

Chapter 6

Funding Strategy

The funding strategy for the park identifies available opportunities for possible sources of revenue. Revenue sources may include user fees, in-kind/volunteer labor and services, private donations, grant funds and ORV permit fees.

User Fees

User fees are a direct funding opportunity available to support Straddleline ORV Park. Fees for events, day use, camping, and other activities will be collected in order to subsidize the maintenance and operation of the park. Please refer to Operation Strategy, proposed fee schedule for specific activities and associated fees.

In-Kind/Volunteer Labor and Services

Volunteer labor and services for the maintenance and operation of the ORV park may be donated. The IAC maintains a manual of skilled labor rates by county. These rates are applied to determine the dollar value of donated labor and services. In some cases, the dollar equivalent of donated labor and services can be used as matching funds for grant funded projects.

Private Donations

Equipment, goods and/or funds may be donated to the County and earmarked for public recreational use at the ORV park.

Grants

Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation (IAC)

- I. Nonhighway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities Program (NOVA) - ORV grant program, Fuel Tax monies, distributed in accordance with RCW 46.09.170

Off-Road Vehicle (ORV) grants primarily assist ATV, four-wheel drive, and dirt bike recreation in both backcountry and competition track environments.

Funding process:

This program involves an open and highly competitive process in which funding relies heavily on an applicant's oral responses to a published set of IAC board approved evaluation questions. The applicant makes this presentation before an advisory committee assembled by IAC to help prepare funding recommendations. The committee, appointed by IAC's Director, is composed of government representatives and non-highway road, non-motorized, ORV citizen member recreationists. IAC staff presents these recommendations to IAC's board for approval.

- No matching funds required.
- Park and recreation plan required.
- Evaluation criteria:
 - Need/Need fulfillment

- One of the following:
 - Acquisition proposals - Site Suitability
 - Development proposals - Project Design
 - Maintenance proposals - Maintenance
 - Planning proposals - Planning
- Readiness to Proceed
- Project Support
- Cost-Benefit
- Matching Shares
- Population Proximity
- GMA Preference

Grant application timeline (approximate)

- a. March – letter of intent
- b. May – Application due
- c. August – current recreation plan due
- d. October – evaluation meeting (oral presentation)
- e. November – Grants awarded

II. Nonhighway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities Program (NOVA) – ORV grant program, ORV permit fees, distributed in accordance with RCWs 46.09.110, 46.09.170, and 46.09.280.

ORV permit fee funds are added to the fuel tax money of the NOVA Off-Road Vehicle grant program and distributed through the IAC NOVA Off-Road Vehicle grant program. The process to secure ORV permit fees is exactly the same as the fuel tax grant process as outlined above.

All NOVA Off-Road Vehicle grant applications are ranked during the evaluation process. Fuel tax money is expended first to ranked projects, then the ORV permit fees are distributed to subsequent projects by a subset of the NOVA advisory committee outlined in RCW 46.09.280 (2).

RCW 46.09.280 (2) After the advisory committee has made recommendations regarding the expenditure of the fuel tax revenue portion of the non-highway and off-road vehicle account moneys, the advisory committee's ORV and mountain biking recreationists, governmental representatives, and land managers will make recommendations regarding the expenditure of funds received under RCW 46.09.110 (Disposition of ORV moneys).

ORV Permit Fee distribution process:

- Permit fees are collected under RCW 46.09.070,
- Distributed under RCW 46.09.110 & RCW 46.09.170,
 - by a subset of the NOVA committee as outlined in RCW 46.09.280 (2).

III. Washington Wildlife Recreation Program (WWRP) grant program.

The ORV track facilities would NOT be eligible for any funding in this category.

RV campground development or renovation at the ORV park could be eligible for WWRP grant program through the local park category. Projects need to match expressed community priorities to do well in this program, so the county's comprehensive park plan should reflect community desire for a campground that primarily serves RVs. Maintenance and operation funding is NOT available through WWRP, only development and acquisition.

- Park and recreation plan required.
- Minimum matching share of non-IAC funds is 50% for each project.
- Maximum IAC share for acquisition is \$500,000.
- Maximum IAC share for development is \$300,000.

IV. National Recreational Trails Program (NRTP) grant program

This program is for funding the “backcountry” trail experience. The ORV park and camping facilities would NOT be eligible for this funding. However, since the ORV park is a jump-off point to DNR Capitol Forest ORV trails, it might be possible to apply for trailhead funding (parking and restrooms) that support the Capitol Forest trails. The application would have to express that the trailhead is for exclusive use by the backcountry trail riders NOT for those at the ORV park. Therefore such a project in this category would probably have a slim chance of being funded.

- Minimum matching share of 20% required.