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Part II: SCORP Implementation Program and Part III: Open Project Selection Process



State and Local Government Priorities for Outdoor Recreation Projects funded by the Land and Water Conservation Fund

Prepared by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Office of Planning

STATE COMPREHENSIVE OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN PART II: SCORP IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM AND PART III: OPEN PROJECT SELECTION PROCESS

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A. INTRODUCTION

BACKGROUND

> Congress passed the Land and Water Conservation Fund (L&WCF) Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-578). Congress recognized that states needed comprehensive outdoor recreation plans in order to best use this new form of federal funding. Accordingly, Congress required states to prepare a Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) as a prerequisite to receiving L&WCF grants. The Act requires states to update recreation plans every five years to reflect changes in outdoor recreation needs and priorities.

Since the L&WCF Program began in 1965, Minnesota has received over \$57 million in federal funds for recreation-related land acquisition and facility development. About half has been used for land acquisition and the remainder for facility development. State and local units of government have matched these funds, funneling over \$110 million into outdoor recreation projects.

Competition for L&WCF dollars is intense. In recent years, less than \$.06 of federal L&WCF funding has been available for each dollar requested. In 1993, \$439,000 in L&WCF funding was awarded for state and local grants in Minnesota from the nearly \$5 million in grant proposals that were submitted. Despite decreasing apportionments, L&WCF provides one of the few sources of funding for many local park and recreation programs.

The SCORP planning process included preparation of three elements and one additional document.

- 1) *Five Year Assessment and Policy Plan:* This plan identifies issues, strategies and objectives for the 1995-1999 period. It serves as a guide for public and private recreation providers in meeting future recreation needs. The current Assessment and Policy plan extends from 1995 to 1999. The next plan will extend from 2000 to 2004.
- 2) *Five Year Implementation Program:* The *Implementation Program* includes high priority actions and L&WCF priorities for the same five year planning period, 1995 1999. Formerly, an Action Program was prepared on a biennial basis. This plan, though prepared for a five year period may be updated after two years. Part II of this document is the Action Program, now titled the Implementation Program. Funding priorities established in the implementation Program do not necessarily reflect all of Minnesota's outdoor recreation funding needs only those eligible for L&WCF support and those funded through the state's legislative efforts.
- 3) *Open Projects Selection Process (OPSP):* The OPSP provides a systematic and objective method of selecting specific acquisition and development projects to be funded by the L&WCF grant program. The OPSP includes a priority ranking system which awards points to grant applications based on how well they address priorities established in the Implementation Program. L&WCF grants are available only to state and local units of government. Part III of this document is the OPSP.

Wetland Plan: The Minnesota Wetland Plan will identify policies and actions needed to protect the state's wetland heritage. It is not intended as a five year plan - rather as a first step in an ongoing planning process to better manage the state's wetland heritage. The plan will be updated periodically as needed. The plan currently is being developed by the DNR Division of Fish and Wildlife and should be available for public use in 1995. ◆

B. SCORP PLANNING PROCESS

Minnesota's SCORP was developed over a multi-year period through the following processes and participation efforts.

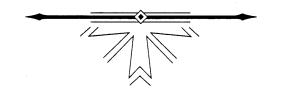
- ORPAC Process: The DNR Outdoor Recreation Planning Advisory Committee (ORPAC) was established to guide development of SCORP. ORPAC members represent a broad spectrum of recreation interests. ORPAC met about once a month during 1993. ORPAC developed and prioritized the outdoor recreation issues. Staff from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources provided facilitation, meeting management and draft preparation services.
- 2) **Public Input:** Input from Minnesota citizens and interest groups was sought at a series of meetings in the fall of 1993. Public meetings were held in Rochester, St. Paul, Grand Rapids, Brainerd, Bemidji, and New Ulm. Public input was used to determine perspectives on the major issues and to raise additional ideas on objectives and strategies.
- 3) **DNR Outdoor Recreation Coordinating Committee (ORCC):** ORCC includes representatives of each DNR discipline with responsibility for recreation programs or activities (Divisions of Enforcement, Forestry, Fish and Wildlife, Minerals, Parks and Recreation, Trails and Waterways, Waters). ORCC helped identify issues and reviewed SCORP drafts.
- 4) **DNR Directions:** "DNR Directions For Natural Resources (1993)" is the DNR's strategic planning document. It identifies goals and strategies for a broad range of resource issues and provides a guiding framework by which documents such as SCORP can be prepared and reviewed. Directions states:

"We will provide opportunities to enjoy our outdoor recreation resources by developing and maintaining safe, accessible outdoor recreation facilities and by documenting the benefits people and communities receive from recreation activities."

