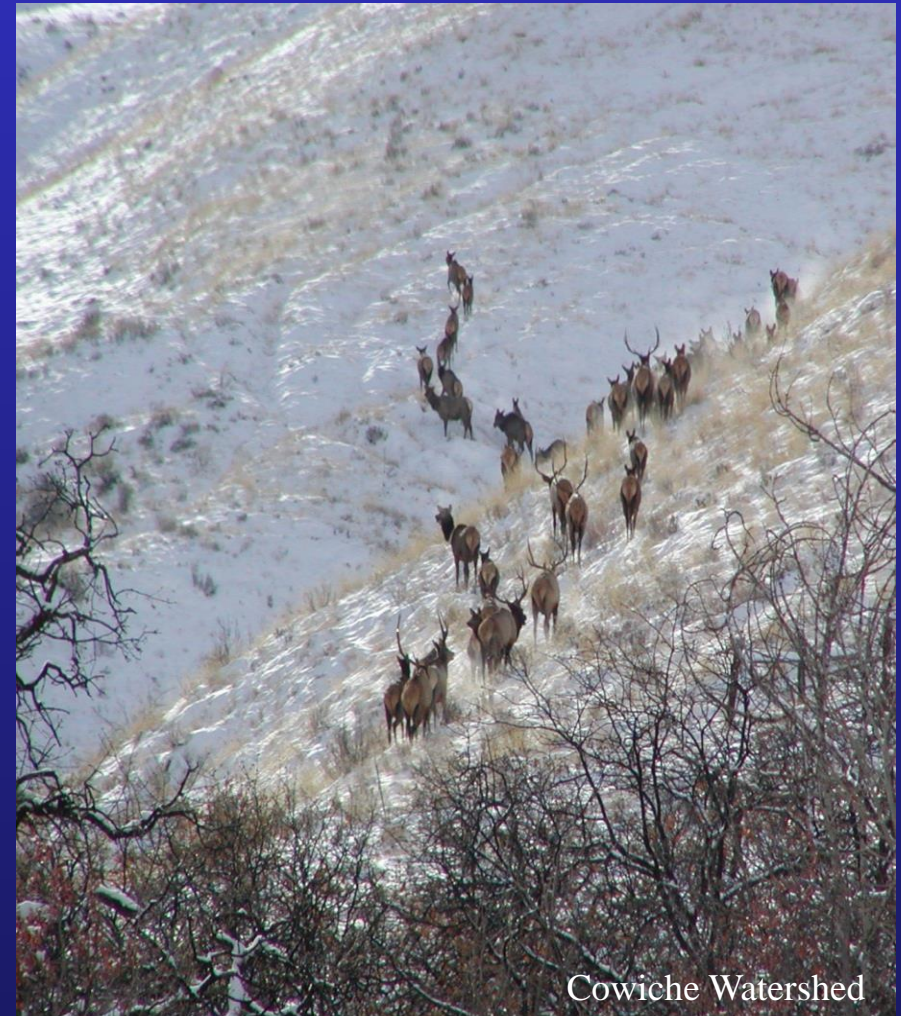


Operations and Maintenance of WDFW Public Lands



Why Own and Manage Lands?

- To protect, restore, and enhance fish and wildlife and their habitats.
- To provide sustainable fish and wildlife-related recreational opportunities.

