

TR-071982

WASHINGTON



UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION  
COMMISSION

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WASH. UT. & TP. COMM

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**GRADE CROSSING PROTECTIVE FUND  
APPLICATION FOR FUNDING**

The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (commission), through its Grade Crossing Protective Fund (GCPF), funds projects that eliminate or mitigate public safety hazards at railroad crossings and along railroad rights-of-way in Washington State. Any public, private, or non-profit entity may submit an application to the commission for GCPF monies.

**Please complete and submit the following information as part of the application process:**

**Applicant Information**

Applicant Name:	Aaron Schwarz
Organization:	Chehalis-Centralia Railroad & Museum
Address:	1945 South Market Blvd.
Phone:	206-724-1918
E-mail:	<a href="mailto:aaron.schwarz@gmail.com">aaron.schwarz@gmail.com</a>
Fax:	

Please list all other companies, organizations or state or local agencies that may be involved in implementing this proposal and the contact name, address and phone number for each.

**Project Information**

1. *Provide a detailed summary of the hazard being addressed. Include:*
  - *Any information about accidents or incidents at the site.*
  - *Photographs, drawings or other materials that supports the application.*
  
2. *Provide a detailed description of the proposed project and explain how it will eliminate or mitigate the hazard. Include any drawings or construction plans for the proposed project.*

## Grade Crossing Protection Fund Application Form

### **Applicant Information**

Agencies involved in this project:

Chehalis-Centralia Railroad & Museum  
1945 South Market Blvd.  
Chehalis, WA 98532  
Attn: Aaron Schwarz  
(206) 724-1918

Port of Chehalis  
321 Maurin Road  
Chehalis, WA 98532  
Attn: Rick Rouse (360) 748-9365

### **Project Information**

1. The hazard being addressed in this application is motorcycle/ATV trespassers on the Port of Chehalis owned rail line, west of Chehalis, Washington. The line's previous owner Weyerhaeuser stockpiled ballast at the Milburn location near Spooner Road. The CCR&M inherited the ballast pile from the railroad owner as well as the difficulties with trespassers. Trespassers on railroad right of way include ATV/motorcycles, bikes, and 4x4s that frequent the large rock pile and are often encountered by train crews. The motorcycles ride down the sides of the rock pile filling the track with excess rock and making it unsafe for trains operating through the area.

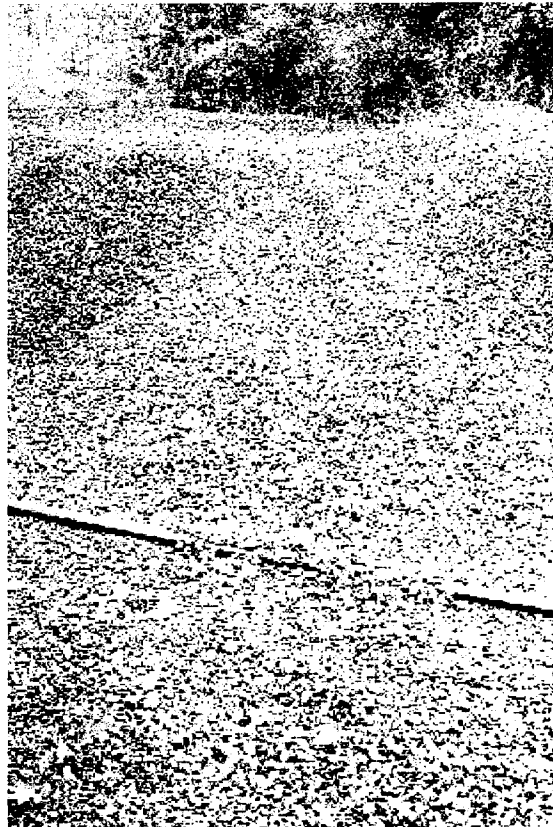


**Photo 1: Unprotected entrance to Milburn ballast pile off of Spooner Road, (US DOT crossing #848781E) west of Adna, Washington.**