"DNR Directions" provides a basis for SCORP actions that reflect a state or DNR perspective but it does not reflect local priorities.

5) Supply and Demand: Existing supply of outdoor recreation facilities has been considered with respect to recreation demand using previously collected data. Strategic planning efforts continuously guide a reappraisal of facility development priorities. ◆

4)



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II. SCORP IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM

A. INTRODUCTION

> The Implementation Program indicates priorities for actions that state and local governments anticipate taking in the next five years to address high priority recreation issues. SCORP high priority issues provide a basis for the OPSP. In all likelihood, projects that address high priority actions will receive a L&WCF funding preference. However, projects that address only medium priority actions also may be considered.

State and local government recreation priorities differ due to the often unique roles and responsibilities that each assumes in providing outdoor recreation. The State of Minnesota provides a broad range of recreation programs, facilities and services in response to demands from a diverse state and national clientele. State agencies also assume responsibility for protecting and managing Minnesota's environment and natural resources, and for regulating and enforcing aspects of resource use and development in the public interest.

Local and municipal governments provide a variety of recreation facilities tailored to local needs and community priorities. State agencies often provide financial support and technical assistance to local communities in planning, design and development of recreation programs and facilities. Close state and local government cooperation helps ensure that local recreation developments complement the state's overall outdoor recreation system.

The state legislature, the governor and DNR management have initiated preliminary measures to address SCORP issues. For example, the Minnesota Legislature enacted and the governor signed legislation establishing bonding authority that will be used during the five year period to address outdoor recreation needs. This Implementation Program references that bonding authority and other actions the State of Minnesota plans to take to implement the 1995 - 1999 State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan. ◆

B. OUTDOOR RECREATION ISSUE IMPLEMENTATION PRIORITIES

Issue 1) Facilities Operations and Maintenance: Minnesota recreation facilities are deteriorating because of heavy use, vandalism, age and inadequate maintenance. Recreation providers at all levels must recognize these needs and take measures to reverse deterioration trends.

L&WCF Funding Priorities for 1995 - 1999

<u>Objective</u>	State <u>Agencies</u>	Local <u>Government</u>
Repair and rehabilitate facilities that are most heavily used and in the greatest need for repair.	high	high
Minimize facility maintenance costs by designing and constructing low maintenance and vandal resistant facilities.	medium	medium

FIVE YEAR ACTION ITEMS

The 1994 Minnesota Legislature approved and the Governor signed the following bonding support for repair and renovation of facilities used in outdoor recreation:

Repair and Renovation of Buildings	\$ 1,400,000
State Park Building Rehabilitation	\$ 2,000,000
State Parks Betterment	\$ 1,250,000
Trail Rehabilitation	\$ 1,350,000
Historic Site Preservation and Repair	\$ 1,775,000
Sibley House Renovation	\$ 550,000
County and Local Preservation Projects	\$ 500,000
ISTEA Preservation Grants	\$ 950,000

Issue 2) Capital Investment in Recreation Facilities: Population growth and interest in new recreation activities creates the need for investment in new recreation facilities and for redevelopment or expansion of existing facilities.

L&WCF Funding Priorities for 1995 - 1999

<u>Objective</u>	State <u>Agencies</u>	Local <u>Government</u>
Acquire abandoned rail rights of way in order to meet future trail recreation needs and to link existing trail segments.	high	medium
Complete acquisition of inholdings in parks and other recreation facilities.	medium	medium
Develop year round, multi-use facilities that are both durable and flexible in use.	medium	high
Develop recreation facilities specifically for high impact activities that tend to conflict with other recreation activities and adjacent land uses.	medium	medium
Maximize access to recreation facilities by removing physical and other barriers and by providing appropriate visitor information.	high	high

FIVE YEAR ACTION ITEMS

The 1994 Minnesota Legislature approved and the Governor signed the following bonding support for acquisition and expansion of facilities used in outdoor recreation:

State Park Building Development Forest Recreation Facilities	\$ 1,000,000 \$ 500,000
Metropolitan Council Regional Parks	\$ 500,000
Trail Acquisition and Development	\$ 4,778,000
St. Anthony Falls Heritage Zone	\$ 1,000,000
Northwest Company Fur	\$ 350,000
Post Interpretive Center	φ 330,000
Battle Point Historic Site	\$ 350,000
American Indian History Center	\$ 1,100,000
St. Croix Valley Heritage Center	\$ 150,000
Lake Superior Safe Harbors	\$ 2,200,000
Local Recreation Grants	\$ 600,000
White Oak Fur Post	\$ 340,000

Issue 3) Environmental Ethics/Values and Loss of Outdoor Skills: A healthy natural environment is essential to outdoor recreation. Society's closeness to nature is waning and many people are unfamiliar with the environment and how natural processes work. Minnesota must continue to invest in environmental education efforts so that the public can use natural resources wisely.

