



Grant Projects on State-owned Aquatic Lands

I'M APPLYING FOR A RECREATION & CONSERVATION OFFICE (RCO) GRANT...WHAT DO I NEED TO KNOW?

Proposals for the use of state-owned aquatic lands, with few exceptions, require prior authorization from DNR.

If you are planning a shoreline, in-water or over-water restoration, or public access project, contact us early in the process.

Contacting DNR early can prevent wasted time, money, and effort. DNR will help you determine if a project is located on state-owned aquatic lands, if the land is available, if the proposed use can be allowed on public land, and how the project can be constructed to avoid or minimize impacts to aquatic resources.

After we have had the opportunity to consult with you, we will work closely with permitting agencies to communicate our expectations.



Who do I call?

Call (360) 902-1100 and our staff will put you in touch with the land manager in your area to begin the process.

What are state-owned aquatic Lands?

One of the things that has made Washington State great is our system of public lands. Public lands are owned by the people of Washington and managed for their benefit. Some of these public lands lie beneath our state's navigable waters. These *state-owned aquatic lands* include the coast, bedlands, lakes, rivers and Puget Sound marine areas. They were set aside for us at statehood, and to this day, are carefully managed to preserve their environmental integrity that is linked to our quality of life.

The Distinct Role of the DNR Aquatic Resources Program

DNR's Aquatic Resources Program (AQR) is unique because we act like a landlord on behalf of the state. The program manages state-owned aquatic lands to provide a balance of public benefits for all citizens of the state, and must consider the natural values and best use of aquatic lands before authorizing uses on them. When the Aquatics Program authorizes uses on state-owned aquatic land, we are committing to a long-term business relationship with the applicant so we consider environmental risks, the risks to public health and safety, and the financial risks for the entire lifetime of the use.

Does the Aquatic Resources Program issue a permit?

No. DNR's Aquatic Resources Program is non-regulatory and does not issue permits. We're more like a landlord. If Aquatic Resources authorizes your client's project, they will sign a legal contract with us that documents the terms and conditions of the use such as, insurance requirements and rent (if applicable).

CONTACT: Aquatic Resources Program.