

Appendix “A”

This section includes the guidelines, criteria and program manuals for the Natural and Scenic Area and Regional Park Grant Programs – Minnesota Department of Natural Resources



FAX TRANSMISSION

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Comments: Guidelines, Criteria and Program Manuals for the Natural and Scenic Area and Regional Park Grant Programs

Please call if you have any questions.

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE

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Program Manual

Regional Park Grant Program

Department of Natural Resources, Local Grants Unit
Office of Management and Budget Services, Box 10
500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155-4010

ADMINISTRATION/PROGRAM PURPOSE

The Local Grants Unit in the Department of Natural Resources administers the Regional Park Grant Program. The program assists public regional park organizations in acquiring parkland and developing or redeveloping outdoor recreation facilities. Applications must be submitted by **March 31** to be eligible for funding assistance for the current year. Applicants are eligible to receive more than one grant.

PROGRAM FUNDING

The Local Grants Unit finances projects using state dollars authorized by the Minnesota State Legislature. Grant awards are typically for 60 percent of the total eligible project costs. The remaining 40 percent "local share" can consist of cash or the value of materials, labor and equipment usage provided by the local sponsor or by local donations or any combination thereof. The total project cost must be at least \$10,000. Grant agreements generally expire within 24 months and projects must be completed by then.

PROGRAM INFORMATION

Eligible Applicants: Public regional park organizations outside of the seven county metropolitan area.

Eligible Projects -

- * Acquisition of land for future development of outdoor recreation facilities. Recreation facilities must be developed within three years from the date of acquisition.
- * Development, redevelopment or rehabilitation of outdoor recreation facilities on land already owned by the applicant.
- * A combination of land acquisition and development, redevelopment or rehabilitation of outdoor recreation facilities.

Eligible Recreation Facilities - One or more of the following facilities must be included in a proposed project.

- Boat/Canoe Access Sites
- Campgrounds
- Fishing Piers/Shore Fishing Areas
- Ice/In-Line Skating Rinks/Parks
- Nature Study/Observation Areas
- Picnic Shelters
- Playgrounds
- Swimming Beaches/Outdoor Pools
- Trails (non-motorized internal park trails)

Eligible Recreation Support Facilities - The following facilities are also eligible for funding as part of a grant application that contains at least one facility from the eligible recreation facilities list:

- Change Houses, Restrooms, Shower Buildings and Warming Houses
- Fencing, Lighting and Signs
- Landscaping and Natural Area Restoration
- Park Roads and Parking Areas (**may not exceed 40%** of the total project cost)
- Permanent Benches, Seats, Drinking Fountains, Grills, Picnic Tables, Trash
- Receptacles and Fire Pits
- Walkways

Ineligible Facilities and Costs - Ineligible facilities or costs are those items that cannot be funded with a Regional Park Grant or included as part of the local match requirement. The following list includes common types of ineligible facilities. A determination of eligibility will be made by the Department of Natural Resources with final approval by the Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources.

- Administrative Expenses/ Design and Engineering in excess of 10% of the Total Project Cost.
- Concession-only Buildings
- Decorative Fountains, Statues and Plaques
- Dredging, Water Impoundments and Dams
- Facilities not available for general public use
- Golf Courses
- Indoor Recreational Facilities (ie: ice arenas, enclosed swimming pools, etc.)
- Acquisition of land already in public ownership
- Legal Fees
- Motorized Trails
- ~~Non-permanent Skate Park Ramps and Equipment~~
- Press Boxes
- Sewer and Water to Campsites
- Shooting Ranges

THE APPLICATION PROCESS

To receive an application, complete and return an Application Request Form. We urge applicants to return the request form no later January 31st to ensure adequate time to complete your grant application. This will allow adequate time to meet certain application requirements, such as holding a public hearing, having the project reviewed for any needed permits, completion of an appraisal, etc.

After submitting the Application Request Form, the application forms will be sent to you. Completed applications must be postmarked by **March 31st**. This program is very competitive. Staff are available to discuss your project or review application materials. You are encouraged to submit any draft application or materials by March 1st if you would like staff to provide comments.

APPRAISAL REQUIREMENTS

For all projects involving acquisition, the application must include a current original appraisal for each parcel to be acquired. Appraisals must be performed by a licensed appraiser and meet the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice (USPAP) and the Uniform Appraisal Standards for Federal Land Acquisitions. The appraisal must include the DNR as an intended user and the landowner must be given an opportunity to accompany the appraiser during the inspection of the property. The cost of the appraisal(s) is not eligible for reimbursement nor can it be used as local match.

