360) 867-8626	allison.dellwo@rco.wa.gov
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Rodney Lamb Whatcom County Parks & Rec	Planner	(360) 778-5858	rlamb@co.whatcom.wa.us

Worksites & Properties

- # **Worksite Name**
- #1 Lake Whatcom Watershed

Development	Property Name
✓	Lake Whatcom Park

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Worksite Map & Description

Worksite #1: Lake Whatcom Watershed

WORKSITE ADDRESS

Street Address 3355 Northshore Rd
City, State, Zip Bellingham WA 98226



Worksite Details

Worksite #1: Lake Whatcom Watershed

SITE ACCESS DIRECTIONS

From Interstate 5 exit 253, travel east on Lakeway Dr. for 1.7 miles. Turn left onto Electric Ave and travel 1.1 miles. Continue onto Northshore Dr. for 7.2 miles. Turn left onto Northshore Rd and travel for 0.5 miles to the Lake Whatcom Park Trailhead.

Questions

#1: Give street address for this worksite if available.

3355 Northshore Rd, Bellingham, WA 98226

#2: In the next 10 years, is there a chance that the worksite will sustain significant planned land disturbance as a result of human activity (such as timber harvesting)? If yes, explain:

Yes

Thinning of young-growth forests Lake Whatcom Park may occur within the next 10 years in an effort to improve forest health and water quality. No thinning will be completed in the proposed project areas.

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Project Location

RELATED PROJECTS

Projects in PRISM

PRISM Number	Project Name	Current Status	Relationship Type	Notes
No related project selected				

Related Project Notes

Questions

#1: Is the project on State Owned Aquatic Lands? Please contact the Washington State Department of Natural Resources to make a determination. **Aquatic Districts and Managers**

No

#2: Is the project site located within 30 miles of a city or town with a population of 25,000 or more? If yes, name the city or town and attach one map called Population Proximity Map under the Attachment Tab in PRISM.

Yes, the project site is approximately 6 miles from the City of Bellingham

Property Details

Property: Lake Whatcom Park (Worksite #1: Lake Whatcom Watershed)

✓ Development

LANDOWNER

Name: Whatcom County Parks & Recreation
Address: 3373 Mount Baker Hwy
City: Bellingham
State: WA Zip: 98226
Type: Local

CONTROL & TENURE

Instrument Type: Sponsor owned property (deed)
Timing: Existing
Term Length: Perpetuity
Yrs:
Expiration Date:
Note:

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Project Proposal

Project Description

With this grant, we will build up to 6 miles of new non-motorized foot, horse, and bike trails at Lake Whatcom Park, near Bellingham. Grant funds, in conjunction with County capital and operating funds, will be utilized for staff, equipment, contracted services, and materials to plan and construct new non-motorized trail including trail connections to Department of Natural Resources (DNR) trails.

Trail development proposed in this application is outlined in the Lookout Mountain Forest Preserve and Lake Whatcom Park Recreational Trail Plan, adopted by Whatcom County Council in October, 2016. The primary trail planned for construction in this application provides a spectacular loop connection between the iconic Hertz Trail along the shoreline of Lake Whatcom with the recently constructed and very popular, Chanterelle Trail. As resources allow, additional planned trails may be constructed.

Lake Whatcom Park encompass 4,800 acres of forest land along the eastern shore of Lake Whatcom. The majority of this land was reconveyed from the DNR to the County in 2014 to provide opportunities for sustainable trail-based recreation and to protect the drinking water quality of Lake Whatcom.

Existing trail mileage at Lake Whatcom Park totals 11.5 miles. The Trail Plan outlines an additional 30 miles of new non-motorized trail to be built into the future. Further trail development will provide year-round, close-to-town access to a wide variety of non-motorized trail types and challenge levels.

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Project Questions

#1: Do you plan to restrict or limit general public availability or use of the site in any way? If yes, describe the type of restriction, the portion of the project area that will be restricted (an illustrative map may be requested), and the reason(s) the public will be restricted.

No

#2: By statute, projects are required to be adjacent to or accessed by a nonhighway road. Identify & describe the nonhighway road that makes this project eligible.

Lake Whatcom Park is served primarily by two non-highway roads. The quarter-mile road leading to the lower trailhead area is solely maintained by Whatcom County Parks & Recreation. The upper trailhead area is located along a forest road which provides administrative access to Bonneville Power Administration transmission towers and public non-motorized access to trails. This road was previously maintained by the Department of Natural Resources and is now maintained by Whatcom County Parks.