L&WCF Funding Priorities for 1995 - 1999

Objective	State <u>Agencies</u>	Local <u>Government</u>
Develop interpretive and educational opportunities at public outdoor recreation sites	high	medium

FIVE YEAR ACTION ITEMS

The Minnesota Legislature approved and the Governor signed the following bonding support for environmental education:

Lac Qui Parle Hunter Education Center	\$ 500,000
International Wolf Center	\$ 1 ,250,000
Environmental Learning Centers	\$11,500,000

Issue 4) Loss of Open Space: Opportunities for recreation use of open space is being lost due to land development, environmental degradation and a number of other concerns. Remaining open spaces must be acquired for public use or otherwise preserved.

L&WCF FUNDING PRIORITIES FOR 1995 - 1999

Objective	State <u>Agencies</u>	Local <u>Government</u>
Accelerate acquisition of land with critical habitat, rare biotic communities, and endangered species habitat in areas threatened with land conversion.	high	medium
Increase land acquisition in areas of heavy recreational demand (e.g. urban areas and areas lacking recreation facilities).	high	high
Focus land acquisition in priority areas on critical habitat, unique natural and cultural resources, recreation rivers, lakes and streams, scenic blufflands, and other high amenity areas	high	high

FIVE YEAR ACTION ITEMS

The Minnesota Legislature approved and the Governor signed the following bonding support for acquisition and protection of land and open space:

St. Louis River Land Acquisition Reinvest in Minnesota Land Acquisition	\$ 1,200,000 \$ 4,000,000
Capital Improvements	+ _,,
Water Access Acquisition and Betterment	\$ 350,000
Lake Minnetonka	• • • • • • • • • •
State Park Land Acquisition	\$ 2,000,000
Forestry land Acquisition	\$ 250,000
RIM Conservation Easement Acquisitions	\$ 9,000,000
Reinvest In Minnesota	\$ 2,000,000
Natural and Scenic Area Grants	\$ 800,000

Issue 5) Sustainable Outdoor Recreation: Amid competing demands for the state's land resources, a new stewardship ethic needs to evolve that focuses on a sustainable approach to outdoor recreation. That approach satisfies outdoor recreation needs without compromising the natural systems on which outdoor recreation depends.

L&WCF Funding Priorities for 1995 - 1999

<u>Objective</u>	State <u>Agencies</u>	Local <u>Government</u>
Focus acquisition and development funding on projects that emphasize an ecosystems approach to sustaining outdoor recreation.	high	low
Focus acquisition and development funding on projects with cooperative partnerships between agencies and between the public and private sectors.	high	medium

FIVE YEAR ACTION ITEMS

- The DNR will place increasing emphasis on ecosystem approaches to managing landscapes in order to insure that sustainability concepts guide outdoor recreation management.
- The DNR will establish regional planning positions in each of its six regional offices to develop regional landscape management plans.

Issue 6) Recreation Information and Research: Lack of up to date information hampers the ability of recreation providers to establish effective priorities on facility and program development.

FIVE YEAR ACTION ITEMS

- □ The DNR will do a broad assessment of the needs and uses for a recreation facilities (RECFAC) inventory. Based on that assessment, the DNR will update and expand its RECFAC over the next five years.
- The DNR will expand its focus on Geographic Information System development in order to address a broad range of outdoor recreation and other management needs.
- □ The DNR will continue its survey efforts in order to assess emerging recreation trends and needs.
- **Issue 7) General Outdoor Recreation Management Needs:** The DNR will undertake several efforts designed to foster wider understanding and application of SCORP recommendations.

FIVE YEAR ACTION ITEMS

- The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will work with the Minnesota Recreation and Parks Association (MRPA) to communicate SCORP to local governments (regional, county and municipal). One approach will be to hold workshops at the annual MRPA meeting designed to involve local government recreation planners in implementing SCORP strategies.
- The DNR will host the 1995 National Association of Recreation Resource Planners (NARRP) conference and strongly encourage recreation planners at all government levels in Minnesota to attend the conference.
- □ The DNR will work with staff of the Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCMR) so that legislative funding reflects issue priorities established by SCORP.

