

# **ADA COMMITTEE PROJECT IDEAS**

Ron "Z" Zubrick – Region 1

- 1) Develop a collaborative relationship with the Veteran's Administration, Rehabilitation facilities, and programs for youth with disabilities to be able to provide current disabled hunter information to persons with newly acquired disabilities.
  - a. Many persons with newly acquired disabilities don't even realize that their ability to still hunt, fish, camp, hike, and other wildlife/outdoor activities has not disappeared.
  - b. Many agencies struggle to find appropriate resources for their patients/clients. Occupational Therapists and rehabilitation counselors and psychologists often are looking for adaptive equipment or activities to help their patients re-develop a sense of independence and purpose in recreation.
  
- 2) Work with Occupational Therapists and fellow hunter education instructors to develop either an additional chapter or chapters, or a separate hunter education course for persons with disabilities.
  - a. As a paralyzed veteran, teaching hunter education, I ask our students how many think that I can no longer hunt or fish. On average, 30% raise their hands with another 15% asking if I have special equipment. Many have no idea that there are also special accommodating rules available if we follow the proper process.
  - b. As a rehabilitation counselor, many of my new permanently injured/disabled patients are shocked to realize that most of their previous hobbies and recreational activities are still an option.
  - c. Additional chapters or segments to the current hunter education curriculum would also help educate new hunters and often their parents or older siblings of the concept or disabled hunters. By understanding how a companion hunter fits into the process and the importance of being aware

of hunters with disabilities in the field with them, misunderstandings can be reduced. Able body hunters can be more aware of a disabled hunter in a stationary position that the able body hunter may be creating barriers that hinder or even prevent the disabled hunter being able to have an opportunity to harvest an animal. (many hunters with disabilities in stationary positions have shared that able body hunters will walk back and forth through the area the hunter with a disability is hunting. The whole time, either unaware of the hunter with a disability or unaware that the hunter with a disability is unable to move to a different location or even unable to make the able body hunter aware of his/her presence without further disturbing the area and reducing the chance of game coming into the area)

- 3) I would like to develop a resource guide that can be available to non-profit agencies, working with persons with disabilities to help them experience hunting and fishing. Although many already have a basic understanding of some of the resources and regulations for persons with disabilities, others such as many parts of the Veterans Administration lack information that can be passed along to the appropriate patients and others they serve. This would contain links to the specific portions of WDFW.WA.GOV that address the process for obtaining disabled hunter status. It would also contain resources for agencies that provide grant money and other assistance for acquiring adaptive equipment such as track wheelchairs, adaptive gun or fishing rod mounts for wheelchairs or for persons with disabilities that create barriers to safely using a firearm or fishing rod, and even links to agencies that help provide special hunting and fishing opportunities for persons with disabilities, such as Youth Outdoors Unlimited, The Fallen Outdoors, Wounded Warrior Project, etc.

**Ron “Z” Zubrick  
ADA Advisory Committee Member  
Region 1**

# **ADA AC Projects Report**

Dan Dickerson – Region 2

## **Past projects:**

-Helping to secure the funding to purchase 8.3 miles of waterfront and 14 acres of land on the Wenatchee River between Peshastin and Leavenworth, WA. This was a joint effort from several volunteers, organizations and private landowners. \$453,255 was raised to make this purchase. Now a beautiful and scenic section of the Wenatchee River is preserved for future generations.

-A program started by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service has taken off and is growing like wildfire. Working with the Wenatchee Sportsmen's Association, we are looking forward to the third North Central Washington Youth Hunting and Fishing Day event. This year's event will be on September 29th. The 2016 event hosted about 85 youth and either parents or guardians. The 2017 event hosted over 300 youth with participation from numerous local and national organizations. We anticipate an even larger and better event this year. One participant this year will be the Youth Outdoors Unlimited. The work strictly with youth who have disabilities to offer them a chance to get outdoors for an adventure that would not otherwise happen.

- At the annual Wenatchee Valley Sportsman's Show, we spent the whole day helping children to fish at an indoor fishpond. There is nothing like the look on a child's face when they catch their first fish. This year the fish were much larger, weighing in between 1-3 pounds.

## **Current projects:**

-Fish Lake in Chelan County has experienced a doubling of the fee to fish on the lake via the concessioner, "The Cove Resort", who leases the property from the USFS. Efforts are underway to either work with the current concessioner or reopen the file on why a public access on the East end of the lake was abandoned or seek another site for public access. The current dock facility at the "Cove Resort" does not meet the guidelines for ADA accessibility. There has also not been any upgrades to the boat launch or the docking facility to warrant such an increase in the access fee. I have been meeting with the USFS, WDFW, and the Wenatchee Sportsmen's Association to try and resolve this issue.

-Plans are in the works for a fishing clinic at Beehive Reservoir working with WDFW's Rebecca Bennett. This will be an effort to encourage Latino families and others in the community to try fishing.

-I am working with the Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery to try and help with the plans to finish a youth fishing pond. This could be used in the future for the North Central Washington Youth Hunting and Fishing Day Event as well as an opportunity for the community to be educated about fishing and the environment.

**Dan Dickerson**  
**WDFW ADAAC Chairman**  
**Region 2**

# **ADA AC PROJECTS REPORT**

Chuck Grijalva – Region 3

I have been busy networking with various organizations. I have formed a small subcommittee of business leaders and avid outdoor enthusiasts. We hope to identify opportunities that we can improve in our area and can find funding.