#3: Does this application contain state, federal or other grants as part of the "sponsor match"? If "yes," name the grant(s) and date grant will be available.

No

#4: Have you considered using youth crews or other natural resource program for this project? Explain.

Yes

Yes, we employed a Washington Conservation Corps Crew (WCC) for trail construction in 2018 and 2019. Depending on crew availability and other resource constraints, we may also utilize a WCC crew for this phase of this project.

#5: Describe any required mitigation as a result of the action in this proposal. Will mitigation occur on this site or another location?

Mitigation may be required for trail development in stream and wetland buffers. Mitigation activities may include invasive plant removal, wetland planting, and stream bank restoration. These activities will occur within the project area or other County-owned park land within the Lake Whatcom Watershed.

#6: Is any part of the scope of work included in this application required as mitigation for another project or action? E.g. FERC relicensing, Habitat Conservation Plan, legal settlement, etc. If yes, explain:

No

#7: Describe the nature of any existing rights-of-way, easements, reversionary interests, etc. to the project area.

Numerous road and right-of-way easements are active for the Bonneville Power Administration transmission lines and the forest roads contained within park boundaries. These easements were transferred from the Department of Natural Resources to Whatcom County at the time of reconveyance. These easements will have a negligible impact on public use.

#8: What is the estimated useful life of the facilities to be developed, renovated, replaced, or maintained through this scope of work?

Trails developed through this grant will be used in perpetuity.

#9: When will the project be completed and made available to the public for outdoor recreation uses? Please note that funding may not be awarded for about one year from application submittal and it may take one or more years for you to complete the project.

Full completion is expected by October 2023. Each trail segment will be open to the public immediately upon completion.

Development Metrics

Worksite: Lake Whatcom Watershed (#1)

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NOVA Primary Management Objective

Hiking / Walking

NOVA Allowed Uses

Equestrian
Fishing
Gathering
Hiking / Walking
Mountain biking
Sightseeing
Snow trail activities -
nonmotorized
Wildlife viewing

GENERAL SITE IMPROVEMENTS

Install signs/kiosk

Total cost for Install signs/kiosk		\$4,000	
Number of kiosks	New	Renovate	
	1	4	
Number of interpretive signs/displays	0	1	
Number of permanent entrance signs	0	0	
Project involves installation of informational signs (yes/no)	Yes		

SITE PREPARATION

General site preparation

Total cost for General site preparation		\$10,000	
Acres of site preparation		1.00	
Number of trail miles for site preparation		5.50	
Buildings / structures to be demolished		0	
Select the site preparation activities			General site prep activities Mobilization

TRAILS

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Trail development

Total cost for Trail development \$340,000

Miles of hard surfaced trail developed / renovated by surface type Miles

	Total	0
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Miles of natural surfaced trail developed / renovated by surface type Miles

	Natural surface	5.50
	Total	5.50

Trail design profile Number

	Tread width (feet)	3
	Shoulder width (feet)	2
	Cross-slope (percent)	3
	Running slope (percent)	10

Select the trail structures Culverts

	Pull-outs	
	Puncheon	
	Retaining walls	
	Stairs	
	Switchbacks	
	Turnpike	

Trail bridge development

Total cost for Trail bridge development \$5,000

Number of bridges developed or installed Number

	Log	2
	Total	2

CULTURAL RESOURCES

Cultural resources

Total cost for Cultural resources \$10,000

Acres surveyed for cultural resources 67.50

Number of trail miles surveyed for cultural resources 5.50

PERMITS

Obtain permits

Total cost to Obtain permits \$5,000

Number of permits required for implementation of project

ARCHITECTURAL & ENGINEERING

Architectural & Engineering (A&E)

Total cost for Architectural & Engineering (A&E) \$45,000

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Overall Project Metrics

SUPPLEMENTAL SCORING QUESTIONS FOR COMPETITIVE FUNDS

How many NOVA recreationists actually will use this facility or project in a typical year? (Supplemental scoring question A1)

Project will serve 10,000 - 49,999 NOVA recreationists

What is the estimated number, and explain the methods for how the number was derived

Due to the location and proximity of the two trails that feed the new trail sections, it is estimated that 20,000 visitors will use the new trail annually. The feeding trails respectively have 32,000 and 65,000 visits.

