

## Scott Boettcher

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**From:** Lisa Olsen <lolsen@co.pacific.wa.us>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 28, 2019 12:16 PM  
**To:** Dodson, Kari  
**Subject:** 2019 Local Community Project Application  
**Attachments:** Phase II, Grays Harbor and Willapa Bay Sedimentation Dynamics and Mitigation Measures 2-28-2019.docx

Hi Kari,

Attached is our application as we have discussed.

This submission is requested by Commissioner Raines and myself.

Thank you so much for making sure this is signed by Rep. Walsh and submitted today.

Also, please convey our appreciation to Rep. Walsh for his suggestion and sponsorship of this application.

Much appreciation for all your help!

Lisa ☺

**Lisa R. Olsen**  
**Pacific County Commissioner, Dist. 1**  
**PO Box 187**  
**South Bend, WA 98586**  
**lolsen@co.pacific.wa.us**

2019 Legislative Session  
Member Requested Local Community Project Information Form  
Request must be submitted by March 1, 2019.

**Important Notes:**

This is not a formal grant program. This form provides information for House members to request a separate appropriation in the capital budget for this project. Funding any project is at the discretion of the Legislature.

**Funds are available on a reimbursement basis only and cannot be advanced.**

**Projects may be subject to state prevailing wage law (Chapter 39.12 RCW).** Requesting organization are encouraged to consult the Industrial Statistician (David Soma: 360-902-5330 or [somd235@lni.wa.gov](mailto:somd235@lni.wa.gov)) at the Washington State Department of Labor Industries to determine whether prevailing wages must be paid.

**High-performance building requirements (Chapter 39.35D RCW) and Executive Order 13-03 regarding life cycle and operating costs in public works projects may also apply.**

Project Name:

Grays Harbor and Willapa Bay Sedimentation/Erosion Dynamics and Preferred Mitigation Measures (Phase II)

Legislative Sponsor(s): Representative Jim Walsh

Funding Requested: \$ 463,500

Do not directly enter the **Funding Requested** amount. Instead, enter the relevant amounts under "Requested Dollar Amount" on page 2. Then **right click the highlighted number** above and select **update field**.

Where is the project physically located?

Address of Project Site: Grays Harbor and Willapa Bay Estuaries

District: 19

City: n/a

County: Grays Harbor and Pacific

Latitude: 46.80898948

Longitude: -123.96938324

Use <http://www.mapcoordinates.net/en> to determine coordinates of the site.

Project Contact

Name(s):

Mike Nordin

Title:

District Manager

Organization:

Grays Harbor Conservation District

Organization Website:

<https://graysharborcd.wordpress.com/>

Phone:

360/208-4451

E-mail:

[plutroll@willapabay.org](mailto:plutroll@willapabay.org)

Mailing Address:

330 Pioneer Ave W, Montesano, WA 98563

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Organization Information

Yes/No

Is the requesting organization registered with the state as a non-profit organization?

No

Is there a current or pending 501(c)(3) IRS registration?

No

If answered no to either of the above, is applicant a local government?

Yes

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## Project Information:

(1) As concisely as possible, describe the entire project **and** the scope of the project for which the funds are requested:

1. Washington's shellfish industry has a long and important history in Southwest Washington. The industry is substantially important to the state, the region (Southwest Washington), and the local communities that depend on shellfish growing and processing.
2. In 2010, the shellfish industry payroll was:
  - a. Pacific County = \$45M and 1,580 jobs.
  - b. Grays Harbor County = \$6M and 210 jobs.
3. In 2015, Washington Sea Grant reported that the total value of shellfish production was:
  - a. Washington State = 23.4 million pounds and \$92.1 million in revenue.
  - b. Willapa Bay = 5.95 million pounds and \$15.6 million in revenue.
  - c. Grays Harbor = 1.2 million pounds and \$3.96 million in revenue.
3. Washington's shellfish industry faces many pressures. One pressure in particular threatens the industry's future. That is sedimentation, erosion, and excess sedimentation.
4. Shellfish growing beds need stable tidelands for growing shellfish like oysters. When certain activities (dredging, flooding, etc.) or environmental conditions (excess wave energy) occur, excess sedimentation and erosion (beyond the norm) can have the adverse effect of covering up or wiping out existing shellfish growing beds. When this occurs shellfish growers can no longer use their growing beds and must find new ground (tidelands).
5. In Grays Harbor, excess sedimentation and erosion have caused the loss of 700 acres of productive shellfish growing ground since dredging in 1990 due to erosion and sedimentation accumulation. This has adversely affected the industry with an annual estimate of \$1,050,000 in lost revenue and 36.4 in lost jobs.
6. Recently, the Grays Harbor and Pacific Conservation districts have joined forces to better understand sedimentation and erosion dynamics in Grays Harbor Bay and Willapa Bay, and how impacts to growing beds can be mitigated.
7. The Districts initiated the following three phased process in 2015:
  - a. Phase I (Why) – Conduct literature review, analysis, identification of Phase II next steps. [Done]
  - b. Phase II (How) – Conduct mapping, modelling, and documentation of sediment and erosion dynamics in Grays Harbor and Willapa Bay and identify preferred mitigation measures. [Subject of this Funding Request]
  - c. Phase III (Implementation) – Implement preferred mitigation measures and best practices through responsible and relevant organizations (public, private, not-for-profit, non-profit, etc.). [Future]