I have reached out to the Boy Scouts to help with labor, etc. Possibly helping them earn merit badges and progressing through their ranks, too.

We have identified two areas we would like to improve handicap access for fishing. We are working with WDFW and may possibly will need to bring in the Corp of Engineers, City of Richland Parks and Recreation, and Yakama Nation as well.

We are trying to identify the placement of two duck/bird viewing blinds in Franklin County.

While not a lot of substance has been accomplished yet, we have multiple projects in the works. We also are establishing a solid foundation, to make future projects easier to accomplish.

**Chuck Grijalva**  
**ADA Advisory Committee Member**  
**Region 3**

# Enhanced Water Access Projects

## Ringold Springs Access Area

**Ownership:** Bureau of Reclamation

**Lessee:** WDFW

<i>Agency</i>	<i>Contact</i>
Bureau of Reclamation	??
WDFW (Lands)	Leah Hendrix, Cindi Confer Morris, Jorge Garcia
WDFW (Ringold Springs)	Mike Erickson

1. Parking at river at north access (old river pump station)
2. Bridge/trail at hatchery creek
3. Handicap boat parking (adjacent to canal)
4. Boat dock/ramp (along side/in canal)
5. Shoreline parking for bank angling at south launch

## Lower Yakima River

### Benton City Park

**Ownership:** WDFW

**Lessee:** Benton City

<i>Agency</i>	<i>Contact</i>
WDFW (Lands)	Leah Hendrix, Cindi Confer Morris, Jorge Garcia
Benton City	??

6. Fishing access platform

### Horn Rapids Park

**Ownership:** Bureau of Reclamation

**Lessee:** Benton County Parks & Recreation

<i>Agency</i>	<i>Contact</i>
Benton County	Adam Fyall
Bureau of Reclamation	??
WDFW (Lands)	Leah Hendrix, Cindi Confer Morris, Jorge Garcia

7. Fishing platform and trail at boat launch area

### Snively Access

**Ownership:** City of Richland

**Lessee:** WDFW

<i>Agency</i>	<i>Contact</i>
City of Richland	Phil Pinard
WDFW (Lands)	Leah Hendrix, Cindi Confer Morris, Jorge Garcia

8. Access trail

**Hyde Road/Van Giesen Access (potential)**

**Ownership:** City of Richland

**Lessee:** WDFW

*Agency*

City of Richland

WDFW (Lands)

*Contact*

Phil Pinard

Leah Hendrix, Cindi Confer Morris, Jorge Garcia

9. Access trail

**Bateman Island Access (work with agencies to implement fishing access into plans)**

**Ownership:** Department of Natural Resources

**Lessee:** City of Richland

*Agency*

DNR

WDFW (Habitat)

City of Richland

*Contact*

???