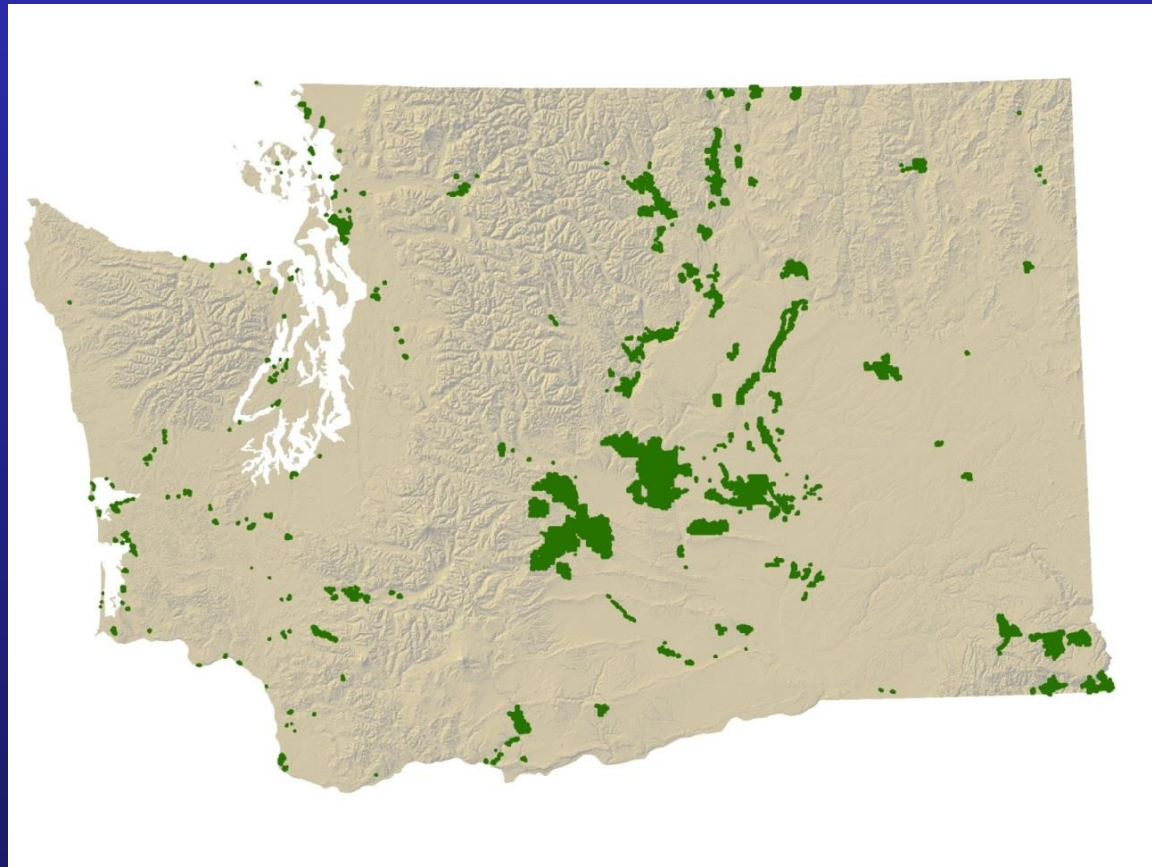


WDFW Public Lands Strengthen Shared Values



Wildlife Area and Water Access Sites

- 1,000,000 acres of WDFW Lands
 - 33 Wildlife Areas
 - 215 Units
- 690 Water Access Sites
 - Lakes, Rivers, Salt Water



Wildlife Area and Water Access Site Staffing

- Regional Staff
 - 77 permanent
 - 60+ temp
- Statewide Specialists
 - Foresters, Range Ecologist, Vegetation Restoration Ecologist, Archaeologist, Water Rights Specialist, Weed Coordinator, Planners
- Administration (HQ functions)



Wildlife Area and Water Access Site Operations & Maintenance Activities

- Weed Management
- Habitat Restoration & Monitoring
- Planning
- Coordination with Neighbors
- Wildlife Feeding
- Farming
- Forestry
- Recreation Management
- Maintenance of:
 - Camp Sites, Boat Ramps, Toilets, Signs, Facilities, ADA Sites, Equipment, Fences, Gates, Roads, Trails, Parking Lots, Lakes/Ponds/Streams, Water Control Structures, Nest Boxes, etc.



