

PUBLIC PERFORMANCE REVIEW

Outdoor Youth Learning Opportunities and Benefits

July 19, 2023



Welcome

PRESENTED BY:

• MANDEEP KAUNDAL, DIRECTOR, RESULTS WASHINGTON



Building Logistics

- Emergency exits are located through the conference room doors directly ahead
- **Restrooms** are located outside of the conference room next to the elevators
- Please take **side conversations** outside the room
- Attendees will find a QR code and a physical survey located on conference room tables
- ASL interpretation is being provided for today's meeting
- Our meeting is being **live-streamed** by TVW
- Meeting **materials** are located at <u>www.results.wa.gov</u>



Topic Selection

- Outdoor youth learning opportunities and benefits is tied to the Governor's goals 1: World-class Education and 4: Healthy and Safe Communities
- Recommended by leaders across the state to review the benefits and importance of outdoor learning for youth and inequities in access to opportunities.
- Progress and initiatives presented by:
 - University of Washington
 - Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction
 - State Parks and Recreation Commission
 - Recreation and Conservation Office





Governor's Opening Remarks



INTRODUCTION: BENEFITS OF NATURE-BASED ACTIVITIES FOR YOUTH

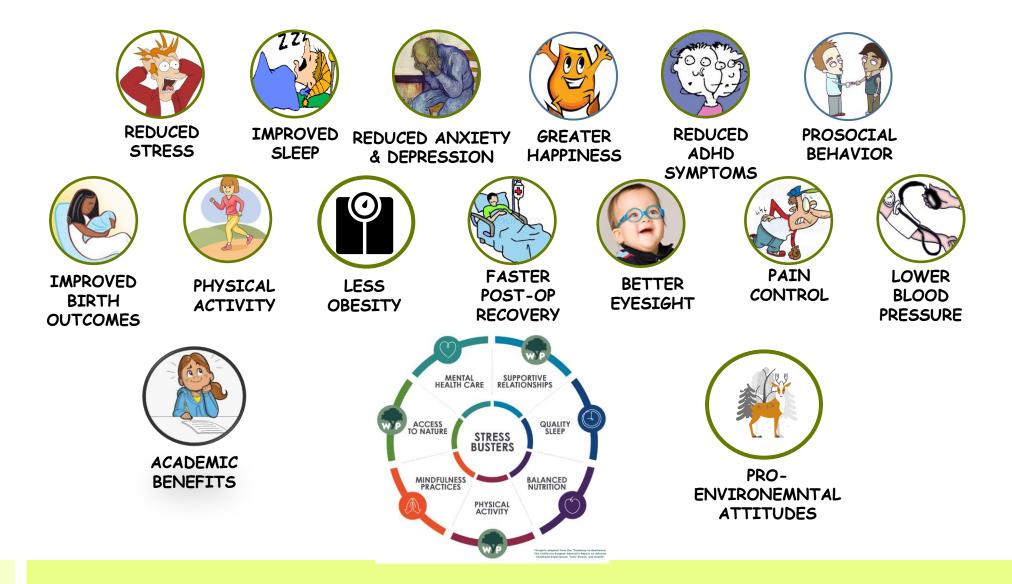
PRESENTED BY:

- POOJA TANDON, M.D., MPH Associate Professor, University of Washington Pediatrician and Researcher, Seattle Children's Hospital
- Akshay Tandon, Student, Issaquah High School

Why youth need opportunities to be outdoors?

- The American Academy of Pediatrics and other experts recommend daily outdoor play for children
- Outdoor time provides opportunities for physical activity and contact with nature
- Both physical activity and nature contact can promote health and be part of treatment for some health conditions
- Being outdoors can promote connection to self, each other and our planet
- The COVID-19 pandemic underscored the importance of outdoor spaces & the need for equitable access

What are potential benefits of being outdoors?



ENHANCING LEARNING

Green schoolyards provide experiential learning across many subjects 2.3



ROOM WITH A VIEW

Seeing nature and greenery from school buildings can foster positive academic outcomes.^{10,11}



Infographic from the Children & Nature Network

How does time outdoors and in nature support health & learning?