Mike Ritter

10. Access (fishing?)

**United States Army Corps of Engineers**

**Ice Harbor Road**

**Ownership:** US Army Corps of Engineers

*Agency*

USACE

USACE

*Contact*

Paul Shampine

Kye Carpenter

11. Fishing platform

**Columbia Point Access (potential)**

**Ownership:** US Army Corps of Engineers

**Lessee:** City of Richland

*Agency*

USACE

City of Richland

*Contact*

Paul Shampine

Phil Pinard

12. Access (fishing?)

**Hood Park Pond (potential)**

**Ownership:** US Army Corps of Engineers

*Agency*

USACE

USACE

*Contact*

Paul Shampine

Kye Carpenter

13. Fishing platform



1. Ringold Access: north bank fishing parking location



2. Ringold Access: hatchery creek crossing





3. Ringold Access: senior/disability vehicle/trailer parking



4. Ringold Access: senior/disability loading/unloading





5. Ringold Access: south bank fishing parking access



6. Benton City Fishing Platform



7. Horn Rapids Fishing Platform

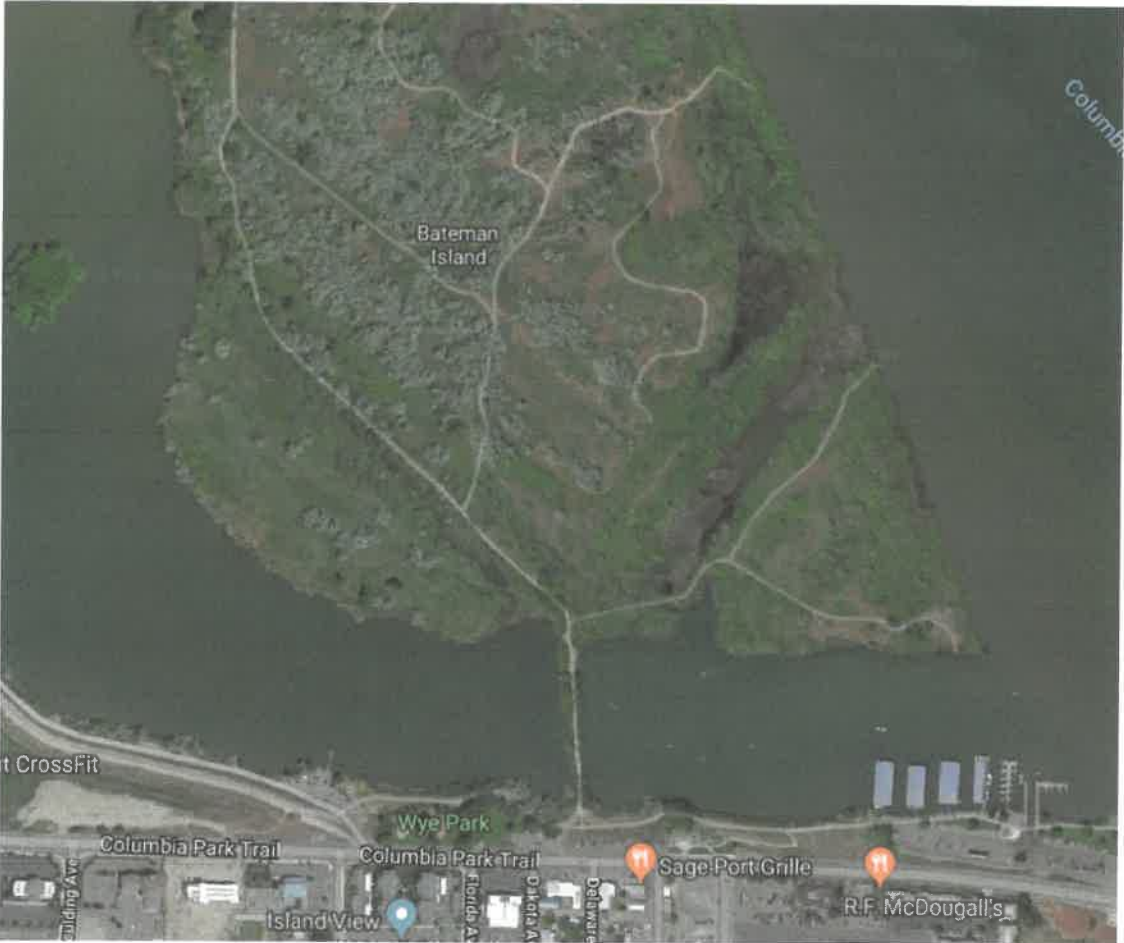


8. Snively fishing access path





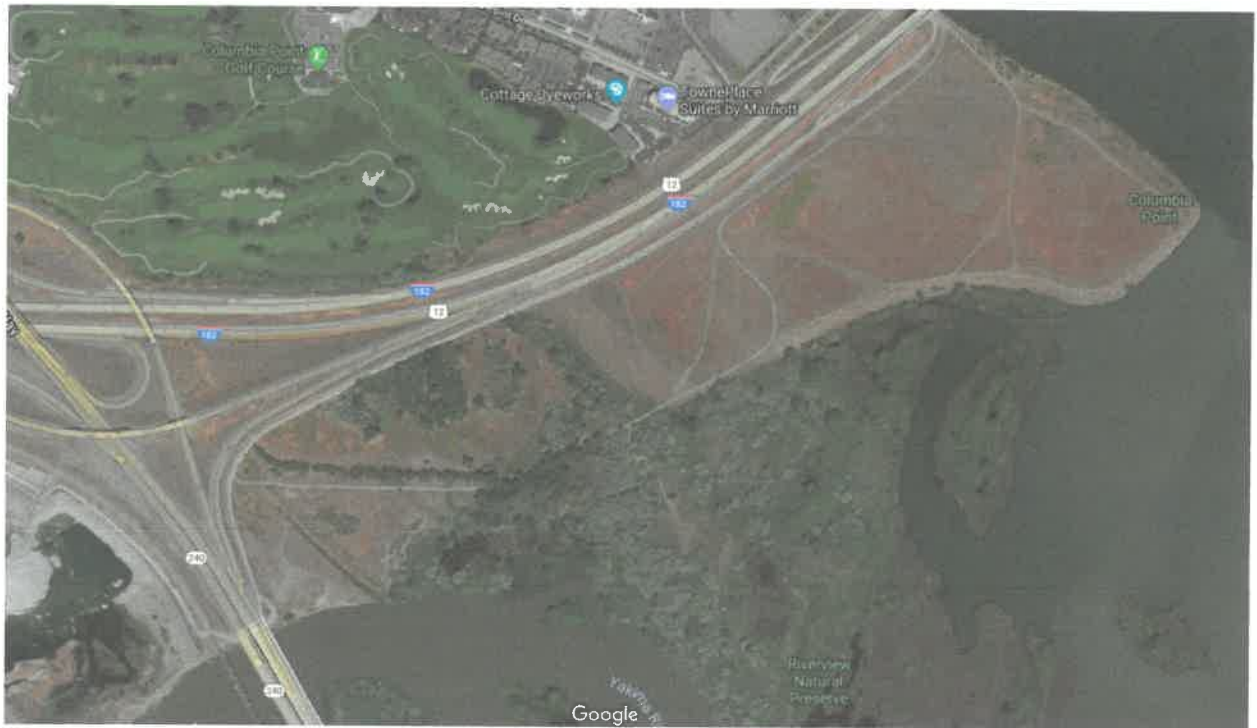
9. Hyde Road/Van Giesen Bridge Access



10. Bateman Island Access



11. Ice Harbor Road Fishing Platform



12. Columbia Point Access



13. Hood Park Fishing Platform

# ADA Advisory Committee Update

Rick Spring – Region 5

## **Completed Projects:**

Installation of five security street lights at the Langsdorf ADA Boat Launch in Region 5. This was a desperately needed addition to this location for safety and security. Cost was \$7,200. Paid for in full with a joint effort from The Vancouver Wildlife League (VWL) and the Association of Northwest Steelheaders (ANWS). The ADA Advisory Committee Member (ADAACM) of Region 5 was able to schedule the pole installation by Clark PUD so they would be installed on a community service workday, which saved \$1,200 off the total cost of the project. The user response has been overwhelming. Boaters no longer have to use flashlights or cell phones to launch their boats. DFW is funding the PUD billing at \$28.00 per month which includes maintains. In addition, a group of VWL members, with funds from VWL, put protective material on the dock to help protect equipment when launching. HOME RUN for our programs.