Wildlife Area Planning

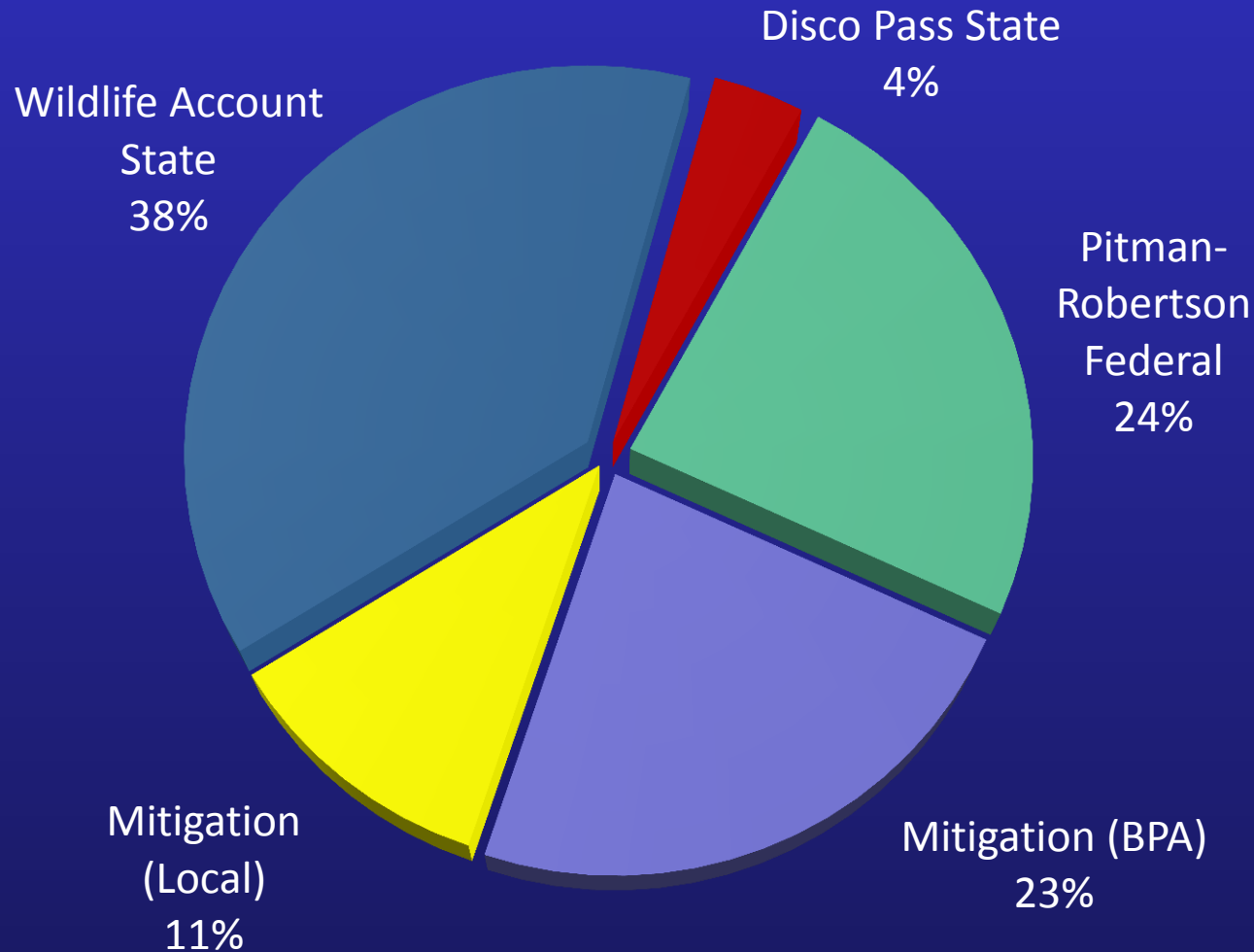
Purpose

- Wildlife Area Management Plans guide all management activities that occur on the wildlife area and establish management priorities for 10 years.
- Plans ensure lands are managed consistent with the WDFW mission, strategic plan, and funding sources.
- Plans are developed with public input and will provide information on what can be found at the wildlife area; recreational opportunities; and how fish, wildlife, and their habitats are protected and conserved.