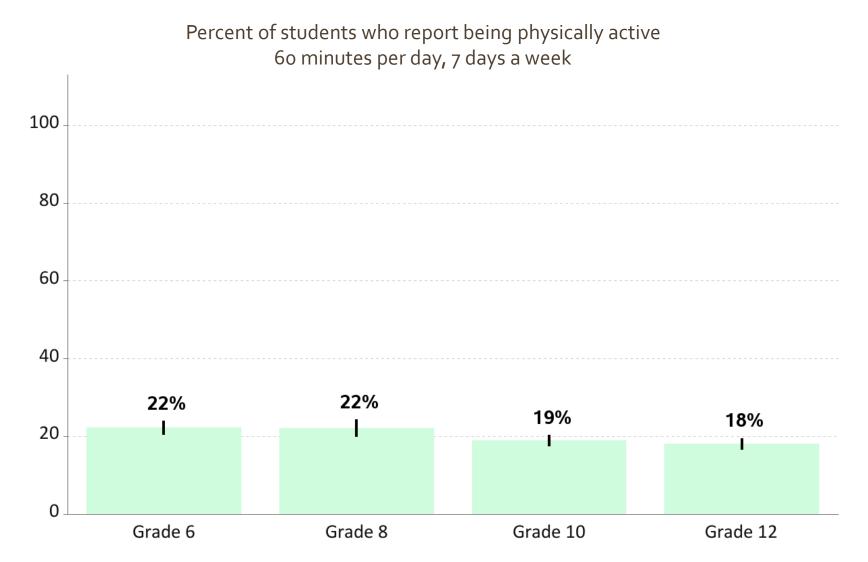


National inequities in access to park and greenspace

- **1** in 3 people in the U.S. do not live within a 10minute walk (¹/₂ mile) of a park.
- Parks in neighborhoods that serve majority non-White & lower income households tend to be:
 - Smaller
 - More crowded
 - Lower quality
 - Less safe
 - Fewer amenities

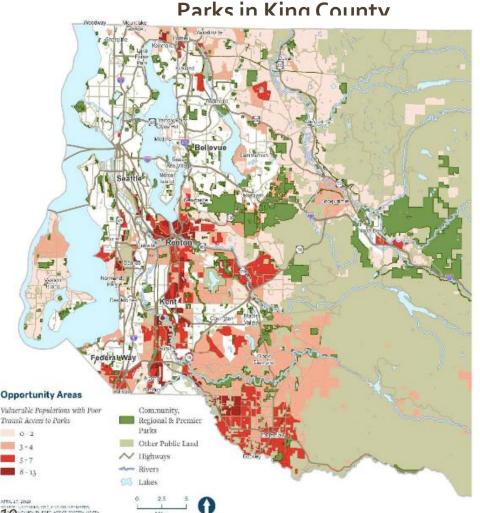
Riglon, Landscape and Urban Planning, 2016 Braubach Springer International Publishing, 2017 Riglon, Landscape and Urban Planning, 2018 Heat is On, Trust for Public Land, 2020

WA Healthy Youth Survey 2021: Physical Activity



Play inequities in King County

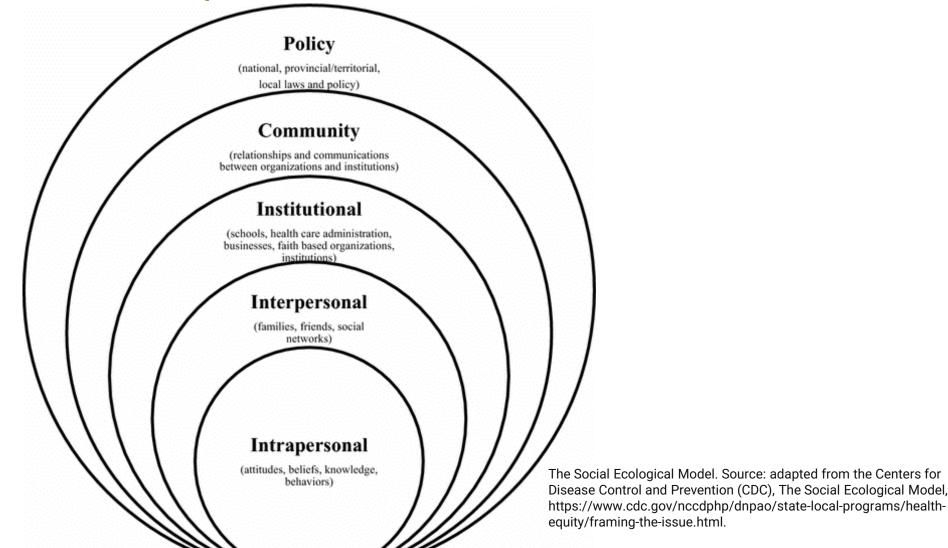
- 87% of Seattleites have walkable access to parks in contrast to 46% of the rest of King County
- **11% of youth who don't speak English** at home meet CDC physical activity guidelines
- Youth of color are less likely than white youth to participate in organized sports
- Youth with disabilities don't have enough programming/community to support physical activity



2019 State of Play – Seattle/King County Report

Connecting People to Parks in King County – A Transit-to-Parks GIS Analysis, The Wilderness Society, 2019

Multi-level solutions to increase equitable outdoor opportunities to promote children's health



Policy to increase outdoor time at school: equitable recess in WA State

Presented by: Akshay Tandon, Issaquah High School, 12th grader

- Recess is an equitable way to provide all children with opportunities for outdoor time regardless of their personal/family circumstances
- Research shows that recess is important for children's mental and physical health and supports their learning and behavior in the classroom
- According to a recent state-wide survey of parents:
 - Some students received fewer than 10 minutes of recess per day
- In 2022, more than 20 states had recess/physical activity laws, but WA did not

Policy to increase outdoor recreation at school: equitable recess in WA State

- Advocacy efforts were led by the King County Play Equity Coalition with support from many others including educators, parents, community groups, and youth!
- Senate Bill 5257 and its companion House bill were championed by Sen. Nobles (D-Fircrest) and Rep. Low (R-Lake Stevens).
- The final version of the bill passed the House with a bipartisan 81-15 vote
- The bill was signed into law by Governor Inslee on May 4, 2023
- Washington state students in grades K-5 will be guaranteed at least 30 minutes of daily recess beginning in the 2024-2025 school year
 - Must be held outside whenever possible
 - Discourages withholding recess for academic or disciplinary reasons

Thank you, Governor Inslee!







