

Natural Resources/Operating

State Parks and Recreation Commission, Department of Fish and Wildlife, and Department of Natural Resources

Minimize outdoor recreation impacts

Address impacts from increases in public visitation at state parks, wildlife areas, and state forestlands because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Increase facilities maintenance, replace equipment and increase enforcement of recreation rules on state lands. (\$6.7 million General Fund-State; \$9.8 million other)

Department of Fish and Wildlife

Improve shellfish management

Enhance monitoring of recreational and commercial shellfish and Dungeness crab harvest to improve fisheries management, adhere to tribal co-management plans and ensure sustainable fisheries. Improve shellfish data management and develop a shellfish disease and pest management program. (\$1.1 million GF-S; \$295,000 Other)

Department of Natural Resources

Increased emergency wildfire suppression costs

Washington experienced another long, difficult fire season in 2021. Several large and long-duration wildfires increased the department's wildfire suppression costs. More than 1,800 fires around the state burned more than 659,000 acres, which is the third highest number of burned acres on record. (\$99.5 million GF-S; \$9.6 million GF-Federal)

Refresh the statewide lidar image collection

Collect and refresh statewide lidar maps on a 10-year cycle. Lidar data is critical for state, federal, tribal and local governments and informs natural resource, habitat, forestry and conservation decisions. (\$3.5 million GF-S)

Strengthen forest practices

Implement recommendations from the State Auditor's Office for the forest practices adaptive management program. This will create more efficient and effective decision-making and increased accountability. (\$680,000 GF-S)

Keeping Washington Evergreen

Address permanent loss of forestlands by developing a working and natural forest conservation and reforestation plan. This will proactively conserve working forests by replanting trees in areas of greatest need and preventing future forest conversion. (\$1.1 million GF-S)

Conserve and restore kelp forests and eelgrass meadows

Seek to conserve and restore kelp forests and eelgrass meadows in Puget Sound and the Washington coast by developing a conservation plan. The plan will address the potential loss of these marine resources through assessing and prioritizing; identifying coordinated actions and success measures; and monitoring and reporting. (\$726,000 GF-S)

Department of Agriculture

Minimize invasive species

Eradicate invasive species to protect the state's forestry and agricultural sectors. This includes moths, Japanese beetles, spotted lanternfly, and flowering rush. (\$5.8 million GF-S; \$1.3 million GF-Federal; \$52,000 other)

Natural Resources/Capital

Toxic cleanup

Department of Ecology

Pacific Wood Treating site cleanup

The budget provides funding for the final cleanup activities for the Pacific Wood Treating site, including 15 residential properties and 36 rights of way. This site was impacted by contamination spread from trucks transporting freshly treated lumber and soil particles spread by the wind when the Pacific Wood Treating facility operated from 1964-1993. These two sources contaminated shallow soil in residential yards and rights of way adjacent to the wood treating operations. (\$2.3 million Cleanup Settlement Account)

Clean up toxics sites – Puget Sound

Funding will clean up the former Eatonville landfill. The town of Eatonville will coordinate the remediation of the landfill with the redevelopment project at Nisqually State Park, which is scheduled to start construction in 2022. (\$4 million MTCA Stormwater Account)

Forest lands

Department of Fish and Wildlife

Mount Saint Helens Wildlife Area - Hoffstadt Hills acquisition

After Mount Saint Helens erupted in 1980, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers constructed a dam to manage sediments in the North Fork Toutle River and protect downstream communities. The local cooperative agreement between the Army Corps of Engineers and the state includes plans to raise the Sediment

Retention Structure, which will have additional impacts on local habitat. This investment will assess and buy land to secure habitat for the Mount Saint Helens elk herd and associated habitat conservation and enhancements. (\$7 million bonds)

Department of Natural Resources

Puget Sound Corps

Funding will help retain and expand the department’s ability to hire corps crews to work on natural resource projects that benefit recreation, aquatic, forest health, and wildfire response efforts in Puget Sound watersheds. Puget Sound Corps supports natural resource job training for young adults, young people of color and veterans. (\$3.3 million bonds)

Forest road bridges

Provide funding to repair or replace 13 forest bridges that were inspected and determined structurally deficient. This will make sure we have continued access to manage and work forests, generate trust revenue and provide recreation access. (\$2.3 million other)

Recreation

Parks and Recreation Commission

Palouse to Cascades Trail – Crab Creek trestle east replacement

Design and reconstruct a trestle for the cross-state Palouse to Cascades Trail. The trestle replaces a second trestle at Crab Creek that was destroyed by fire, which left a gap in the trail and forced trail users to detour onto local roads. (\$2 million bonds)