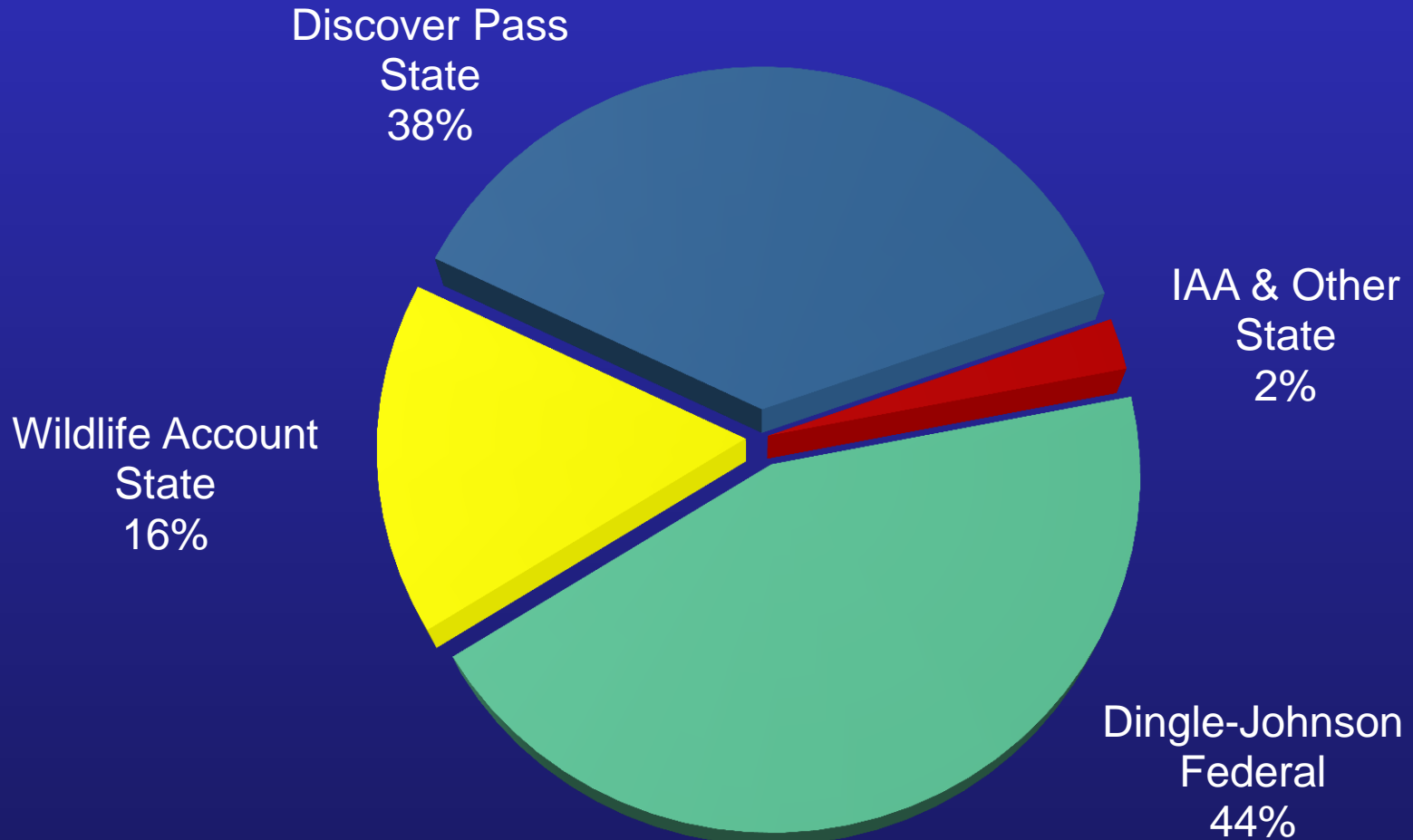
Wildlife Area and Water Access Site Operation and Maintenance Funding

- Base Operating Budget
- Working Lands Partnerships Revenue
- Other Revenue
- Capital Projects Funding
- Grants/Partnerships Funding
- Other Program/Division Efforts on WDFW Lands

Wildlife Area O&M Base Budget \$9 Million Annual



Water Access Site O&M Base Budget \$1.5 Million Annual



Working Lands Partnerships

Revenue From Forestry, Farming, Grazing

- Revenue for land operations and maintenance:
 - Restores forest health for fish and wildlife.
 - Reduces wildfire risk to local communities.
 - Provides food and cover for wildlife.
 - Hunting and wildlife viewing opportunity.
 - Private income to logger, log hauler, mills, farmer, rancher.
 - Contributes to local economy.
 - Preserves community character.