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III. OPEN PROJECT SELECTION PROCESS

A. INTRODUCTION

 The Open Project Selection Process (OPSP) provides a formal and objective method for selecting and evaluating projects formally proposed for L&WCF funding. The OPSP provides a priority ranking system which awards points to projects based on how they address priorities established in the Implementation Program. Grants are available only to state and local units of government.

OPSP procedures provide equal opportunity for all eligible project sponsors and ensure that all Minnesotans share in the benefits of the L&WCF grants program. This document explains how grants are made available, how grants are awarded to state agencies and local units of government, and how the state ensures that requirements of the L&WCF will be met.

The OPSP has five components:

- 1) A recurring funding cycle,
- 2) A public notification process,
- 3) A program for assisting potential sponsors in formulating grant proposals,
- 4) A priority ranking system, and
- 5) Public review.

The DNR administers the L&WCF Grants Program both for projects sponsored by state agencies and local units of government. Because state and local projects often differ in scope and in the types of facilities provided, the DNR uses different versions of the OPSP components for each. Both versions are explained in this document.

B. RECURRING FUNDING CYCLE - STATE AND LOCAL PROJECTS

Both state and local projects are received, evaluated and awarded funds on an annual cycle. The annual apportionment is available to Minnesota after October 1. Because Congress determines the appropriation, the amount of the appropriation and its effective date vary from year to year.

State Projects: Each year, the DNR requests project proposals from state sponsors by January 15 or upon notification of federal appropriation of its annual L&WCF apportionments, whichever is later. The evaluation and selection process usually is completed in four weeks. Projects selected for funding are submitted to the National Park Service for additional review and final approval. Once a project is approved and funded, acquisition and development activities may begin - usually by late spring. Projects must be completed within five years from the date of approval.

Local Projects: The DNR annually notifies all local units of government as to the availability of L&WCF applications. In addition, official notice is published in the Minnesota State Register. Application booklets are provided on request.

Project applications may be submitted throughout the year. Completed applications are due on August 1st of each year. The evaluation, ranking, and selection of local

government projects usually is completed within 120 days. Local projects selected for assistance are then submitted to the National Park Service for review and approval. Local sponsors usually can begin acquisition or development during the spring or summer following project approval.

DNR staff make the original determination on project eligibility. Applicants of eligible projects are invited to meet with DNR staff to discuss project details, and to complete additional application forms. The DNR provides project manuals with additional information about the following.

- 1) A description of the L&WCF Program and of eligibility requirements.
- 2) A detailed description of the application process, the project review, and ranking process,
- 3) The name, address, phone number of persons for assistance in completing the L&WCF grant application,
- 4) A description of the annual funding cycle, including key deadlines, and
- 5) A set of detailed application instructions, including examples of required attachments and other documents.

C. PROGRAM ASSISTANCE

State Projects: The DNR grant coordinator assists statewide sponsors with proposal preparation and with other aspects of a L&WCF application. The coordinator can explain the OPSP, interpret grant program requirements, and act as a day to day liaison with representatives of the National Park Service.

Local Projects: After initial project evaluation and selection, DNR staff hold grant application meetings to inform local project sponsors of steps needed to obtain permits, to conduct any required archaeological surveys, to arrange appraisals, or to complete any other prerequisites to grant approval. The DNR provides one-on-one assistance for sponsors throughout the funding cycle.

D. PRIORITY RANKING SYSTEM

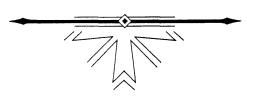
State Projects: The DNR ranks statewide projects using the statewide Project Priority Ranking System (Appendix A). L&WCF funds from the 1995 apportionment will be obligated to projects in their rank order until funds are exhausted. No project will be funded until all higher ranking projects have been funded. Once a statewide project receives funding from the L&WCF, it may receive additional funding from the subsequent apportionments to cover cost overruns without competing again in the OPSP ranking process.

