Appendix F: Overview of State & Federal Land Management Agencies

**State Agencies**

**Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission (Parks)**

**FORMED**
1913

**MISSION**
The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission cares for Washington’s most treasured lands, waters, and historic places. State Parks connects all Washingtonians to their diverse natural and cultural heritage and provide memorable recreational and educational experiences that enhance their lives.

**VISION**
Washington’s state parks will be cherished destinations with natural, cultural, recreational, artistic, and interpretive experiences that all Washingtonians enjoy, appreciate, and proudly support.

**ABOUT**
Washington State Parks encompass approximately 120,000 acres of land, including nearly 700 miles of hiking trails, 40 watercraft launching sites, and approximately 75 campgrounds.

**Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)**

**FORMED**
1890

**MISSION**
To preserve, protect and perpetuate fish, wildlife and ecosystems while providing sustainable fish and wildlife recreational and commercial opportunities.

**VISION**
Conservation of Washington’s fish and wildlife resources and ecosystems. WDFW defines “Conservation” as: “Protection, preservation, management, or restoration of natural environments and the ecological communities that inhabit them; including management of human use for public benefit and sustainable social and economic needs.”

**ABOUT**
The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife owns or manages nearly 1,000,000 acres of land, including 33 designated Wildlife areas and 700 water access sites.
Federal Agencies

**U.S. Forest Service (USFS)**

**FORMED** 1905

**MISSION**
"sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the nation’s forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations."

**ABOUT**
The U.S. Forest Service manages seven National Forests (Colville, Gifford Pinchot, Idaho Panhandle, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie, Okanogan & Wenatchee, Olympic, and Umatilla) and one National Scenic Area (Columbia River Gorge) in Washington state, covering approximately 9 million acres.
National Park Service (NPS)

**FORMED**

**1916**

**ABOUT**
The National Park Service manages 15 sites in Washington, including North Cascades, Olympic, and Mount Rainier National Parks, covering over 1.6 million acres.

**MISSION**

“The National Park Service preserves unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the National Park System for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations. The Park Service cooperates with partners to extend the benefits of natural and cultural resource conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country and the world.”

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)

**FORMED**

**1903**

**ABOUT**
The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service manages 22 National Wildlife Refuges and one National Monument (Hanford Reach) in Washington, covering nearly 360,000 acres.

**MISSION**

“Working with others, to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people.”
U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

**FORMED**
1946

**MISSION**
“To sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of America’s public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations.”

**ABOUT**
The Bureau of Land Management manages 11 recreation areas and one Wilderness area in Washington, covering over 50,000 acres.

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (BOR)

**FORMED**
1902

**MISSION**
“To manage, develop, and protect water and related resources in an environmentally and economically sound manner in the interest of the American public.”

**VISION**
Through leadership, use of technical expertise, efficient operations, responsive customer service and the creativity of people, Reclamation will seek to protect local economies and preserve natural resources and ecosystems through the effective use of water.

**ABOUT**
The Bureau of Reclamation manages 18 lakes and dams in Washington, consisting of nearly 100,000 acres, the majority of which are water-surface acres. “The Bureau of Reclamation has gravitated from development of single-purpose agricultural projects toward a multipurpose approach to water resource development that includes recreation. Today, Reclamation plays a major role in meeting the increasing public demands for water-based outdoor recreation facilities and opportunities.”
U.S. Army Corps. of Engineers

FORMED
1802

MISSION
Provides vital public engineering services in peace and war to strengthen our Nation's security, energize the economy, and reduce risks from disasters. In achieving this mission, we must contribute to the national welfare and serve the public by providing quality and responsive services to the Nation, the Army, and other customers in a manner that is environmentally, economically, and socially sustainable, and that focuses on public safety and collaborative partnerships.

ABOUT
The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers administers 24 recreation areas in Washington.