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8. See Phase I results here [https://www.ezview.wa.gov/site/alias\\_1492/37525/Excess-Sedimentation.aspx](https://www.ezview.wa.gov/site/alias_1492/37525/Excess-Sedimentation.aspx).

(2) If the entire project will not be completed after the requested state funding and matching funds are used, describe:

(a) what phase of the project will be completed with the portion funded by this request and how it will benefit the public; and

1. Phase II (Conduct mapping, modelling, and documentation of sediment and erosion dynamics in Grays Harbor Bay and Willapa Bay and identify preferred mitigation measures.) will be completed under this funding request. Phase II will catalogue and identify:

- a. Areas suitable and not-suitable for future shellfish growing.
- b. Cost-effective and preferred mitigation measures and best practices.

2. Both of these benefit the public as they work to keep the shellfish growing industry viable and in operation in Grays Harbor and Willapa bays. This benefits those directly employed as well local and state revenues.

(b) the phases and schedule for completion of the project.

Following completion of Phase II (1/2020), Phase III will commence at a date to be determined and subject to future funding.

(3) Start and Completion Dates: 7/2019 to 1/2020

(4) Eligible Project Type or Phase (Check all that apply to this funding request and insert requested amount.

Enter whole numbers (no \$ sign) under **Requested Dollar Amount**.

To calculate the fee and Total, right click on the highlighted number and select update field.

	<b>Requested Dollar Amount</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Land Acquisition	\$ [enter number]
<input type="checkbox"/> Demolition and Site Preparation	\$ [enter number]
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Design	\$ 450,000
<input type="checkbox"/> New Construction	\$ [enter number]
<input type="checkbox"/> Renovation	\$ [enter number]
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (describe) <input type="text" value="Enter text"/>	\$ [enter number]

**Total Funding Requested:**

(right click highlighted number and select update field) **\$ 463,500**

NOTE: **Total Funding** includes a mandatory **Commerce Administrative Fee** of 3% (up to \$50,000)

Attachments: (Please enclose any materials that further describe the project and its financing.)

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Yes / No

(5) Is this a joint project? Yes

If yes, has a joint operating agreement been signed? Yes

If yes, list the partners for the project.

Grays Harbor Conservatiopn District, Pacific Conservation District, Grays Harbor County, Pacific County, Pacific County Marine Resources Committee, Willapa Grays Harbor Oyster Growers Association.

(6) Is the site owned, optioned for purchase, or under a lease? Owned and Leased

(7) Does the applicant understand and agree that any and all real property owned, optioned for purchase, or under a lease, that is acquired, constructed, or otherwise improved using state funds approved by the Legislature must be held and used for the purposes stated in this application for at least ten years from the date of the final payment made for the project? Yes

(8) Has the applicant initiated a capital fundraising campaign? Yes

If yes, what percent of matching funds have been secured? 10%

(9) What other sources of matching funds are being pursued? Please list all sources and amounts.

Following sources of matching funds are being pursued:  
a. Grays Harbor Conservation District -- \$13,500 (Secured as In-Kind support for Project Management/Oversight)  
b. Pacific County Marine Resources Committee -- \$10,000 (Being Pursued as a Match Source)  
c. WA State Conservation Commission -- \$21,500 (Being Pursued as a Match Source)

(10) Please list all past and current efforts to obtain state funding for this project, **including year, state agency, specific fund source, and whether or not funding was obtained.**

1. Past efforts to obtain state funding -- Phase I (conduct literature review, analysis, identification of Phase II next steps) was completed June 2015 and was funded with a \$50,000 grant from the Washington State Conservation Commission (Shellfish Cost-Share Program).  
  
2. Current efforts to obtain state funding -- Phase II (conduct mapping, modelling, and documentation of sediment and erosion dynamics in Grays Harbor Bay and Willapa Bay and identify preferred mitigation measures) is the subject of this current funding request.