Governor Q&A



Progress and Initiatives: Outdoor Education for All

PRESENTED BY:

- Sheila Wilson, Outdoor Education Program Manager, Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction
- JADEN HARPER, STUDENT, LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL



All students prepared for post-secondary pathways, careers, and civic engagement.

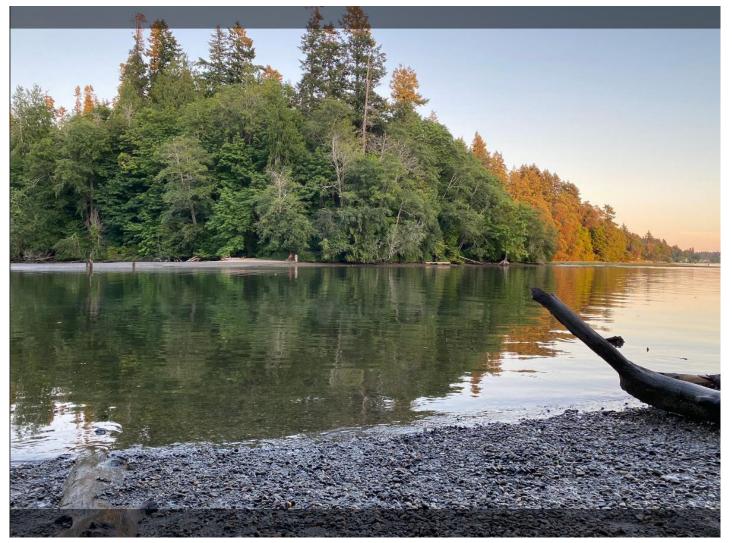
Transform K–12 education to a system that is centered on closing opportunity gaps and is characterized by high expectations for all students and educators. We achieve this by developing equity-based policies and supports that empower educators, families, and communities.

- Ensuring Equity
- Collaboration and Service
- Achieving Excellence through Continuous Improvement
- Focus on the Whole Child



Washington Office of Superintendent of **PUBLIC INSTRUCTION**

Tribal Land Acknowledgement



https://www.alltrails.com/trail/us/washington/squaxin-park-loop



For 400-500 generations, tribes gathered here, at what is now a City of Olympia Park.

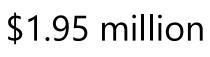
For 12 years (1848-1869) it was a Catholic mission.

The name "Priest Point" stuck until on April 25, 2023 the City Council approved the proposal to rename it to **Squaxin Park**.

Second Substitute House Bill (SSHB) 2078: The Outdoor Learning Grant Program





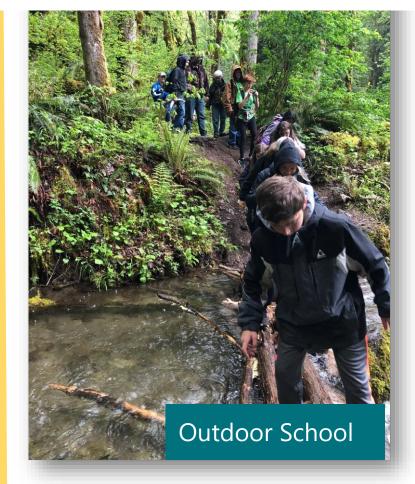




Recreation and Conservation Office



\$1.85 million





SSHB 2078: the Outdoor Learning Grant Program

Outdoor Education



Outdoor Learning Grants

Recreation and Conservation Office





Outdoor School

Outdoor Education Grants with OSPI





Outdoor Learning Grants with RCO





Recreation and Conservation Office



\$1.85 million 17 projects 20,046 students



Overnight Outdoor School with OSWA



SSHB 2078 Eligibility Criteria: Communities Historically Underserved by Science

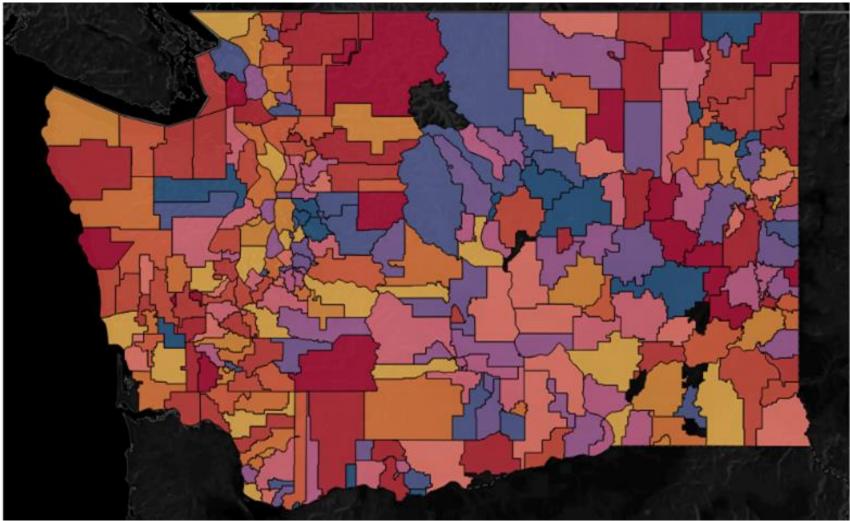
- Tribal schools and communities
- Rural and remote schools
- Alternative Learning Environments
- Low income
- Migrant Students
- Students of Color
- Emergent Multilingual Learners
- Students receiving special education services