Installation of one 3Seasons Blind at the Riekkola Unit on the Willapa Bay National Wildlife Refuge, Region 6. This is a premier Goose hunting location. Only the ADA access was non-existent. With no ADAACM appointed to Region 6 at the time. The ADAACM from Region 5 was asked to help. With fantastic support from the Wildlife Refuge staff and two volunteers from the VWL, they were able to install our best program thus far. This project was funded by donations from the Refuge, a large contribution from the VWL, and with lots of Volunteer hours. This project was also such a success that another blind has been requested to be built in 2019 for ADA Wildlife viewing.

**This location should be on every ADA goose hunters bucket list.**

**Note:** The National Wildlife Refuge System now has three of these blinds on their property. With these installations came a review by NFWS Engineers and now meet NFWS ADA Compliance. Along with WDFW ADA Project Manager compliance.

The region 5 Committee member was asked to join the Willapa National Wildlife Refuge Hunter Working Group, and will be attending there annual meeting March 24, 2018. Helping them move forward with their ADA programs.



## **Past Projects:**

The Shillapoo wildlife area was the first 3Seasons blind installed. This was an all welded unit. The ADAACM of Region 5 was able to have our local Community Collages welding training programs weld the unit complete as a graduation project at no cost. The unit was welded for the ability to move it off the property to prevent vandalism. Only the work done by the camouflage volunteers was so fantastic it was never touched. It has remained on location and has a fantastic user rate. The user rate numbers on all these blinds is way beyond expectations. The Two at Ridgefield NWR went from 6% to 12% to over 80% last season. Now considered the first choice when blind selections are made. It has gotten necessary to do a separate draw for the use of these ADA blinds.

## **Proposed Projects:**

The 3Seasons ADA Wildlife Viewing/Hunting Blinds have brought a new dimension to WDFW ADA Program. The Committee is proposing at least one of these blinds be set up in every region. There is a working plan at the ready to start this program. The current plan is to put two blinds in Region 3, Sunnyside. The ADAACM in Region 3 has met with the local DFW Biologist and is preparing for this build season, if funds are made available. A blind was lost last season due to fire. This project would not be possible without the hard work from Chuck Grijalva, ADAACM in region 3.

## **Current Project:**

As the Commission may or may not know the Vancouver Lake recreation area has a Trap Shooting Station. This is a great place for our hunters to practice their shot gunning skills. It is a safe steel shot only location and gets a surprisingly large amount of use. The Region 5 ADAAC member suggested to the VWL membership to cover the shooting station to protect the users from the weather. This will be an 18' X 20' pole building with a steel roof. There will be a 6' X 6' concrete pad for locking a wheelchair in place to shoot. There is an existing table that will be modified to ADA standards and a treated gravel surface approved for wheelchair use. The project proposal is in the hands of our Region 5 Manager and the permit package is being put together by our local DFW Biologist and the Region 5 committee member. State approved plans are on order and a materials list and bid for cost is done. The permit cost it around \$1,900. The soft material cost is around \$2,000. The total cost with all the extras