SITES IMPROVED

Project acres developed 6.69

Project acres renovated 1.00

COMPLETION DATE

Projected date of completion 06/30/2024

Development Cost Estimates

Worksite #1: Lake Whatcom Watershed

Category	Work Type	Estimated Cost	Note
Cultural Resources	Cultural resources	\$10,000	
General Site Improvements	Install signs/kiosk	\$4,000	
Permits	Obtain permits	\$5,000	
Site Preparation	General site preparation	\$10,000	
Trails	Trail bridge development	\$5,000	
	Trail development	\$340,000	
	Subtotal:	\$374,000	
Admin, Architecture, and Engineering		\$45,000	
	Total Estimate For Worksite:	\$419,000	

Summary

Total Estimated Costs Without AA&E:	\$374,000
Total Estimated AA&E:	\$45,000
Total Estimated Development Costs:	\$419,000

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Cost Summary

	Estimated Cost	Project %	Admin/AA&E %
<u>Development Costs</u>			
Development	\$374,000		
Admin, Architecture, and Engineering	\$45,000		12.03 %
SUBTOTAL	\$419,000	100.00 %	
Total Cost Estimate	\$419,000	100.00 %	

Funding Request and Match

FUNDING PROGRAM

NOVA Nonmotorized	\$200,000	47.73 %
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SPONSOR MATCH

Category	Amount	Project %
Appropriation - Local	\$189,000	
Donated Labor	\$10,000	
Force Acct - Labor	\$20,000	
Match Total:	\$219,000	52.27 %
Total Funding Request:	\$419,000	100.00 %

Cultural Resources

Worksite #1: Lake Whatcom Watershed

#1: Provide a description of the project actions at this worksite (acquisition, development and/or restoration activities that will occur as a part of this project)

Trail development at this worksite will require ground disturbing activities such as removal of vegetation and construction of trail tread. An existing unsustainable user-built downhill mountain bike trail will also be restored in tandem with trail development.

#2: Describe all ground disturbing activities (length, width and depth of disturbance and equipment utilized) that will take place in the Area of Potential Effect (APE). Include the location of any construction staging or access roads associated with your project that will involve ground disturbance.

Hand and mechanized tools will be used to construct trail. Tools include:
 Pulaski, pick, shovel, hoe, McLeod, mini-excavator.
 Excavation width will be between 24 and 60 inches. Excavation depth will be 0 to 60 inches. Up to 28,400 linear feet of new trail will be constructed to Department standards.

#3: Describe any planned ground disturbing pre-construction/restoration work. This includes geo-technical investigation, fencing, demolition, decommissioning roads, etc.

The design process will not require any ground disturbing activities.

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#4: Describe the existing project area conditions. The description should include existing conditions, current and historic land uses and previous excavation/fill (if depths and extent is known, please describe).

The majority of the area is forested with stand ages varying from young plantations to small patches of intact old-growth. Significant portions of the area were managed as commercial timberland and are comprised of even-aged second and third-growth Douglas fir plantations. The park lands support diverse populations of plants and wildlife. The landscape is characterized by steep slopes, abundant streams, and deep drainages. Currently, more than 150,000 visitors use the park annually.

#5: Will a federal permit be required to complete the scope of work on the project areas located within this worksite?

No

#6: Are you utilizing Federal Funding to complete the scope of work? This includes funds that are being shown as match or not.

No

#7: Do you have knowledge of any previous cultural resource review within the project boundaries during the past 10 years?

Yes

#7a: Summarize the previous cultural resource review, including lead agency and date of review, reference name and numbers, etc. If RCO, include the prior phase grant number. NOTE: Do not provide any site-specific information considered confidential. Attach previous surveys or other reference documents.

Whatcom County Parks and Recreation completed cultural resource surveys in 2017 and 2019 for earlier phases of trail construction. Additionally, a Department of Natural Resources archaeologist surveyed the reconveyed lands in 2010. Two cultural resource sites identified in Lake Whatcom Park are not in proximity to trail development outlined in this application. Final trail alignments will be evaluated by a qualified archaeologist PRIOR to construction. (See attachments)

#8: Is the worksite located within an existing park, wildlife refuge, natural area preserve, or other recreation or habitat site?

Yes

#8a: Please name the area and specify when the site was established.