Local Projects: The DNR ranks local project proposals using the Local Project Priority Ranking System (Exhibit B). This system differs somewhat from the Statewide Ranking System in that different Implementation Program priority levels are reflected in the ranking criteria, and a specific list of recreation facilities considered most relevant to local government needs is given special consideration. No cost overrun amendments to grant proposal will be approved. The local government sponsor is responsible for development costs that exceed total programmed project cost. This Open Project Selection Process has been reviewed by the National Park Service and by DNR's Outdoor Recreation Planning Advisory Committee (ORPAC). ORPAC is composed of representatives of federal, state and local government, private sector recreation interests, and representatives of various special groups. In addition, the public at large was invited to review and comment on the OPSP during a 45 day review period which was announced in the Minnesota State Register.

F. LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS

The SCORP serves not only to guide the allocation of L&WCF funds, it also informs the investment and policy decisions made by the Minnesota Legislature. Over the last 5 years, Minnesota has received \$2 million in L&WCF funds. During that same period, the Legislature authorized over \$84 million in bonding funds for parks and open space and an additional \$60 million to accelerate natural resource protection activities using proceeds from the state lottery and cigarette tax.

Part of the bonding funds mentioned above are used to fund Minnesota's Local Recreation Grant Program. These grants to local governments are awarded and administered using guidelines and selection criteria similar to those for the L&WCF grant program. ◆





- A. LOCAL PROJECT RANKING SHEET
- **B. PROJECT APPLICATION FORM**
- C. PRIORITY RANKING SYSTEM FOR STATEWIDE PROJECTS

PROJECT RANKING SHEET Score Federal L&WCF/State Outdoor Recreation Grants Fiscal Year 1995		
Local Unit	County	
Contact Person	Phone	
Address		
Project Name	Region #	
Proposed Acquisition Acres		
Facilities to be Developed/Renovated		
Total Cost Grant Re	equest	
Inspection Date Project	Officer	
APPLICATION PREREQUIS	<u>ITES</u>	
In order to be considered for funding, a answer must apply to each of the follow.		
Y N N/A Previous outdoor recreation grant have been satisfactorily closed an Existing park facilities administer to be adequately maintained.	nd properly managed.	

- _ All required appraisal documents and site maps have been submitted by the application deadline.
- _ The proposed project includes at least one of the facilities from the Eligible Recreation Facilities list (List #1) of the Program Manual.

I. Design Considerations (24 point maximum)

A. Is the proposed use and design of facilities compatible with physical characteristics of the site? (topography, slopes, wetlands, drainage, vegetation, etc.) List Problems

0 1 2 3 4

Section Pts.

B. Does the design make good use of available space without crowding? List Problems_

0 1 2 3 4

- C. Are the proposed Facilities located so as to complement, rather than conflict, with each other? List Problems
 - 01234 ____
- D. Does the design minimize conflicts with adjacent land uses? List Problems

01234 ____

Section Pts.

E. Are there environmental intrusions on the site that could limit recreation development or use and/or diminish aesthetic values of the area? List Problems

0 1 2 3 4 ____

F. Are facilities designed consistent with generally accepted engineering and architectural design standards? List Problems _____

0 1 2 3 4 ____

II. Commitment to Project (14 pts.)

- A. Does the applicant have an active parks and recreation organization? Yes (2) No (0) ____
- B. Has the applicant developed adequate projected O & M costs for the proposed facilities? Yes (2) No (0)
- C. Does the applicant have a seperate, dedicated source for generating acquisition, development and O&M funds? Yes (1) No (0)
- D. Has the applicant committed to providing at least 20% of of the total project cost from its own resources? Yes (2) No (0)
- E. Has the applicant submitted all required documentation and information? Yes (1) No (0) _
- F. Have maps and site plans been completed according to intructions and examples provided? Yes (1) No (0) ____
- G. Has the project breakdown been completed in accordance with intructions provided? Yes (1) No (0) ____
- H. Has the evidence of a public hearing been submitted by the application deadline? Yes (2) No (0)
- I. Will the proposed project add to or complete a larger recreation project that has already been initiated by the applicant in the last year. Yes (1) No (0) ____

J. Has the applicant resubmitted a previous application after making recommended changes and improvements? Yes (1) No (0)

III. Legislative/Equity Concerns (7 Pts.) Section Pts.___

- A. Is the proposed project located within a local government unit having a high % of low/moderate income status? < 50% (0); 50-60% (1); > 60% (2)
- B. Is the proposed project a first of a kind facility for the local government? Yes (2) No (0)
- C. Has the applicant had an active Outdoor Recreation Grant within the last 5 years? Yes (0) No (1)
- D. Will the project provide playground and/or athletic facilities open for use by pre-school and or school age children? Yes (2) No (0) ____

IV. Acquisition Priorities (16 pts.)

Project involves:

A. Acquisition of lands with critical plant/animal habitat, rare biotic communities and endangered species (with potential for outdoor recreation). Yes (2) No (0)

Section Pts.