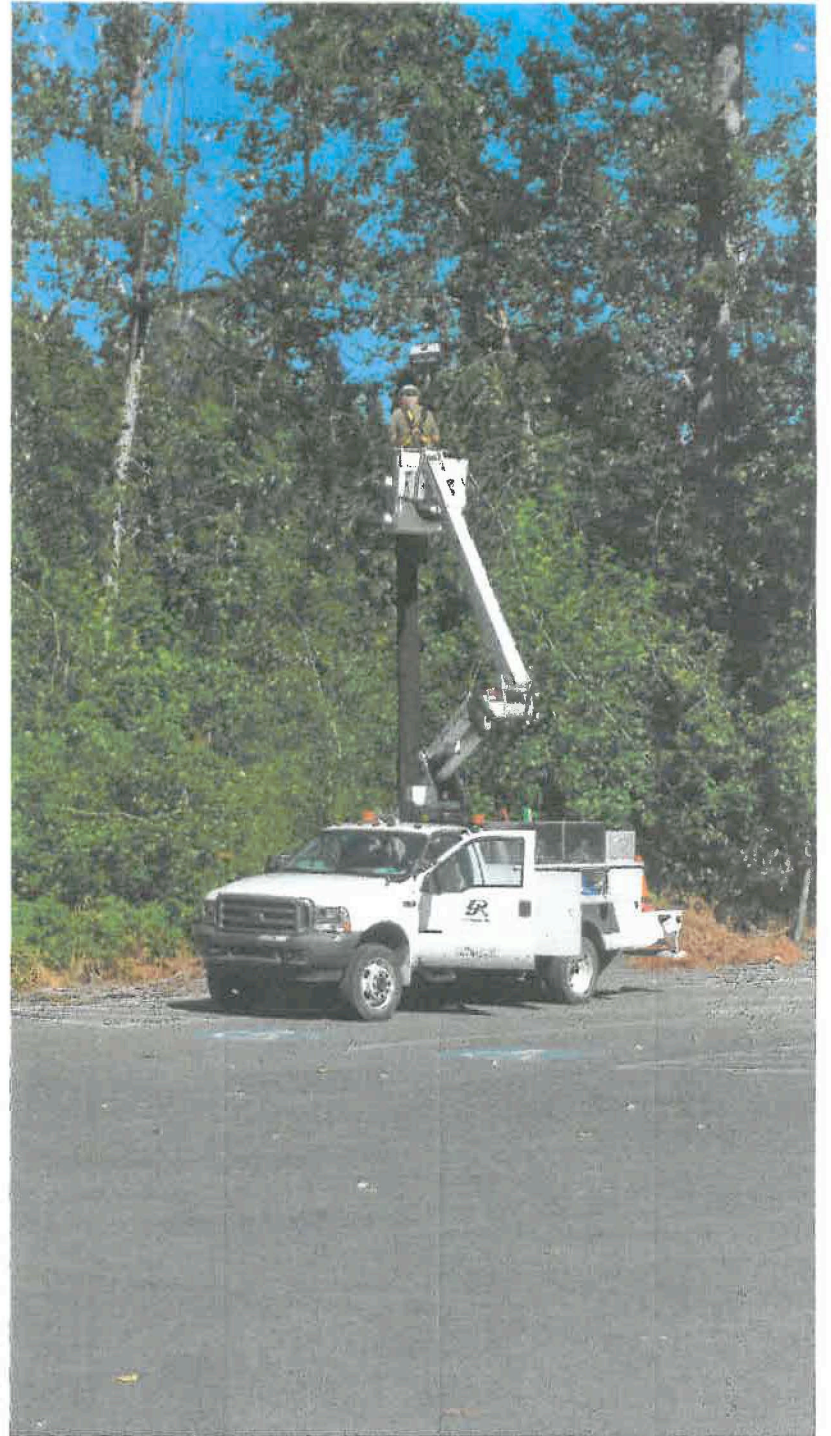
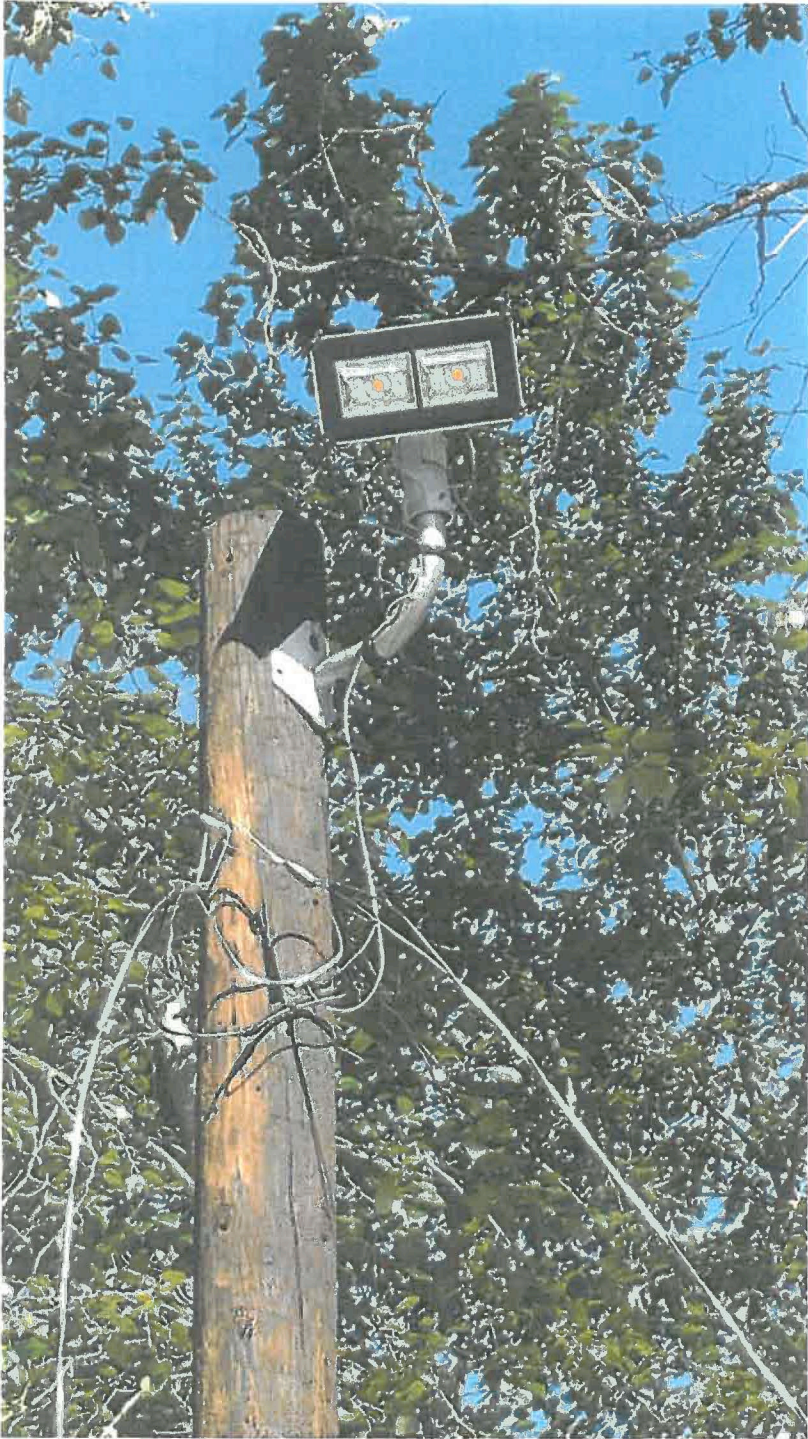
cement, etc. will be around \$5,200. This funding is being donated 100% by The Vancouver Wildlife League. There are already events planned for a Youth Workshop, to prepare for pheasant hunting season.