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(11) What source(s) of non-state funds exist for completion of the project? Once completed, how will the project fund its ongoing maintenance and operation?

Phase III (implement preferred mitigation measures and best practices through responsible and relevant organizations) will be the final phase of the project. Phase III funds are at this time not known. Once Phase III costs are known (at the conclusion of Phase II) a funding strategy will be developed which will include local, state and federal funding sources/options.

(12) Public benefits of the project:

1. Grays Harbor and Willapa Bay estuaries are nursery areas for a wide-range of marine life important to the public. Although Willapa Bay has been well-studied for its marine habitat, it lacks a comprehensive understanding of how, when and why events associated with excess sedimentation and erosion occur. Grays Harbor has been well-studied too, however only in the narrow scope of dredging by the Port of Grays Harbor and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.
2. There is a lack of basic scientific data and understanding in the Grays Harbor and Willapa Bay estuaries. The study of the bay floor and the currents that travel through it is essential to saving what is left of the shellfish industry and enabling potential expansion in the future. Aerial imagery and analysis will be used to help identify existing and future growing beds, as well evaluate adaptive management practices and their effectiveness.
3. This project will additionally evaluate sediment contribution from Chehalis River flow and flooding and how it impacts Grays Harbor itself. This has been a missing component that previous funding strategies have not covered, but is essential to the answers being sought.
4. The public, the environment, and users of both bays will all benefit from a better, comprehensive understanding and cataloguing of the tidal landscape and its dynamic interactions.
  - a. Short-term -- Data collected can act as a tool to evaluate impacts of anthropogenic (e.g., dredging) and environmental changes (e.g., burrowing shrimp) in the estuaries.
  - b. Long-term – Phase II results (aerial imagery and LiDAR) will provide a baseline to help adaptively manage impacts of burrowing shrimp on eelgrass, identify areas of sediment erosion or deposition in the estuaries, and identify potential new sites for shellfish aquaculture.

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(13) Will this project have a revenue-generating component that would have community and state economic benefit? Please describe and quantify.

1. The science of efficiently and effectively providing protein to a growing population is ever-evolving. In the years to come, estuaries that are healthy and in ecological balance will bring new technology, new products, and new methods into production to meet the protein needs of growing export and domestic markets. This in turn translates into jobs, a vibrant shellfish industry, and local and state revenue.
2. Northern Economics calculated an output multiplier of 1.8 and jobs multiplier of 1.4 (see "The Economic Impact of Shellfish Aquaculture in Washington, Oregon and California" April 2013 at [https://www.ezview.wa.gov/site/alias\\_\\_1492/37525/Excess-Sedimentation.aspx](https://www.ezview.wa.gov/site/alias__1492/37525/Excess-Sedimentation.aspx)).
3. Grays Harbor and Willapa Bay estuaries are the source for 25% of the oysters supplied in the nation. There is also a significant amount of business done with China that contributes to our State's presence in the Pacific Rim Economy. It is vitally important that this economy and market share continue.
4. Annual financial impact based on 30,000 acres in Willapa and 4,000 acres in Grays Harbor is \$1,500/acre and .052 jobs per acre based on the 2010 data previously stated. More acreage means more jobs and more revenue. Less acreage means less jobs and less revenue. Grays Harbor's loss of 700 acres translates into an annual loss of \$1,050,000 in revenue and 36.4 jobs.

(14) Please quantify any short- and long-term job creation that will result from this project.

1. Clean and predictable ecological environments are inextricably linked to vibrant and sustainable economic environments. Between the two estuaries new aquaculture seafood methods are sure to grow as is already being demonstrated today. Without a program to understand, repair and mitigate the erosion and sedimentation problems of the bays, the base shellfish industry will falter.
2. Any benefit to the health and ecological viability of the estuaries will benefit the overall economic health of Pacific and Grays Harbor counties and, by extension, the State. These estuaries have been, and can again, be vital economies for the area.

(15) Are there any community concerns about this project (i.e. conflict with land use, neighborhood concerns, other) that would prevent it from moving forward?

No.

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**For Office Use Only**

Legislative Sponsor  
(Signature)

[Click here to paste signature.](#)

Date

[Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

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**Tips:**

Successful past projects generally are ones in which the requested state funds: (1) are used for a facility providing an important public benefit; (2) are a small portion of the total project funding (25% or less); (3) result in a completed project or phase usable by the public for the intended purpose when the state funds are expended; and (4) are for a project that is ready for construction or renovation and will be completed within the biennium.

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