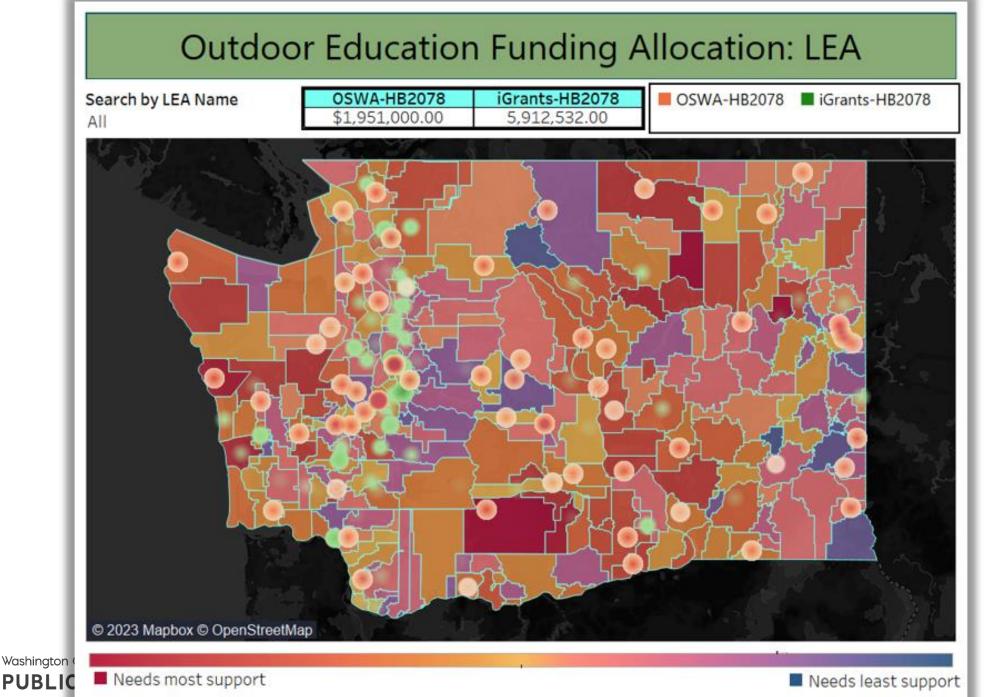




Students Receiving Special Education Services











CEDARS:

Comprehensive Education Data And Research System



Future Considerations

Evaluation

What is working and what isn't?

Facility Needs Aging i

Aging infrastructure

Scope and Scale Are we meeting our goals?



Washington Office of Superintendent of **PUBLIC INSTRUCTION**

Jaden Harper Lincoln High School Tacoma, WA











Governor Q&A



PROGRESS AND INITIATIVES: NO CHILD LEFT INSIDE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

PRESENTED BY:

- Owen Rowe, Policy and Governmental Affairs Director, Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission
- Kyle Guzlas, Grant Services Section Manager, Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
- TERRELL DORSEY, DIRECTOR, UNLEASH THE BRILLIANCE

School Groups and Jr. Ranger Programming







WASHINGTON STATE **Recreation and** Conservation Office

No Child Left Inside Grant Program

WASHINGTON STATE PARKS 1913

Program Purpose

Provide underserved youth with quality opportunities to experience the natural world.