The worksite is located within the existing Whatcom County-owned Lake Whatcom Park. The portion of the park where the proposed trail construction is located was reconveyed to Whatcom County from DNR in 2014.

#9: Are there any structures over 45 years of age within this worksite? This includes structures such as buildings, tidegates, dikes, residential structures, bridges, rail grades, park infrastructure, etc.

No

#10: Describe existing worksite site conditions. The answer to this question will be used in cultural resource consultation so please provide detailed information.

Existing site conditions at the worksite are mature native forest on steep slopes above Lake Whatcom. The new trail will replace an existing unsustainable user-built downhill mountain bike trail with hiking-only trail.

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Project Permits

Permits and Reviews	Issuing Organization	Applied Date	Received Date	Expiration Date	Permit #
Clear & Grade Permit	City/County	03/10/2017	05/25/2020	11/17/2022	LDP2017-00018
Hydraulics Project Approval [HPA]	Dept of Fish & Wildlife	05/09/2017	08/25/2017	08/24/2022	2017-4-620+01
SEPA	Local or State		10/25/2016		SEP2016-00081

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Attachments

Required Attachments

6 out of 7 done

Applicant Resolution/Authorizations	
Control & Tenure Documentation	✓
Map: Area of Potential Effect (APE)	✓
Map: Boundary map – Draft	✓
Map: Trail and or Facility Map	✓
Photo	✓
Site Plan: Development site plan	✓

PHOTOS (JPG, GIF)

Photos (JPG, GIF)



451320 Primary

PROJECT DOCUMENTS AND PHOTOS

Project Documents and Photos

File Type	Attach Date	Attachment Type	Title	Person	File Name, Number Associations	Shared
	12/16/2020	Application Review Report	Grant Manager Comments. 20-2172D(rtnd 12/16/20 09:47)	AllisonD	Grant Manager Comments Report - 20-2172 (rtnd 12-16-2020_09-47-35).pdf, 457148	✓
	11/02/2020	Project Application Report	Project Application Report. 20-2172D (sub 11/02/20 09:34:48)	ReidP	Project Application Report - 20-2172 (submitted 11-02-2020_09-34-48).pdf, 452668	✓
	11/02/2020	Project Support / Concern Documents	20-2172 Sierra Club-Mt Baker Chapter Support Letter.pdf	ReidP	20-2172_SierraClub-MtBaker_SupportLetter.pdf, 452644	✓
	11/02/2020	Site Plan: Conceptual Site Plan	20-2172 Lake Whatcom Park Conceptual Trail Plan	ReidP	20-2172_PlannedTrailMap.pdf, 452643	✓
	10/27/2020	Project Support / Concern Documents	20-2172 Hoofnagle Support Letter	ReidP	20-2172_Hoofnagle_SupportLetter.pdf, 451377	✓
	10/27/2020	Map: Boundary map – Draft	20-2172_BoundaryMapDraft.pdf	ReidP	20-2172_BoundaryMapDraft.pdf, 451369	✓
	10/27/2020	Project plan document	20-2172_Weed Prevention and Management Protocol.pdf	ReidP	20-2172_Weed Prevention and Management Protocol.pdf, 451346	✓
	10/27/2020	Project Support / Concern Documents	20-2172_Economic-Contribution-of-Outdoor-Recreation-to-Whatc	ReidP	20-2172_Economic-Contribution-of-Outdoor-Recreation-to-Whatcom-County-2015.pdf, 451345	✓
	10/27/2020	Environmental Clearance	20-2172_MDNS.pdf	ReidP	20-2172_MDNS.pdf, 451344	✓
	10/27/2020	Master plan	20-2172_Lookout&LakeWhatcomTrailPlan_20	ReidP	20-2172_Lookout&LakeWhatcomTrailPla... 451343	✓
	10/27/2020	Permit	20-2172_Lookout&LakeWhatcom_5yrProgLD	ReidP	20-2172_Lookout&LakeWhatcom_5yrPro... 451342	✓
	10/27/2020	Permit	20-2172_Generalhpa.pdf	ReidP	20-2172_Generalhpa.pdf, 451341	✓
	10/27/2020	Cultural Resources: Correspondence	20-2172_DNR_Archaeologist_Report.pdf	ReidP	20-2172_DNR_Archaeologist_Report.pdf, 451340	✓
	10/27/2020	Cultural Resources: Cultural Resources Survey	20-2172_CulturalResourceReport_2019.pdf	ReidP	20-2172_CulturalResourceReport_2019.pdf, 451339	✓
	10/27/2020	Cultural Resources: Cultural Resources Survey	20-2172_CulturalResourceReport_2017.pdf	ReidP	20-2172_CulturalResourceReport_2017.pdf, 451338	✓
	10/27/2020	Project Support / Concern Documents	20-2172 Whatcom Land Trust Support Letter	ReidP	20-2172_WhatcomLandTrust_SupportLett... 451331	✓