- B. Acquisition of areas having unique geological resources Yes (2) No (0)
- C. Acquisition of lands including shoreland on lakes, rivers or streams Yes (4) No (0) ____

D. Acquisition of lands including scenic blufflands, overlooks, and other high amenity/scenic areas Yes (4) No (0)

- E. Acquisition of abandoned railroad rights-of-way in order to meet future trail recreation needs and to link existing trail segments. Yes (2) No (0) ____
- F. Acquisition of high priority inholdings or additions crucial to the use of and access to recreation facilities
 Yes (2) No (0) ____

Development, Redevelopment and Renovation Priorities V. (26 pts.) Section Pts. A. Significant R/R of facilities on List #1 to remove physical barriers to persons with disabilities Yes (4) No (0) B. Significant R/R of eligible support facilities to remove barriers to persons with disabilities Yes (3) No (0) C. Significant development of new facilities that goes beyond the minimum accessibility requirements Yes (3) No (0) D. Significant R/R of facilities that do not meet current design standards (other than accessibility) Yes (2) No (0) E. Significant R/R to improve safety and reduce liability risk. Yes (2) No (0) F. D/R/R of areas that would allow for year-round use Yes (2) No (0) G. Development of new facilities that will ease pressure on existing high use recreation facilities that cannot sustain current use levels Yes (2) No (0) H. Significant development of water based recreation facilities Yes (2) No (0) I. Significant development of outdoor recreation facilities that enhance aesthetic benefits of shoreland areas Yes (2) No (0) J. D/R/R/ of facilities that will reduce existing recreation facility use conflicts by seperating or redesigning facilities Yes (2) No (0) K. D/R/R that will redirect intensive recreational use of existing areas that poses a threat to natural or cultural resources Yes (2) No (0) VI. General Priorities (8 pts.) Section Pts.

A. Project that involves a partnership between governments Yes (2) No (0) _ B. Acquisition or D/R/R of open space and recreation lands in areas experiencing population growth between the 1980 amd 1990 census of:

< 5% (0); 5-10% (2); > 10% (4)

C. Acquisition or D/R/R of open space and recreation lands in, or for county facilities within ten miles of, municipalities with populations greater than 10,000 (based on 1990 census figures)

Yes (2) No (0) ____

Notes/Comments:



OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANT PROGRAM Application Request Form



	1
Applicant	County
Contact Person	Phone
Title	
Address	·
Project Name	
Total Estimated Project Cost \$	
Project Type (check the appropriate type):	
Acquisition Development/Redevelopment	Acquisition/Development

Project Description:

C: Priority Ranking System Statewide Projects

Application # _____ Project Title _____

Project Eligibility

Dies this project meet the eligibility and evaluation criteria outlined in Chapters 640 and 660 of the L&WCF Grants Manual? Y / N (if no, reject application).

Project Scoring (circle points to be awarded)	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Pts</u>
Repair rehabilitate facilities that are most heavily used and in the greatest need for repair	. High	10
Minimize facility maintenance costs by designing and constructing low maintenance and vandal resistant facilities	. Med	5
Acquire abandoned railroad rights of way in order to meet future trail recreation needs and to link existing trail segments	. High	10
Complete acquisition of inholdings in parks and other recreation facilities	. Med	5
Develop year round, multi-use facilities that are both durable and flexible in use	. Med	5
Develop recreation facilities specifically for high impact activities that tend to conflict with other recreation activities and adjacent land uses	. Med	5
Maximize access to recreation facilities by removing physical and other barriers and by providing appropriate visitor information	. High	10
Develop interpretive and educational opportunities at public outdoor recreation sites	. High	10
Acquire lands with critical habitat, rare biotic communities and endangered species habitat in area threatened with land conversion	. High	10
Acquire lands in areas of heavy recreation demand	. High	10
Acquire lands with unique natural or cultural resources, recreation rivers, lakes and streams, scenic blufflands, and other desirable natural resource qualities	. High	10
Focus acquisition and development funding on projects that emphasize an ecosystems approach to sustaining outdoor recreation	. High	10
Focus acquisition and development funding on projects with cooperative partnerships between agencies and between public and private sectors	. High	10
Total Points awarded to this project	•	