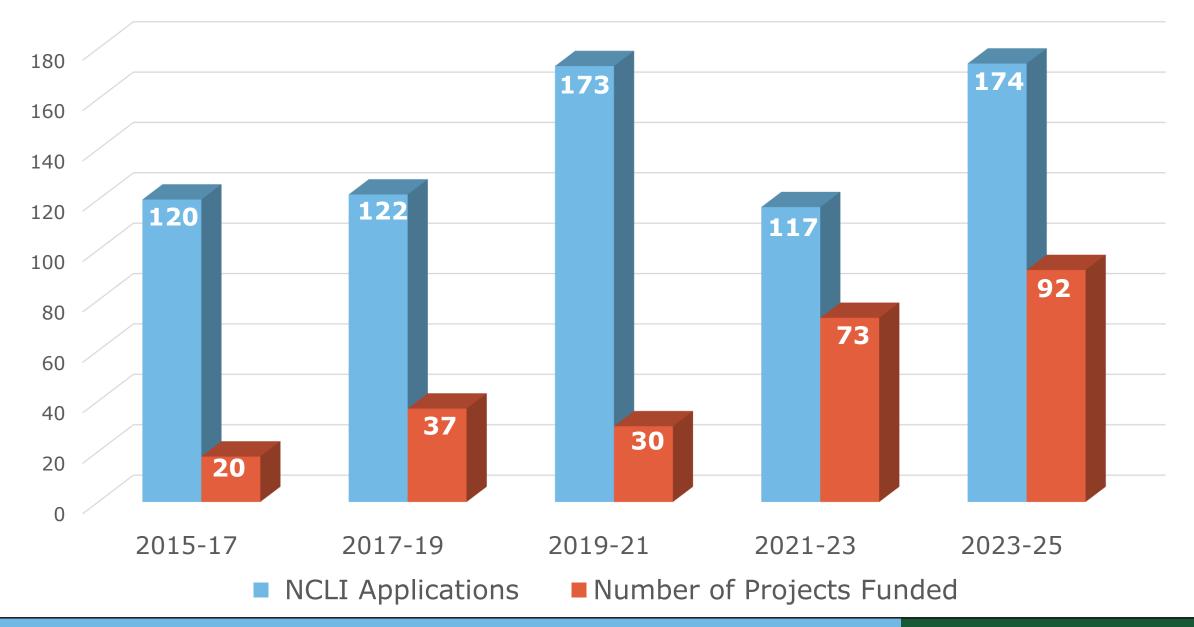
Background

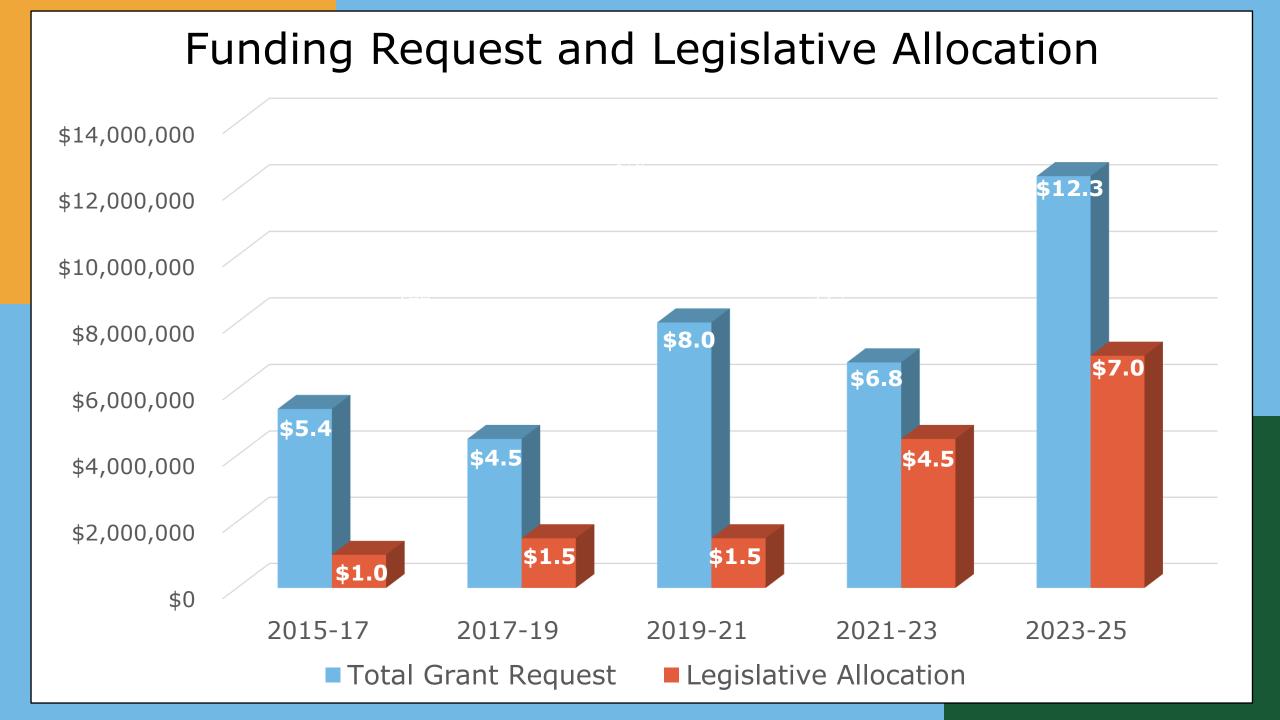
- Established in 2007
- 6 grant cycles
- \$17 million invested
- 956 applications
- 280 programs funded
- 167,476 youth served
- 4,730,401 total hours of outdoor programming



