Shovel-Ready Investments in Revenue and Rural Jobs

The Washington State Department of Natural Resources generates more than $220 million in nontax revenue for school construction and other public services annually. That economic activity sustains thousands of direct and indirect jobs throughout the state, especially in rural areas. These capital budget requests will grow DNR’s ability to generate nontax revenue while putting people back to work.

*All requests funded in the governor’s budget are marked with an asterisk.*

Rural broadband (Cost: $2M): Removes barriers for broadband companies to lease sites on DNR-managed lands for underserved areas by increasing capacity at overburdened sites and developing new sites for leasing.

Puget Sound Corps (Cost: $8M): Creates 100 jobs, scholarships and on-the-job training through trail building, forest health treatments, and other work.

Sustainable recreation (Cost: $8.5M): Creates more than 100 jobs and new opportunities for public access while updating outdated infrastructure.

Jobs for forests (Cost: $13.1M): Creates hundreds of jobs and increases future returns on investment by thinning, treating, and replanting westside forests.

Improving roads for salmon (Cost: $1.93M): Creates 100-plus road construction jobs, opens salmon habitat, and keeps roads safe for logging and recreation.

Grouse Ridge (Cost: $1.73M): Protects access to the Washington State Fire Training Academy and water quality by replacing nine outdated stream crossings.

Structurally deficient bridges (Cost: $3.76M): Reconstructs or replaces 14 structurally deficient or obsolete bridges, opening access to 105,000 acres of managed forestlands while protecting water quality.

Natural Areas facilities access and preservation (Cost: $5.05M): Creates 68 jobs through shovel-ready projects that will enhance natural areas, improve the health of Puget Sound watersheds, and increase access for low-impact recreation.

Teanaway and Klickitat Canyon community forests (Cost: $2.4M): Both forests require additional funding to meet the Community Forest Trust Program goals, implement management plans, and increase opportunities for recreation.

Richland property development (Cost: $2.5M): Eliminate barriers to transition land in city limits from agriculture to development and increase trust revenue.

State lands replacement (Cost: $6M): Preserves essential services in three rural counties while maintaining forestry jobs and funding for local services.

These shovel-ready investments will provide jobs while growing DNR’s ability to generate nontax revenue that supports school construction and critical services across Washington.

For more information about these proposals contact:

Kristine Reeves
Legislative Director
(360) 764-0013
kristine.reeves@dnr.wa.gov