Grade Crossing Protection Fund Application Form



**Photo 2: View of Milburn ballast pile site looking east toward Spooner Road Crossing (US DOT 848781E). On the right, one can see the motorcycle/ATV tracks that head toward the rail.**



**Photo 3: Near the west end of the ballast pile, recent evidence of trespassers is present, which shows the ease for motorcycles to access the pile and the potential for safety concerns for passing railroad equipment and trains moving through the area.**

## Grade Crossing Protection Fund Application Form

- The CCR&M respectfully requests funding to address a trespassing hazard by constructing a gate, and physical barrier to prevent trespasser access to railroad right of way. A gate will eliminate direct access to the ballast pile and a physical barrier constructed of concrete ecology blocks will prohibit motorcycles and ATV's from climbing the ballast, thus making the right of way safer for passing trains.

### 3. Cost Estimates

72 ecology blocks	\$3300.00 (price includes delivery and placement)
Fabrication of metal gate	\$ 500.00
Cement for gate	\$ 50.00
Equipment rental to move rock/gate	<u>\$1000.00</u>

**TOTAL** **\$4850.00**

Glacier Cement (blocks, trucking, and placement)

Centralia Welding (gate)

United Rental (equipment to move rock away from track in order to clear track)

- The Chehalis-Centralia Railroad & Museum is responsible for long term maintenance on the railroad line. The line itself is owned by the Port of Chehalis.

### 5. Timeline of Project (if approved):

October 17	Give specifications to contractors, order blocks and gate.
November 1	Begin project
November 16	Complete project
November 19	Submit required documents to WUTC for reimbursement

- The project's success will be measured in two ways:
  - By eliminating access for trespassers on motorcycles/ATVs/4x4's to the Milburn ballast pile site.
  - Reduction/elimination of trespassers on right-of-way through Milburn ballast pile site, thus enabling CCR&M trains to pass through the area with out rock deposited over the rail head.

- Due to the large size of the rock pile (210 feet), minimal yearly use of material by the railroad, and expense of moving the entire pile, constructing a gate and physical barrier is the most effective means of addressing trespassers on railroad right of way, at the lowest cost.

- Indemnification: The Port, its employees and agents, shall not be liable for any injury, including death and any occupational injury, to any person, or for damage to any property, regardless of how such injury or damage be caused, sustained or alleged to have been sustained by the CCR&M, CCR&M's employees, agents, assigns, invitees, licensees, independent contractors or by any others as the result of any condition, or defect in the Premises, fixtures, or occurrence whatsoever related in any way to the leased Premises and the areas adjacent thereto,

## Grade Crossing Protection Fund Application Form

fixtures or related in any way to the CCR&M's use or occupancy of said Premises and of the areas adjacent thereto, the fixtures and equipment. The CCR&M shall hold and save the Port harmless from all liability and/or expense, including expense of litigation, in connection with any such items of actual or alleged injury or damage. Nothing in the above shall be construed as indemnifying the Port should liability result from the sole negligence of the Port, its employees or agents.

9. See attached railroad commitment form.

**Railroad Commitment**

The undersigned represents the Railroad Company in the GCPF application described as (enter a brief description):

***The undersigned is the Executive Director of the Port of Chehalis. The Port of Chehalis is owner of the Curtis, Milburn & Eastern railroad extending from Chehalis, WA to Curtis, WA. The Port is also the owner of the large rock pile shown herein. With Port Commission approval, the undersigned is authorized to sign on behalf of the Port for all business related to the Curtis, Milburn & Eastern railroad line.***

We have reviewed the application and are satisfied the conditions are the same as described by the applicant in this matter. We agree to allow construction, modification or demolition on a railroad right-of-way as described in the application.

Jim Rothlin

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed name of Railroad Representative

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Railroad Representative

Executive Director, Port of Chehalis

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

360-748-9365

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone

jrothlin@portofchehalis.com

\_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail

Date: \_\_\_\_\_