**Note:** Rick Spring, ADAACM in Region 5 has other more ambitious projects on the drawing board. The VWL has taken a new direction, which is to complete at least one substantial ADA project in region 5 every year. Along with our other workings with DFW. The Commission's support in these projects is very important. With working together, we can create a more user-friendly outdoor experience for our ADA citizens of Washington State. If it were not for the support of VWL, DFW, and a line of local vendor/contributors to long to list, we would not have the success we are current experiencing.

**Thank you so much for your time.**

Rick Spring  
ADA Advisory Committee Member  
Region 5













# ADA TRAP SHOOTING PAVILLION

## Project Proposal

Rick Spring – Region 5

The Vancouver Wildlife League with the support of the Washington Fish and Wildlife ADA Advisory Committee would like to improve the Vancouver Lake Trap Shooting Station into a wheelchair accessible and ADA user-friendly condition.

Our plan is to improve the path from the parking in front on the current information sign and create a more wheelchair accessible area around the existing table. Then we wish to build an 18 X 20-foot overhead cover or Pavilion with a height to be determined. This will give the users the protection and comfort they may need to enjoy the shooting sports and a day out doors in our unpredictable NW weather.

This project will be funded and maintained by the Vancouver Wildlife League and constructed will be done by an all-Volunteer team. Naturally, the League will need the support and cooperation of Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) to keep this area in good condition.

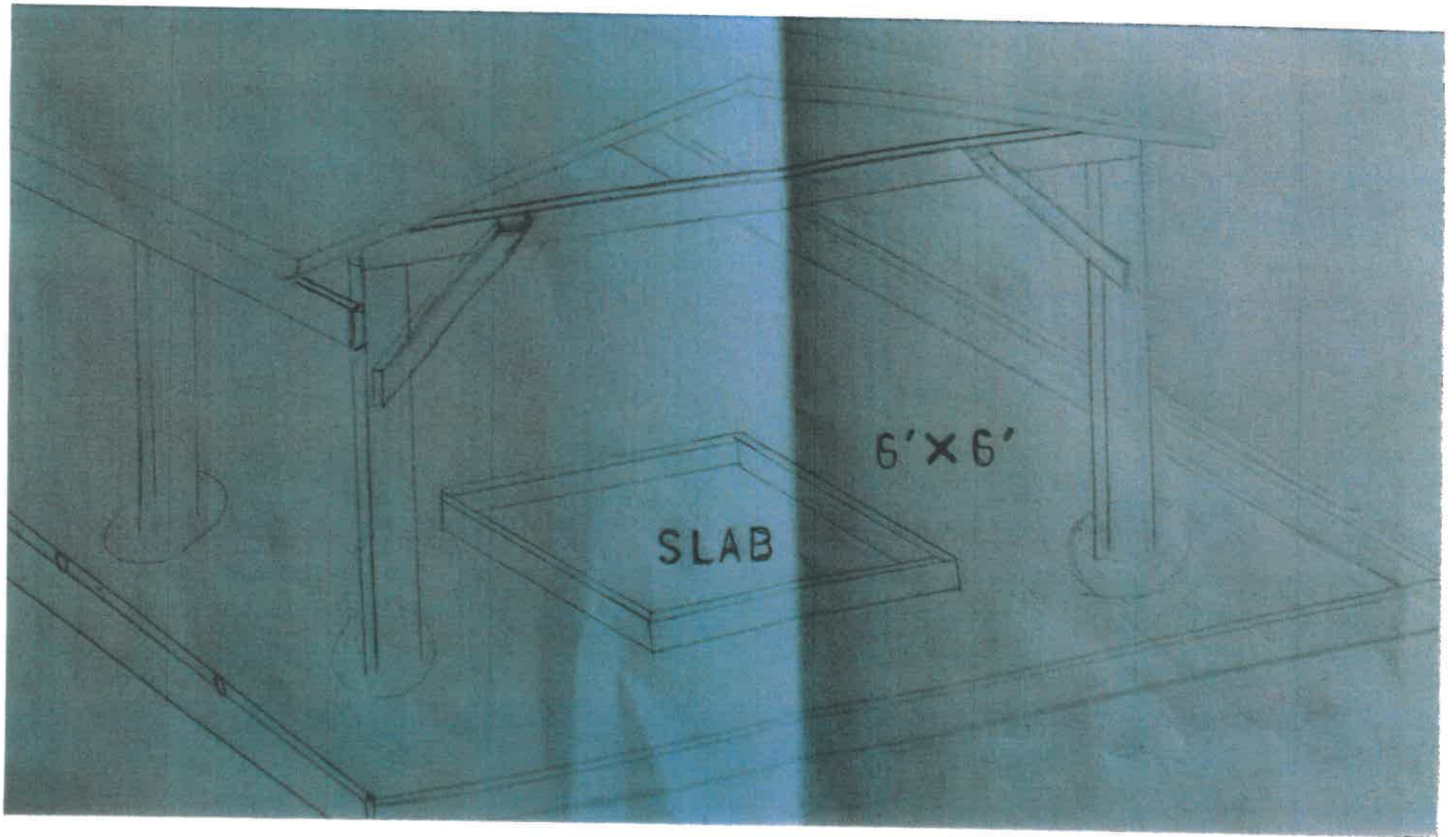
The Vancouver Wildlife League is very motivated towards making lasting improvements to our outdoor recreation areas. This Pavilion will provide a variety of uses not only for trap shooting but for other events as well. Such as, the Youth Pheasant Hunt and there has been interest expressed in doing some pheasant hunting training for youth and adults to help promote our pheasant release program by enhancing the skills of the hunters. With this improvement, workshops can be planned without fear of weather cancellations and the list goes on.

