From:	RCO-Director (RCO)
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Subject:	Long-term Obligations for Grants from the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
Date:	Tuesday, October 07, 2014 11:43:08 AM
Attachments:	image001.png San Juan County Land Bank 2014 Sponsor Notice.pdf RCO Long-term Obligations.pdf

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STATE OF WASHINGTON

RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE

VIA EMAIL

October 7, 2014

TO: **Lincoln Bormann , Director**
San Juan County Land Bank

CC: Judy Cumming, Operations Coordinator
Doug McCutchen, Preserve Steward

FROM: Kaleen Cottingham, Director,
Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office

RE: Long-term Obligations for Grants from the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (formerly the Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation, IAC)

Since 1964, the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) has awarded grants to state agencies, counties, cities, special purpose districts, and non-profit organizations for parks, open space, farmland, critical habitat for wildlife, trails, boating facilities, and other recreation and conservation projects.

Your organization received one or more grants from RCO at some time in the past. The grant award comes with a long-term obligation for your organization to maintain the project area as originally funded. Attached is a fact sheet that provides some basic information about RCO grant obligations. It is your responsibility to know your project areas that are protected with RCO grant restrictions and to manage them accordingly.

Attached is a list of grants awarded to your organization that come with these long-term obligations. You can access information about each specific grant award by clicking on the link in the first column, which will take you to RCO's Project Snapshot.

RCO conducts periodic inspections of its funded projects to ensure the long-term obligations are maintained. You will receive an inspection report when this occurs. RCO grants staff also may contact your organization if any issues arise from the inspection. Some common issues that we find in our inspections include a change in the use of the project area from what was originally funded by the grant, a transfer or sale of the project area to another organization, or lack of site management. If you are aware of any potential issues, please be proactive and notify RCO so that we can work with you to address any compliance issues.

Failure to comply with long-term obligations for an RCO grant has certain consequences for your organization to

mitigate for the loss of grant-assisted land or facilities. This may require the appraisal of the property and the purchase of similar replacement property or development of replacement facilities equal to the grant expended. It also may jeopardize future RCO grant funding for your organization.

Please share this letter with your staff who manage the project areas that have received RCO grants. For more information on RCO grant obligations, please send an e-mail to the RCO compliance specialist at RCOStewardship@rco.wa.gov. I look forward to working with you to protect and steward RCO's investment in parks and other recreational amenities, open space, farmland, and wildlife habitat.

Information on RCO's current grant funding opportunities can be found on our Web site. I encourage you to consider applying for grants to expand or improve project areas that have received RCO funding in the past.

P.S. RCO is working to expand its GIS layer of funded projects to demonstrate the area covered by the project agreement. If your organization has shape files of your RCO funded sites, we would like to receive a copy to use in our system. Please send an e-mail to the RCO compliance specialist at RCOStewardship@rco.wa.gov if you are willing to share your GIS shape files with RCO.

Kaleen Cottingham / Director / Recreation and Conservation Office / 360.902.3003

WASHINGTON STATE Recreation and Conservation Office

WASHINGTON STATE
Recreation and Conservation Office

RCO Grants with Long-term Obligations
San Juan County Land Bank

Project # and Project Snapshot	Project Type[1]	Project Name	Project Areas	Grant Program[2]	Project Sponsor Contact
96-1117	A	Deadman Bay	Deadman Bay (#1)	WWRP-WA	Doug McCutchen, Preserve Steward
04-1325	C	Fisherman Bay Spit Acq. & Development	Fisherman Bay Spit (#1)	WWRP-WA	Doug McCutchen, Preserve Steward
07-1785	A	Watmough Bay Salmon Habitat Preservation	Watmough Bay, Lopez Island (#1)	PSAR	Doug McCutchen, Preserve Steward
08-1281	A	Lopez Island Farmland	Lopez Island Farmland (#1)	WWRP-FP	Doug McCutchen, Preserve Steward
08-1285	C	Judd Cove Acquisition/Restoration/Development	Judd Cove Acquisition/Restoration (#1)	ALEA	Doug McCutchen, Preserve Steward
11-1577	A	President Channel Shoreline	Jolley (#1)	PSAR	Doug McCutchen, Preserve Steward

Note: This list of projects and associated project areas is based upon RCO's PRISM data as of September 2014. A project agreement may contain more than one worksite or park. Please review your project agreement for details. Your project agreement can be found by following the Project Snapshot link.

[1]Project Types: A=Acquistion, C=Combination

[2]Grant Programs: ALEA=Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account
PSAR=Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration Program
WWRP-FP=Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Farmland Preservation Account
WWRP-WA=Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Water Access Category

Long-Term Grant Responsibilities

WASHINGTON STATE Recreation and Conservation Office

Long-Term Obligations

Grant recipients have long-term obligations for land purchased, developed, or restored with RCO grants. When an element of the project no longer meets the terms in the grant contract or the site no longer meets the original function of the grant, the grant recipient must check with RCO about resolving the issue.

These responsibilities are described primarily in the project agreement and RCO's *Manual 7 Long-Term Obligations*. RCO and the grant recipient must inspect funded sites to ensure these obligations are upheld.

Types of Changes

There are two ways a site or structure may no longer meet the terms of the contract or the original function of the grant: Element change or conversion.

Element Change

- Minor element changes do not conform to the project agreement but have no negative impact on the recreational opportunity. Example: A 15-car parking lot funded in 1995 is reduced to an 11-car lot to make room for a new park feature.
- Major element changes do not conform to the project agreement and negatively affect, but do not eliminate the recreational opportunity. Example: A tennis court funded in 1995 has been turned into a skate park.
- Exceptions include acts of extraordinary vandalism or arson, acts of nature such as floods or earthquake, and obsolescence (structure past its useful life).

Remedy

May require an amendment to the project agreement, approval from the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board or Salmon Recovery Funding Board, or remediation.

Conversion

A conversion occurs when:

- All or part of the property is conveyed for an ineligible use, or to an ineligible third party.
- Public or private uses impair the original purpose of the grant.
- Non-eligible, indoor facilities are constructed.
- Public use is terminated for more than 180 consecutive days.

Remedy

If RCO assisted with acquiring the site, it must be replaced with new property of equal utility and market value in today's dollars. If RCO assisted with development or restoration of the site, it must be replaced with new facilities or restoration of equal function.

Long-term Obligations

- Maintain the funded site and structures as originally funded.
- For recreation projects, maintain public outdoor recreation opportunities in a safe and attractive manner and at reasonable hours and times of the year.
- For habitat projects, manage and maintain the habitat values or functions.

Please Contact RCO

before you significantly alter a grant-funded site or facility to see if your plans are compatible with the project agreement and RCO policies.

Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO)
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