Chapter 286-04 WAC

GENERAL

WAC 286-04-010 What definitions apply to this chapter? For purposes of Title 286 WAC, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

"Acquisition" means the gaining of rights of public ownership by purchase, negotiation, or other means, of fee or less than fee interests in real property.

"Applicant" means any agency or organization that meets qualifying standards, including deadlines, for submission of an application soliciting a grant of funds from the committee. Generally, a federal, state, local, tribal or special purpose government is an applicant.

"Application" means the form, including project information form, approved by the director for use by applicants in soliciting project funds administered by the committee.

"Chair" means the chair of the committee. See RCW 43.99.110.

"Committee" means the interagency committee for outdoor recreation, (IAC) created by RCW 43.99.110.

"Development" means the construction and/or restoration of facilities to enhance outdoor recreation or habitat conservation resources.

"Director" means the director of the committee or that person's designee. See RCW 43.99.130.

"Nonhighway and off-road vehicle activities (NOVA) program" means the grants and planning program administered by the committee under chapter 46.09 RCW.

"Manual(s)" mean a compilation of state and federal policies, procedures, rules, forms, and instructions that have been assembled in manual form and which have been approved by the committee for dissemination to agencies and organizations that may wish to participate in the committee's grant program(s).

"Preliminary expense" means project costs incurred prior to committee approval, other than site preparation/development costs, necessary for the preparation of a development project.

"Project" means the undertaking which is, or may be, funded in whole or in part with funds administered by the committee.

"Project agreement" means a project agreement, supplemental agreement, intergovernmental agreement, or project contract between the committee and a sponsor.

"Sponsor" means an applicant who has been awarded a grant of funds, and has an executed project agreement.

WAC 286-04-015 Address. All communications with the committee shall be directed to its office at the Natural Resources Building, 1111 Washington Street S.E., P.O. Box 40917, Olympia, Washington 98504-0917, telephone (360) 902-3000.

WAC 286-04-020 Organization and operations. The committee:

(1) Is an unsalaried body consisting of the (a) commissioner of public lands, (b) director of the department of fish and wildlife, (c) director of the parks and recreation commission, (or the designees of these individuals) and five citizens appointed by the governor from the public-at-large, with the consent of the senate, for a term of three years each. The chair of the committee is a voting member, appointed by the governor from among the five citizen members.

(2) Was created by Initiative 215 (Marine Recreation Land Act of 1964). It is authorized to allocate and administer funds to agencies and organizations from the state's outdoor recreation and other such accounts as may now or hereafter be established.

(3) Is authorized and obligated to prepare, maintain and update statewide plans, including:

(a) A strategic recreation resource and open space or assessment and policy plan (RCW 43.99.025);

(b) A nonhighway and off-road vehicle plan (RCW 46.09.250);

(c) A trails plan (RCW 67.32.050);

(d) Does not own or operate any outdoor recreation or resource facilities.

(5) Performs and accomplishes work by a staff under the supervision of a director appointed by the governor.

WAC 286-04-030 Goals.

WAC 286-04-040 Organization and operations.

WAC 286-04-050 Compliance with Environmental Act guidelines.

WAC 286-04-060 Manuals and waivers—Guidance.

WAC 286-04-065 Project evaluations.

WAC 286-04-070 Director's authority.

WAC 286-04-080 Federal overlay and requirements.

WAC 286-04-085 Declaratory order—Petition requisites—Consideration—Disposition.

WAC 286-04-090 What is the history of the committee's fund sources?

(12/3/04)
General

§ 286-04-030 Goals. The general goals of the committee are to:

1. Provide funds and planning assistance for acquisition and development of outdoor recreation and habitat conservation resources to maximize protection of the natural quality of the environment;
2. Provide funds and planning assistance for a system of public recreational facilities and opportunities for state residents and visitors;
3. Aid organizations and local government, with funds and planning assistance, in providing the type of facilities and resources which, under their jurisdiction, will best serve their needs for outdoor recreation and habitat conservation;
4. Encourage programs which promote outdoor education, skill development, participation opportunity and proper stewardship of recreation and natural resources. See also RCW 43.99.010.

§ 286-04-050 Compliance with Environmental Act guidelines. (1) The committee has determined that all of its activities and programs in effect as of December 12, 1975, or pursuant to WAC 197-11-800 are exempt from threshold determinations and environmental impact statement requirements under the provisions of WAC 197-11-875.

(2) To the extent applicable, it is the responsibility of applicants and sponsors to comply with the provisions of chapter 197-11 WAC, the State Environmental Policy Act rules for acquisition or development of projects, the National Environmental Protection Act, and to obtain associated land-use permits.

§ 286-04-060 Manuals and waivers—Guidance. (1) The committee shall adopt manuals that describe its general administrative policies for use by applicants, potential applicants, sponsors, and others. These manuals shall not have the force or effect of administrative code rules.

(2) Committee policies, including those in the manuals, shall be considered and approved by the committee in an open public meeting. Notice of such considerations will be given by distribution of the agenda for the meeting, press releases, formal meeting notice in the Washington State Register, or other such means.

(3) Project applicants, sponsors, or other interested parties may petition the director for a waiver or waivers of those items dealing with general administrative matters and procedures within the manuals. Determinations on petitions for waivers made by the director are subject to review by the committee at the request of the petitioner.