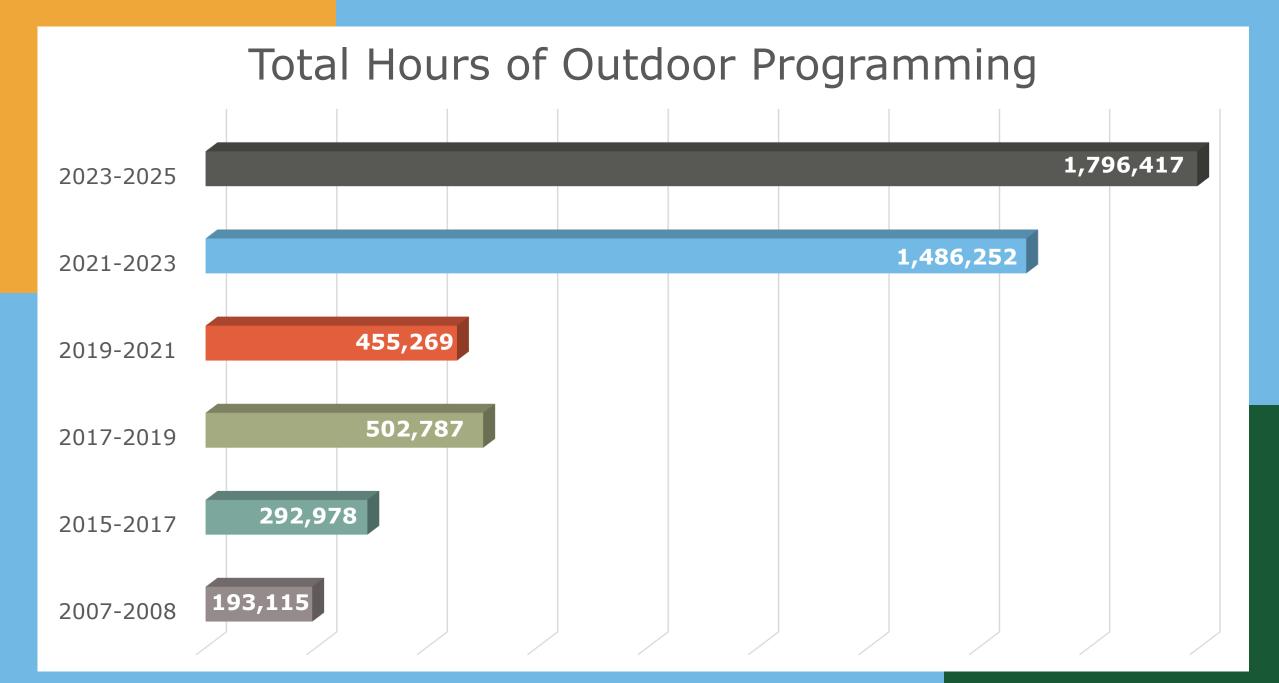
Young Women Empowered – Nature Connections