We will also need the help and cooperation from DFW for the permits and any other legal permission that will be needed. We have located plans for the project and need to know if they are adequate for this project. Any Questions about this project can be directed to the Vancouver Wildlife League or the project manager Rick Spring.

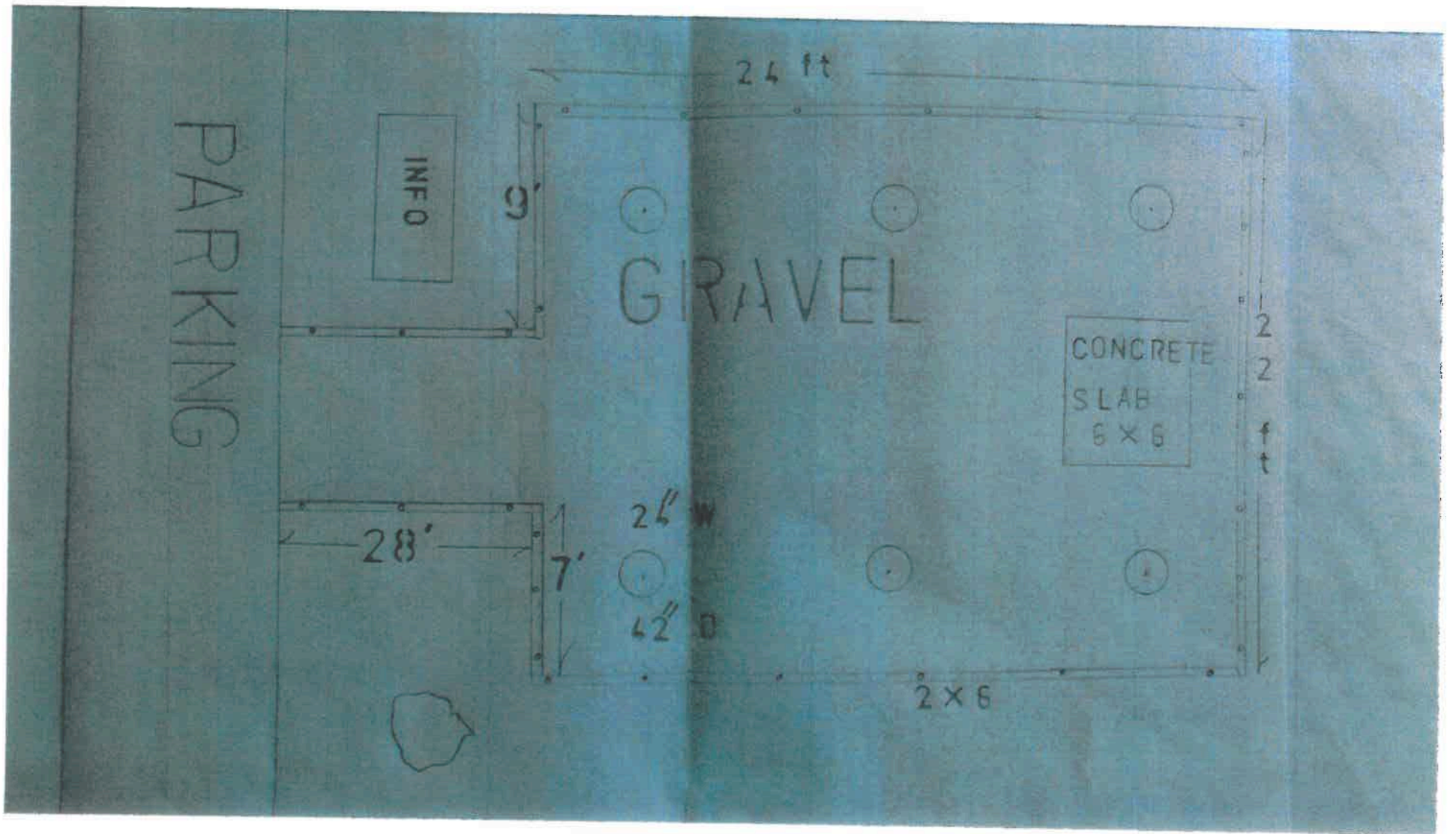
**Rick Spring**  
**ADA Advisory Committee Member**  
**Region 5**