Appraisals may be reviewed by a DNR review appraiser to ensure that they meet state and federal appraisal requirements. Any corrections or clarifications requested by the reviewer will need to be completed by the appraiser. If you or the appraiser has any questions, please contact the program staff assigned to your area prior to completing the appraisal assignment.

THE COMPETITIVE REVIEW AND RANKING PROCESS

The program is competitive and requires a review and selection process to make funding determinations and awards. The review and selection process will take place after March 31st, and funding announcements will be made in the summer/fall. Completed applications received after the deadline will not be eligible for funding consideration. Incomplete applications will be disqualified and returned to the applicant. Program staff will review applications and, if necessary, a site visit will be conducted.

Review components:

Minnesota's 2003 State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP)

The 2003 State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) is Minnesota's outdoor recreation policy plan. This plan was developed with the input of a 29-member group of Minnesota outdoor and natural resource leaders. It establishes outdoor recreation priorities for Minnesota to assist outdoor recreation and natural resource managers, the state legislature, and the executive branch in decision-making about the state's outdoor recreation system and sets out criteria for allocating federal Land And Water Conservation Fund monies consistent with these identified priorities. A majority of the review and selection process will focus on guidelines outlined in the 2003 SCORP. Applications are assessed to ensure that the proposed project is consistent with priorities established in the SCORP document.

The seven SCORP priorities for Minnesota outdoor recreation are:

1. Protect and restore the natural resource base on which outdoor recreation depends — Minnesota's lakes, rivers, streams, grasslands and forests

Minnesota's natural resource base is at risk from human activities. Identifying important areas to protect and restore is essential to maintaining a healthy outdoor recreation system.

2. Sustain Minnesota's existing outdoor recreation facilities for future generations

Heavy use and inadequate maintenance are taking their toll on our outdoor recreation system. We need to take better care of existing facilities.

3. In areas of rapid population growth, reserve prime recreation lands- such as shoreland and significant natural areas- ahead of development and provide recreation facilities such as parks, trails, and water accesses.

As an area's population increases, the demand for recreation facilities grows — but the land to provide those opportunities may not be available. Reserving land *before* development provides the foundation for outdoor recreation facilities and is typically less expensive than acquiring it later.

4. Respond to the demands of Minnesota's changing population

Our population is aging and, at the same time, the state's racial, ethnic and cultural diversity is growing. Both of these demographic trends may require changes in outdoor recreation opportunities and facilities.

5. Expand nature-based outdoor recreation experiences for youth living in developed areas through "close-by" access to natural areas

For children living in urban areas, the outdoors may be more theory than a real part of their daily lives. We need to create unstructured opportunities for these children to experience the natural world first-hand.

6. Improve coordination of the recreation-related activities of governmental and non-governmental providers

Our recreation system results from the efforts of a variety of organizations, both public and private. Coordination and integration between these organizations allows us to better plan and maintain a full range of recreation opportunities.

7. Understand the capacity of Minnesota's natural resources to support satisfying outdoor recreation opportunities

Growing population, competition for land and diversifying outdoor recreation activities put pressure on the state's natural resources. We must understand these pressures — and the limits of our natural resources.

The complete SCORP document is available in the Grants category of the DNR website at www.dnr.state.mn.us.

Additional review components:

The review will then assess the design of the proposed project and existing park facilities. Project design should be compatible with the physical characteristics of the site, consistent with generally accepted engineering and architectural design standards, in accordance with accessibility standards and minimize risk to the health and safety of users. In addition to the design, the review will look at the commitment of the local sponsor. This commitment is assessed through measures such as whether the local sponsor has an active parks and recreation organization to oversee park activities, adequate operation and maintenance costs have been developed for the proposed project and if the local sponsor has committed some of it's own resources to the project. Applicants seeking feedback on their application are encouraged to submit materials by March 1st.

AWARD OF FUNDS

Announcement of funding approvals will take place after the review and ranking process is complete. All applicants will receive official written notification regarding their request for funding. If your proposed project has received preliminary approval for funding, you will be contacted regarding additional information requirements needed before an agreement can be processed. These requirements may include an environmental assessment, Minnesota Historical Society review, a deed restriction and other details.