(4) Petitions for waivers of subjects dealing with committee policy, and those petitions that in the judgment of the director require committee review, shall be referred to the committee for deliberation. Such waivers may be granted after consideration by the committee at an open public meeting.

§ 286-04-065 Project evaluations. It is the policy of the committee to use an open, public, competitive selection process to guide it in allocating funds to grant applicants. In this regard, the director shall use priority rating systems in preparing funding recommendations for committee consideration. These systems shall:

1. Be developed, to a reasonable extent, through the participation of interested parties and specialists;
2. Consider applicant, local, regional, and statewide needs, a project's technical merits, and other criteria;
3. Be adopted by the committee in advertised public meetings;
4. Be made available in published form to interested parties;
5. Be designed for use by a team of evaluators selected for this purpose;
6. Be in accord with statutes.
WAC 286-04-070 Director's authority. Consistent with RCW 43.99.025, and other applicable laws, the director is delegated the authority and responsibility to carry out policies of the committee. This includes, but is not limited to the authority to:

1. Administer committee programs; employ, discipline, and terminate staff, consistent with applicable merit system and personnel rules;
2. Administer all applicable rules, regulations and requirements established by the committee or reflected in the laws of the state;
3. Approve certain cost increase or waiver requests.


WAC 286-04-080 Federal overlay and requirements. At times through the years, the committee's grant programs have been closely interrelated with certain federal grant programs. For example, see WAC 286-40-010, Land and Water Conservation Fund. The result of this interrelationship is that there are many federal requirements imposed on the committee and its applicants over which the committee has no control.

Many of these requirements may be found in the Land and Water Conservation Fund Grants Manual (National Park Service). In addition, most of the federal requirements are restated or clarified in the manuals.


WAC 286-04-085 Declaratory order—Petition requisites—Consideration—Disposition. (1) Any person may submit a petition for a declaratory order in accordance with RCW 34.05.240 in any form so long as it:

a. Clearly states the question the declaratory order is to answer; and
b. Provides a statement of the facts which raise the question.

2. The director may conduct an independent investigation in order to fully develop the relevant facts.

3. The director will present the petition to the committee at the first meeting when it is practical to do so and will provide the petitioner with at least five days notice of the time and place of such meeting. Such notice may be waived by the petitioner.

4. The petitioner may present additional material and/or argument at any time prior to the issuance of the declaratory order.

5. The committee may decide that a public hearing would assist its deliberations and decisions. If such a hearing is ordered, it will be placed on the agenda of a meeting and at least five days notice of such meeting shall be provided to the petitioner.


WAC 286-04-090 What is the history of the committee's fund sources? (1) As of July 1, 1995, the "recreation resource account" included appropriations and funds, under RCW 43.99.040 (recodified as RCW 79A.25.040 since 1999), in support of the committee's boating facilities and other programs. These funds are derived from:

a. Unclaimed marine fuel tax refunds;

b. Moneys made available to the state of Washington by the federal government for outdoor recreation; and

c. Such other sources as may be provided.

(2) As of July 1, 1995, the "NOVA program account" included appropriations and funds, under RCW 46.09.110 and 46.09.170, in support of the committee's nonhighway and off-road vehicle activities program. These funds are derived from:

a. Refunds from the motor vehicle fund for nonhighway and off-road purposes;

b. Off-road vehicle permit fees; and

c. Such other sources as may be provided.

(3) As of July 1, 1990, the "habitat conservation account" included appropriations and funds, under chapter 43.98A RCW (recodified as chapter 79A.15 RCW since 1999), in support of the committee's Washington wildlife and recreation program. These funds are derived from:

a. Sales of bonds approved in capital budget appropriations;

b. Such other sources as may be provided.

(4) As of July 1, 1995, the "outdoor recreation account" included appropriations and funds, under chapter 43.98A RCW (recodified as chapter 79A.15 RCW since 1999), in support of the committee's Washington wildlife and recreation program. These funds are derived from:

a. Sales of bonds approved in capital budget appropriations;

b. Such other sources as may be provided.

(5) Prior to July 1, 1995, the "outdoor recreation account" included appropriations and funds, in support of the committee's programs. Funds were derived from:

a. Unclaimed marine fuel tax refunds under RCW 43.99.040 (recodified as RCW 79A.25.404 since 1999);

b. Sales of bonds under Referenda 11, 18, and 28, and HJR 52;

c. State apportionments of the federal land and water conservation fund;

d. Moneys refunded from the motor vehicle fund under RCW 46.09.170 and funds received under RCW 46.09.110 for nonhighway and off-road vehicle purposes;

e. Off-road vehicle permit fees;

f. Sales of general obligation bonds for outdoor recreation purposes under RCW 43.98A.050; and

g. Such other sources as were provided.

(6) As of July 1, 1990, the "firearms range account" includes appropriations and funds, under RCW 77.12.720 (recodified as RCW 79A.25.210 since 1999), in support of
the committee's firearms and archery range recreation programs. These funds are derived from:

(a) Concealed pistol license fees under RCW 9.41.070;
(b) Destruction of firearms programs under RCW 9.41.098; and
(c) Such other sources as may be provided.

(7) As of July 1, 2003, the "aquatic lands enhancement account" includes appropriations under section 377, chapter 26, Laws of 2003, 1st sp. sess. These funds are derived from the proceeds from sale or lease of aquatic lands or valuable materials therefrom under RCW 79.90.245 and 79.90.450.