## **ADA Committee Projects**

Carol Evanoff – Region 6

1. Help WDFW website team to add an interactive GIS Map for ADA accessible sites.
2. Work with Region 6 Biologists to identify locations for ADA accessible fishing at hatcheries.
3. Clallam Bay-Sekiu Mason's Resort (formerly Olson's Resort) is interested in selling the facility, which provides the only public boat ramp between Port Angeles and Neah Bay not dependent on the tides. WDFW has proposed purchasing the existing four-lane boat ramp and two parking areas in Sekiu for public use. This project will ensure continued public access to the Strait of Juan de Fuca from a highly popular boat launch that has been in continuous operation since 1939. I have petitioned to make the boat launch handicap accessible, and will be tracking the project.

**Carol Evanoff**  
**ADA Advisory Committee Member**  
**Region 6**

# **ADA Advisory Committee Project**

## **Assessment of the Fish & Wildlife Programs**

Melissa Espinosa – At Large

- I. Compile a list of anglers/hunters/huntresses with disabilities
  - A. Here & Now Organization
  - B. Friends/acquaintances
  - C. Good Samaritan Rehabilitation
  - D. Spina Bifida Association
  - E. Reclaiming Ourselves
  - F. Youth Outdoors Unlimited
  
- II. Conduct interviews
  - A. Introduction of my position serving on the ADA Advisory Committee
  - B. Questions for interview
    - Have you taken advantage of Washington’s Fish & Wildlife programs and services offered to persons with a disability?
    - If yes, how did you become aware of the programs offered?
    - Have you encountered challenges with any of the programs or services offered?
    - How have you benefited from the Fish & Wildlife programs?
    - Do you have any recommendations to help improve program effectiveness?
  
- III. Assessing the feedback
  
- IV. Type summary

**Melissa Espinosa**  
**ADA Advisory Committee**  
**Region At-Large**

# **ADA Advisory Committee Projects**

Melissa Espinosa – At Large

## **2019 “Road Show” for anglers/hunters/huntresses with disabilities**

The goal of this project is to have more representation at events and improve the outreach, education and marketing of the Fish & Wildlife programs targeted for persons with a disability. The purpose is to provide anglers and hunter/huntresses with disabilities information regarding resources, programs, services, and adaptive equipment. This outreach will effectively reach the disabled community in a variety of arenas and help promote all the programs offered.

## **Assessment of the Fish & Wildlife programs for persons with a disabilities**

The goal of this project is to conduct interviews with anglers/hunters/huntresses with disabilities by engaging them into conversations regarding their personal experiences with the Fish & Wildlife programs. The purpose is to better understand the needs of the disabled population and identify the gaps in the programs. The data gathered will address strengths, weaknesses and areas for improvements for future programs and policies.

**Melissa Espinosa**  
**ADA Advisory Committee**  
**Region At-Large**

# **ADA Advisory Committee Project**

## **“2019 Road Show” Outline**

Melissa Espinosa – At Large

### V. Contacts

- G. Sportsmen’s show coordinator
- H. Fish & Wildlife – Public Affairs and Volunteer Coordinator
- I. Dolores Noyes
- J. Event Coordinators

### VI. Events

- A. Sportsmen’s Shows
  1. Washington Sportsmen’s Show – Puyallup, WA (January)
  2. Tri-Cities Sportsmen’s Show – Pasco, WA (January)
  3. Wenatchee Valley Sportsmen’s Show – Wenatchee, WA (February)
  4. Portland Expo Center – Portland, OR (February)
  5. Central Washington Sportsmen Show – Yakima, WA ( February)
  6. Big Horn Outdoor Adventure Show – Spokane, WA (March)
- B. Here & Now events
- C. Seattle Adaptive sports events
- D. Northwest Paralyzed Veterans of America events
- E. Fish & Wildlife events
- F. Disability community events
- G. Adult/youth fishing/hunting events
- H. Cabela’s events

### VII. Programs

- A. Hunting
  1. Road Access Entry Program – Dolores Noyes
  2. Reduced fees
  3. Special use permits
- B. Fishing
  1. Reduced fees
  2. Special use permits
  3. ADA access to lakes, ponds, ramps and piers
- C. Waterfowl
  1. ADA hunting and wildlife viewing blinds
- D. Enforcement
- E. Other

- VIII. Literature
  - A. Fish & Wildlife website address
  - B. Road Access Entry Program
  - C. Accessing Washington's Outdoors for Persons with Disabilities brochure
  - D. List of accessible trails in Washington
  - E. List of waterfowl blinds located in Washington
  - F. Water access sites
  - G. Products and services for persons with disabilities
  - H. Handouts/press releases/stories
  - I. ADA Advisory Committee Information
  
- IX. Adaptive Equipment
  - A. Bows
  - B. Fishing rods and reels
  - C. Rifles
  - D. Duck calls
  
- X. Display/Table
  - A. Table
    - 1. Table cover
    - 2. Literature
  - B. Display Board
  - C. Attire
  
- XI. Proposal for Commission
  
- XII. Other

**Melissa Espinosa**  
**ADA Advisory Committee Member**  
**Region – At Large**