If the Minnesota Historical Society determines that there is a potential for the site to yield historical or archeological information, you will be contacted and provided instructions on hiring an archeological consultant to perform an on-site survey. These surveys are to be funded by the applicant and must be completed before a grant agreement can be processed for your project. A survey can be expensive and may be eligible for reimbursement with grant monies.

Projects cannot begin until all final documentation has been submitted and a grant agreement has been completed. This process can take three months to complete. Most projects can expect to begin in the fall. Any project costs incurred prior to completing the grant agreement will be ineligible.

Payment of grant funds to the local sponsor is on a reimbursement basis. The sponsor must initially expend monies, which are then reimbursed under the terms of the grant agreement. Ten percent of the grant funds will be retained until a final inspection has been completed.

PROJECT CLOSEOUT PROCEDURES

Upon completion of your project, a final billing must be submitted to our office no later than 30 days after the expiration date on your agreement. Program staff will complete a final inspection of the project. The inspection will focus on ensuring that the project was completed in accordance with the grant agreement, that facilities developed are accessible and a funding acknowledgment sign is installed. If any problems are revealed during the inspection, they will need to be corrected before you receive final reimbursement for your grant and the official closeout notification for your project.

An official project closeout letter will be sent after final reimbursements have been made. All project records remain subject to examination and must be retained for a period of at least six years following receipt of the official project closeout letter.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT SIGN

All projects acquired or developed with assistance from this program must display a state approved funding acknowledgment sign at the main entrance to the park. The grant program will provide the specific sign information.

LAND RETENTION REQUIREMENT

1) **CONVERSION OF USE:** The Grantee shall not at any time convert any portion of the park area to uses other than public outdoor recreation uses specified in this Agreement without the prior written approval of the State. This condition applies not only to the property acquired or the facilities developed through this Agreement but to the entire park as it was described in this Agreement.

The State will consider a conversion request only after the following pre-requisites have been met:

1. All practical alternatives to the conversion have been evaluated and rejected on a sound basis;
2. The Grantee has agreed to replace the converted lands with other lands of at least equal fair market value and reasonably equivalent natural and or scenic resources as determined by the State.

The State shall have the authority to approve or disapprove conversion requests.

2) **DEED RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT:** The Grantee will be required to record a condition with the deed of the property acquired and/or developed and, if necessary, adjacent lands owned by the applicant. The condition is to ensure that the property will be managed the property shall be permanently managed and maintained for outdoor recreation purposes consistent with the approved grant agreement and that the property will not be converted to any uses other than permitted in the grant agreement without the prior written approval of the State. The specific language for the condition will depend on the funding source provided and will be stated in the grant agreement.

AVAILABILITY TO USERS

The project sponsor is expected to keep the property and all facilities available to the general public at reasonable hours and at times of the year consistent with the purpose and type of facility. (Including such facilities as bathrooms, picnic shelters, athletic facilities, and playgrounds). For campground facilities, a minimum of 50% of the campground spaces must be available for short-term rental and an equitable method of allocating long-term rentals shall be used. No fixed improvements such as decks, porches, or signs are allowed.

Public property, facilities & programs that receive state assistance and future development of a site that has received state assistance shall be available to all persons regardless of race, color, national origin, religion or sex. No person shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in any program or activity receiving state assistance. Finally, discrimination on the basis of residence, including preferential reservation, membership or annual permit systems is prohibited except to the extent that reasonable differences in admission and other fees may be maintained on the basis of residence. Fees charged to non-residents cannot exceed twice that charged to residents and must be comparable to fees charged at other state or local facilities.

COMPLIANCE INSPECTIONS

Periodic post-completion inspections will be conducted to ensure that the site is being properly operated and maintained and that no conversion of use has occurred.

Guidelines for Use and Development of Land Acquired with Natural and Scenic Area Grants

Program Purpose: The purpose of the Natural and Scenic Area Grant Program is to help local governments and school districts increase, protect and enhance natural and scenic areas through matching grants for up to 50% of the cost of land acquisition. The main goal of the program is to protect the natural features of the land (plant and animal communities, geological and topographical features, water resources, scenic views, etc.). Outdoor recreation and environmental education may be secondary benefits of the program if they are compatible with the main goal of protecting the resource.

Compatible Use and Development: In general, outdoor recreation use of natural and scenic areas should be limited to passive outdoor recreation activities, such as nature observation, walking or hiking, bird watching, cross country skiing, snow shoeing, canoeing, photography and similar low impact activities. In some cases, environmental education activities may be appropriate. Limited facilities to support these activities, such as trails, overlooks, interpretive displays, benches, informational and boundary signing, protective fencing, and parking, are allowable uses. In some cases, rest room facilities and limited picnic facilities may also be compatible.