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File Type	Attach Date	Attachment Type	Title	Person	File Name, Number Associations	Sharec
	10/27/2020	Project Support / Concern Documents	20-2172 Maliszewski Support Letter	ReidP	20-2172_Maliszewski_SupportLetter.pdf, 451330	✓
	10/27/2020	Project Support / Concern Documents	20-2172 Ketchum Support Letter	ReidP	20-2172_Ketchum_SupportLetter.pdf, 451329	✓
	10/27/2020	Project Support / Concern Documents	20-2172 Conservation Coalition Support Letter	ReidP	20-2172_ConservationCoalition_SupportL..., 451327	✓
	10/27/2020	Project Support / Concern Documents	20-2172 City of Bellingham Support Letter	ReidP	20-2172_COB_SupportLetter.pdf, 451326	✓
	10/27/2020	Project Support / Concern Documents	20-2172 Backcountry Horsemen of WA Whatcom Support Letter	ReidP	20-2172_BCHW_SupportLetter.pdf, 451325	✓
	10/27/2020	Project Support / Concern Documents	20-2172 Washington Trails Association Support Letter	ReidP	20_2172_WTA_SupportLetter.pdf, 451324	✓
	10/27/2020	Project Support / Concern Documents	20-2172 Whatcom Mountain Bike Coalition Letter	ReidP	20_2172_WMBC_SupportLetter.pdf, 451323	✓
	10/27/2020	Photo	NOVA 20-2172-DEV Project Photo	ReidP	NOVA_20-2172-DEV_ProjectPhoto.jpg, 451320	✓
	10/27/2020	Map: Population Proximity	20-2172 Population Proximity	ReidP	20-2172_Population_Proximity.pdf, 451319	✓
	10/27/2020	Site Plan: Development site plan	20-2172 Site Plan	ReidP	20-2172_LakeWhatcom_SitePlan.pdf, 451318	✓
	10/27/2020	Map: Trail and or Facility Map	20-2172 Trail Map	ReidP	20-2172_LakeWhatcom_TrailMap.pdf, 451317	✓
	10/27/2020	Map: Area of Potential Effect (APE)	20-2172 Area of Potential Effect	ReidP	20-2172_LakeWhatcom_AreaofPotential..., 451316	✓
	10/19/2020	Control & Tenure Documentation	20-2172 Property Deed	ReidP	WCPR_DNR_ReconveyanceDeed.pdf, 449441	✓

RCO Staff Scores

Criteria	Score	Score Range	Basis	Applicant Challenge	RCO Response
GMA Preference	0	-1.0 to 0.0	In Compliance with GMA		
Proximity to People (City only)	1	0.0 to 1.0	Bellingham - 90110		
Proximity to People (County)	0	0.0 to 1.0	Whatcom County - 89.82		

Application Status

Application Due Date: 11/03/2020

Status Name	Status Date	Submitted By	Submission Notes
Application Returned	12/16/2020	Allison Dellwo	Please review and re-submit your application prior to the Technical Completion Deadline in January. Reach out to me with any questions in the meantime. Let's be sure to connect over the phone prior to the deadline and to touch base before the project evaluation period. PowerPoints will be due three business days prior to your presentation. Thanks!
Application Submitted	11/02/2020	Reid Parker	Hi Allison, Here is our application for Lake Whatcom Trail Development. Let me know if you have questions. Regards, - Reid
Preapplication	10/08/2020		

I certify that to the best of my knowledge, the information in this application is true and correct. Further, all application requirements due on the application due date have been fully completed to the best of my ability. I understand that if this application is found to be incomplete, it will be rejected by RCO. I understand that I may be required to submit additional documents before evaluation or approval of this project and I agree to provide them. (Reid Parker, 11/02/2020)

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Date of last change: 12/16/2020

Lake Whatcom Park Trail Development 20-2172

Planned Trail Map