NCLI Application History



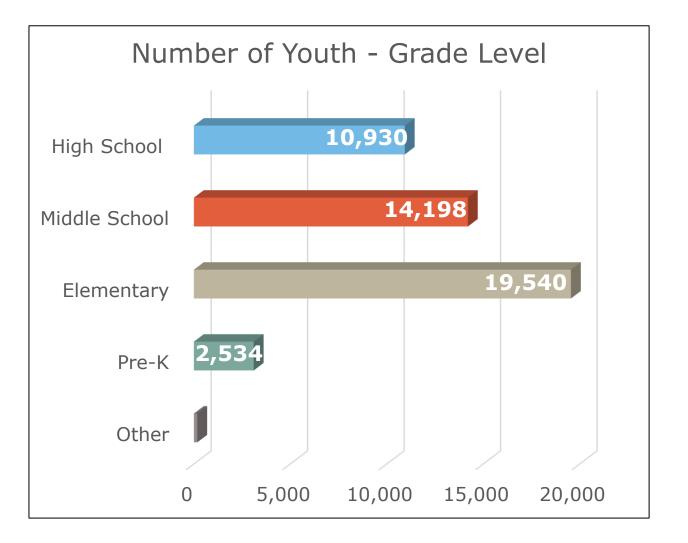


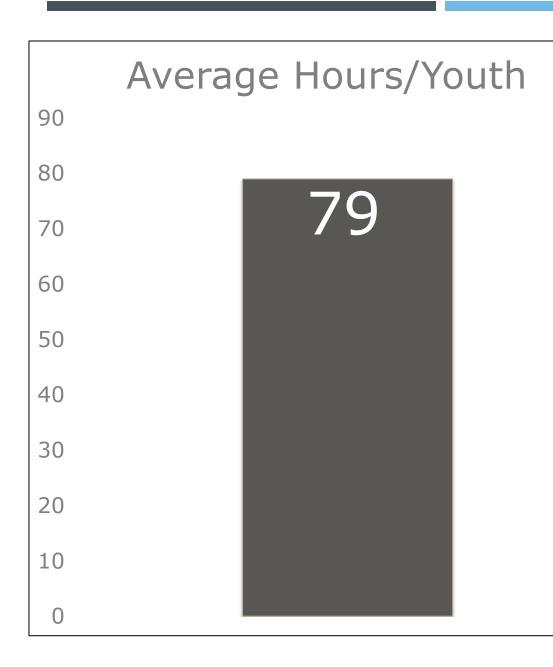


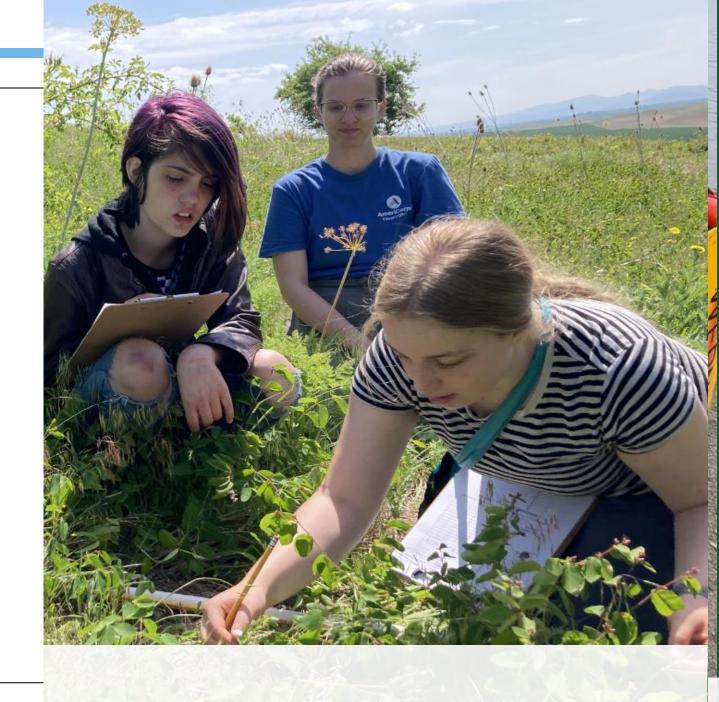


2023-2025 Award Summary

- \$7 million allocation
 - \$6.8 million in match
- 92 programs funded
 - 71 Non-profit organziations
 - 8 Schools (Districts or Individual Schools)
 - 5 Local governments (City/County)
 - 4 Native American tribes
 - 4 State agencies
- Will serve 47,378 youth

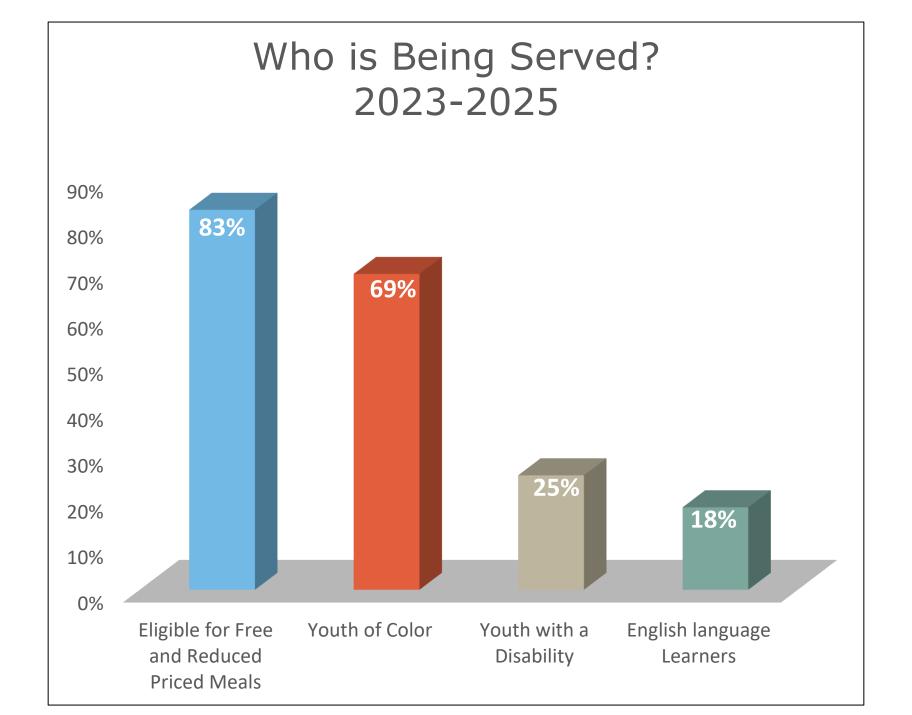








Pierce Outdoor LIFE Pierce County Parks and Recreation



obstruction pass cape disappointment south whidbey battle ground mount spokane columbia hill wallace fall lime kiln hope island bay view camp wooten washougal river peshastin pinnacle patos island james isla posey island iron horse clark island lake easton brooks memorial federation forest turn island penrose point sun lake blind island jones island fort worden ginkgo petrified forest kitsap memorial mystery l lewis & clark fort flagler st. edward sequim bay blake island anderson lake beacon rock steptoe butte does island sucia island deception pass wenatchee confluence matia islan lake chelan fort ebey stuart island cama beach squak mountain bridle trail lake wenatchee