All development plans should be submitted for review and prior approval by the Local Grants Program staff of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Development proposals will be reviewed on a case by case basis, taking into account the specific characteristics of the natural and scenic area. Any development should be designed to avoid damage to natural resources and features, steer activities away from sensitive areas (such as steep bluffs, erosion prone shorelines, rare plant communities, etc.), and discourage inappropriate recreational use. Facilities must meet all safety and accessibility standards.

Incompatible Use and Development: Natural and scenic areas should not be developed for more active outdoor recreational uses, such as athletic fields and courts, campgrounds, motorized sports, etc. Any use or development that could result in damage to significant natural and/or scenic resources must be avoided. In some cases, it may be necessary to prohibit access to certain portions of the property to avoid damage to highly sensitive or rare resources. Protective fencing may be used when appropriate.

Conversion of Use:

Rev. Jan '04

The grant agreement for all Natural and Scenic Area Grant projects includes the following clause:

1) CONVERSION OF USE: It is the intention of the State that the property acquired under this agreement shall exist in the Grantee's ownership and be maintained and managed consistent with the purpose and type of property to properly protect the natural and/or scenic resources in perpetuity. The Grantee shall not at any time convert any property acquired or developed pursuant to this agreement to uses other than the permitted uses specified in this agreement without the prior written approval of the State.

Questions: Any questions regarding development or use of land acquired with Natural and Scenic Area Grant funds should be directed to:

Local Grants Program
Department of Natural Resources
Office of Management and Budget Services, Box 10
500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, MN 55155-4010

Rev. Jan '04

Program Manual

Natural and Scenic Area Grant Program

Department of Natural Resources, Local Grants Unit
Office Budget and Management Services, Box 10
500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155-4010

ADMINISTRATION/PROGRAM PURPOSE

The Local Grants Unit, in the Department of Natural Resources administers the Natural and Scenic Area Grant Program. The program assists local governments and school districts in acquiring fee title acquisition and permanent easement acquisition of natural and scenic areas. Applications must be submitted by **March 31** to be eligible for funding assistance for the current year.

The Natural and Scenic Area Grant Program is intended to protect high quality natural and/ or scenic areas. Additionally, public access should be provided to the extent necessary to allow users to experience the natural and scenic qualities protected. High levels of development or active use are not appropriate. Recipients may submit development projects appropriate in a Natural and Scenic Area to the Outdoor Recreation Grant Program for funding consideration.

PROGRAM FUNDING

The Local Grants Unit finances projects using state dollars authorized by the Minnesota State Legislature. Grant awards are typically for 50 percent of the total eligible project costs up to the maximum grant amount of \$500,000. Grant agreements generally expire within 24 months and projects must be completed by then.

PROGRAM INFORMATION

Eligible Applicants: Cities, counties, townships, and school districts.

Eligible Projects:

- Fee title acquisition of natural or scenic areas.
- Permanent easement acquisition of natural or scenic areas

Eligible Support Facilities: Minimal betterment activities are eligible as part of an acquisition project, and may include the following:

- Site Surveying, Boundary Signing
- Immediate measures needed to stabilize the site and ensure the safety of users

Ineligible Facilities and Costs: Ineligible facilities or costs are those items that cannot be funded with a Natural and Scenic Area Grant or included as part of the local match requirement.

- Administrative Expenses
- Incidental cost of Land Acquisition (Appraisals and legal fees)
- Land already in public ownership
- Recreational Site development
- Operation and Maintenance

THE APPLICATION PROCESS

To receive an application, complete and return an Application Request Form. We urge applicants to return the request form no later January 31st to ensure adequate time to complete your grant application. This will allow adequate time to meet certain application requirements, such as holding a public hearing, having the project reviewed for any needed permits, completion of an appraisal, etc.

After submitting the Application Request Form, the application forms will be sent to you. Completed applications must be postmarked by **March 31st**. This program is very competitive. Staff are available to discuss your project or review application materials. You are encouraged to submit any draft application or materials by March 1st if you would like staff to provide comments.

APPRAISAL REQUIREMENTS

An application must include a current original appraisal for each parcel to be acquired. Appraisals must be performed by a licensed appraiser and meet the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice (USPAP) and the Uniform Appraisal Standards for Federal Land Acquisitions. The appraisal must include the DNR as an intended user and the landowner must be given an opportunity to accompany the appraiser during the inspection of the property. The cost of the appraisal(s) is not eligible for reimbursement nor can it be used as local match.