Working Lands: Methow Wildlife Area Forest Thinning & Burning

Improve Forest Health; Reduce Fire Risk; Revenue



Working Lands: Skagit Wildlife Area Farming Partnership

Food for Snow Geese; Recreation; Revenue



Working Lands: Sunnyside Wildlife Area Farming Partnership

Food for Sandhill Cranes; Recreation; Revenue



Other Revenue Cooperative & Entrepreneurial Opportunities

- Wildhorse Wind Farm
- Cell Tower
- Gorge Amphitheatre
- Mission Ridge Ski Area



Capital Projects Funding

\$7 to \$13 Million per Biennium

- \$2.15M Road improvements on several wildlife areas.
- \$2.9M Fencing on several wildlife areas.
- \$60K Colockum bridge and road repair.
- \$408K Toilet replacements on 7 access sites.
- \$536K Diamond Lake boat ramp replacement.
- \$346K Chilliwist irrigation system renovation.
- \$1.4M Cherry Valley fish passage culverts.
- \$1.89M Beebe Springs trail & infrastructure development.
- \$1.3M Road maint. & abandonment several wildlife areas.
- \$6.2M Water access site renovation & improvements.
- \$3M Wooten flood plain improvements.
- \$800K Forest health thinning and prescribed burns.

Capital Projects: Lake Terrell Fishing Pier Development

- \$450,000
- Fishing Pier
- ADA Restroom
- Parking
- Grading



Capital Projects: Reardon/Audubon Viewing Blind Development

- \$280,000
- ADA Trail & Restroom
- Two Parking Lots
- Two Viewing Blinds



Grants/Partnerships Funding

Partnerships

- Regional Fisheries Enhancement Groups
In-stream and Riparian Restoration
- Natural Resources Conservation Services
WHIP/EQUIP
- Army Compatible Use Buffer (ACUB) Prairie Restoration

Grants

- WWRP State Land Restoration
- WWRP State Land Development
- Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation

Partnerships: Scatter Creek Prairie Habitat Restoration

- ~\$400,000/yr
- Weed Control
- Prescribed Burning
- Species Reintroduction



Grants: State Land Restoration

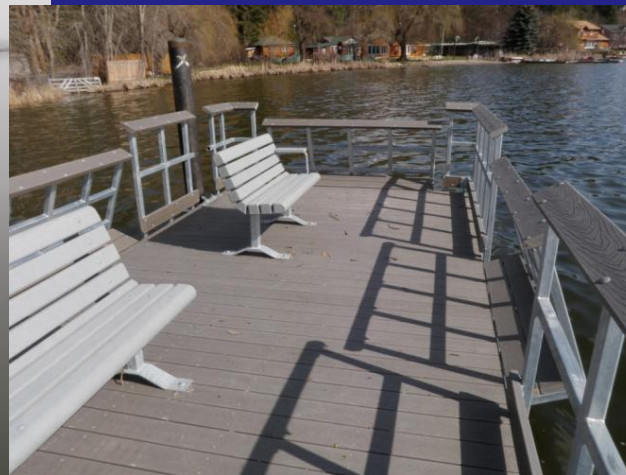
Sinlahekin Forest Health Restoration

- \$850,000
- Forest Thinning
- Prescribed Burns
- Ecological Integrity Assessment



Grants: State Land Development Newman Lake Water Access Site

- \$250,000
- Fishing Float
- Boat Ramp
- ADA Restroom
- Kiosk



Other Program/Division Efforts on WDFW Lands

Funded Efforts

- Colockum Elk Herd Study
- Pheasant Release
- Sharp-tail and Sage Grouse Reintroductions
- Winter Wildlife Feeding
- Law Enforcement
- Outreach and Education



Public Recreation on WDFW Lands

- Hunting, Fishing, Wildlife Viewing
- Dispersed Recreation
- Diverse Recreational Opportunity: camping, hiking, biking, cross country skiing, snowshoeing, swimming, boating, picnicking, geocaching, climbing, hang gliding, etc.
- Commercial Use Opportunity (permit needed): rafting, mountain bike events, etc.



Public Use Rules on WDFW Lands

WAC 220-500

- Aircraft
- Behavior and Conduct
- Camping
- Fires and Campfires
- Fireworks
- Commercial Use or Activity
- Dumping and Sanitation
- Enforcement
- Camps, Blinds, and Tree Stands
- Regulating Public Access
- Parking
- Pets
- Firearms and Target Practicing

Looking Forward

- Recreation Strategy
- Enhanced Awareness and Engagement Efforts
- Innovative Stewardship Approaches
- Showcase for Conservation and Restoration Success
- Place-based Connections to Local Community Values



Thank You!