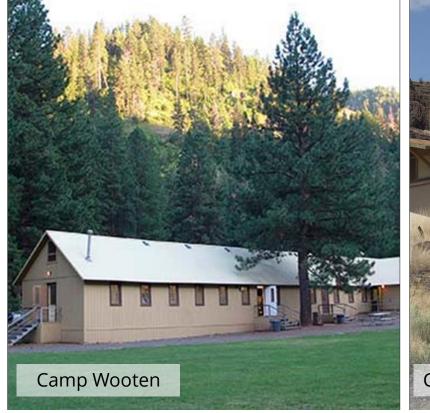
STATE PARKS & PUBLIC LANDS

77 NCLI PROJECTS WILL VISIT A STATE PARK





Cornet Bay – Deception Pass





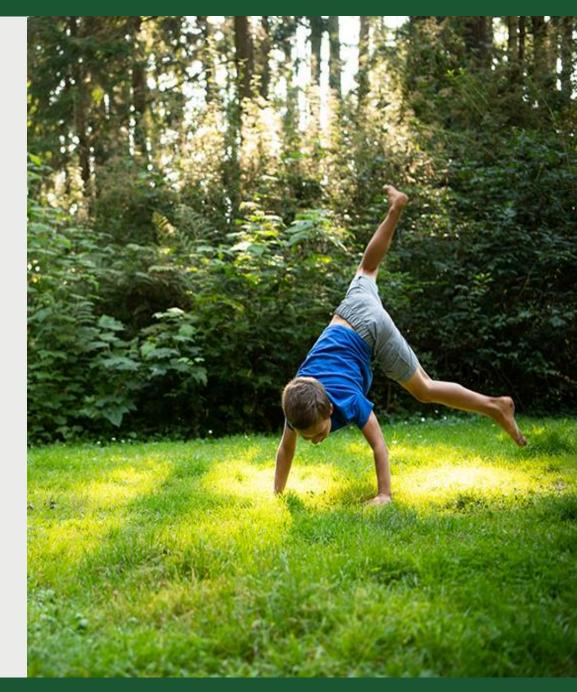


RETREAT CENTERS

22 PROJECTS PLAN TO USE A RETREAT CENTER

Youth Engagement Opportunities

- Continue to invest in NCLI
- Invest in Interpretive Specialists and cultural programming
- Ecosystem specific Jr. Ranger programs
 Ocean, Puget Sound, Desert
- Increase digital applications and virtual education
- Internships and career days (geared towards high school students)
- Review of public facilities, retreat centers, and environmental learning centers











No Child Left Inside



Recreation and Conservation Office

Program Activities

- Journaling
- Kayaking
- Water Quality Monitoring
- Riparian Zone Restoration
- Invasive Plant Removal
- Macroinvertebrate Sampling
- Habitat Restoration
- State Park Trail Walks
- Salmon Viewing
- Pollution Prevention Monitoring
- Cross-cultural exchanges with
- Elders and Veterans
 - Camp fires
 - Sledding
 - Storytelling
 - Other Recreational Activities



Skagit County





King County







Sammamish



Nolte



Bridle Trails Larrabee State Park





Saltwater Beach



Deception Pass



Rasar State Park



Rockport State Park



Dash Point

14 State Parks



Flaming Geyser



Jellum



Green River Gorge



Northern State Park

Outdoor Enrichment



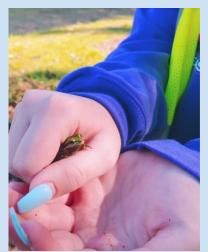












Stewardship



Environmental Justice Careers



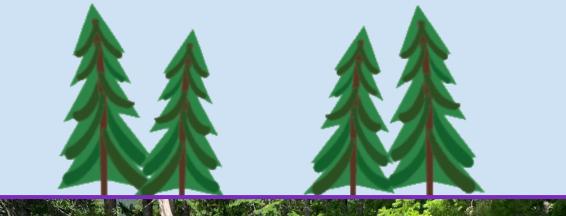


State Parks and Public Lands















What were the impacts of NCLI Outdoor Enrichment?

- 1. Increased emotional resiliency
- 2. Less unexcused absences
- 3. Less tardies
- 4. Less missing assignments
- 5. From failing grades to passing grades
- 6. Increased academic performance
- 7. Increased confidence
- 8. Rekindled excitement and interest in learning







Governor Q&A



FUTURE COMMITMENTS AND NEXT STEPS

PRESENTED BY:

- MADDY THOMPSON, EDUCATION SENIOR POLICY Advisor, Office of the Governor
- JON SNYDER, OUTDOOR RECREATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SENIOR POLICY ADVISOR, OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR



Washington Elementary Science Teacher:

"If we want kids to care about the planet, they first need to connect with nature, and learn to love it."



---- Office of Governor Jay Inslee -----

Key Take-Aways

- The benefits of outdoor learning include: improved mental health, physical health, and general well being
- There has been substantial growth in opportunities in the last few years
- There is a need to increase equity and accessibility
- Challenges to growth include staffing and facility needs



Outdoor Preschools

Licensed Outdoor Preschools In WA (19)		Continued	
Cedar Falls School	North Bend	MORE Smiles Learning Center	Blaine
Roots Outdoor Education	North Bend	The Learning Connection Inc	Mukilteo
Curious Cub Childcare LLC	Bellevue	United Indians of All Tribes Foundation	Seattle
Bell Creek Nature School LLC	Deming	University of Washington Botanic Gardens	Seattle
Lichen Early Learning LLC	Bellingham	Tiny Trees Preschool Be'er Sheva Park	Burien
Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association	Bellingham	Tiny Trees Preschool Dottie Harper Park	Burien
Barefeet Farm LLC	Bellingham	Second Star Farm Outdoor Nature School LLC	Puyallup
Orcas Daycare Association	Eastsound	Mountain Sprouts Children's Community	Leavenworth
Springwood Forest School LLC	Camano Island	Sol Shine Nature Preschool	Yakima
Fidalgo Nature School	Anacortes		

----- Office of Governor Jay Inslee -----

Additional Considerations

- Updates to facilities to adhere to current ADA guidelines and ensure facilities are in appropriate conditions to conduct outdoor learning
- New facilities and locations across the state



Join us September 27th 10:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. Topic: Transportation – Electrification of Ferries and Infrastructure

THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING TODAY!

PLEASE TAKE A MOMENT TO COMPLETE OUR BRIEF SURVEY USING THE QR CODE BELOW:



You can view the recording of today's meeting at: <u>https://results.wa.gov/measuring-</u> <u>progress/public-performance-reviews</u>





Governor Q&A





Governor's Closing Remarks