Appraisals may be reviewed by a DNR review appraiser to ensure that they meet state appraisal requirements. Any corrections or clarifications requested by the reviewer will need to be completed by the appraiser. If you or the appraiser has any questions, please contact the program staff assigned to your area prior to completing the appraisal assignment.

THE COMPETITIVE REVIEW AND RANKING PROCESS

The program is competitive and requires a review and ranking process to make funding determinations and awards. The review and ranking process will take place after the application deadline, and funding announcements will be made in the summer/fall. Completed applications received later than the deadline will not be eligible for funding consideration during this cycle. Incomplete applications will be disqualified and returned to the applicant. Program staff will review applications and, if necessary, a site visit will be conducted. The review will focus on the natural and scenic qualities of the project site and surrounding land uses.

AWARD OF FUNDS

Announcement of funding approvals will take place after the review and selection process is complete. All applicants will receive official written notification regarding their request for funding. If your proposed project has received preliminary approval for funding, you will be contacted regarding additional information requirements needed before an agreement can be processed. These requirements may include Minnesota Historical Society review, a deed restriction and other details.

If the Minnesota Historical Society determines that there is a potential for the site to yield historical or archeological information, you will be contacted and provided instructions on hiring an archeological consultant to perform an on-site survey. These surveys are to be funded by the applicant and must be completed before a grant agreement can be processed for your project. A survey can be expensive and may be eligible for reimbursement with grant monies.

Projects cannot begin until all final documentation has been submitted and a grant agreement has been completed. This process can take three months to complete. Most projects can expect to begin in the fall. Any project costs incurred prior to completing the grant agreement will be ineligible.

Payment of grant funds to the local sponsor is on a reimbursement basis. The grant recipient must initially expend monies, which are then reimbursed under the terms of the grant agreement. Ten percent of the grant funds will be retained until a final inspection has been completed.

GUIDELINES FOR USE AND DEVELOPMENT

1. **COMPATIBLE USE AND DEVELOPMENT:** In general, outdoor recreation use of natural and scenic areas should be limited to passive outdoor recreation activities, such as nature observation, walking or hiking, bird watching, cross country skiing, snow shoeing, canoeing, photography and similar low impact activities. In some cases, environmental education activities may be appropriate. Limited facilities to support these activities, such as trails, overlooks, interpretive displays, benches, informational and boundary signing, protective fencing, and parking, are allowable uses. In some cases, rest room facilities and limited picnic facilities may also be compatible.

All development plans should be submitted for review and prior approval by the Local Grants Program staff of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Development proposals will be reviewed on a case by case basis, taking into account the specific characteristics of the natural and scenic area. Any development should be designed to avoid damage to natural resources and features, steer activities away from sensitive areas (such as steep bluffs, erosion prone shorelines, rare plant communities, etc.), and discourage inappropriate recreational use. Facilities must meet all safety and accessibility standards.

2. **INCOMPATIBLE USE AND DEVELOPMENT:** Natural and scenic areas should not be developed for more active outdoor recreational uses, such as athletic fields and courts, campgrounds, motorized sports, etc. Any use or development that could result in damage to significant natural and/or scenic resources must be avoided. In some cases, it may be necessary to prohibit access to certain portions of the property to avoid damage to highly sensitive or rare resources. Protective fencing may be used when appropriate. Natural and Scenic Areas sites may not be used for a wetland mitigation or banking area. The intent of this program is to expand and protect natural and scenic areas and not provide areas that can be used for replacement of natural areas lost through development.

LAND RETENTION REQUIREMENT

1) **CONVERSION OF USE:** It is the intention of the State that the property acquired under this agreement shall exist in the Grantee's ownership and be maintained and managed consistent with the purpose and type of property to properly protect the natural and/or scenic resources in perpetuity. The Grantee shall not at any time convert any property acquired or developed pursuant to this agreement to uses other than the permitted uses specified in this agreement without the prior written approval of the State.

The State will consider a conversion request only after the following pre-requisites have been met:

1. All practical alternatives to the conversion have been evaluated and rejected on a sound basis.
2. The Grantee has agreed to replace the converted lands with other lands of at least equal fair market value and reasonably equivalent natural and or scenic resources as determined by the State.

The State shall have the authority to approve or disapprove conversion requests.

2) **DEED RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT:** The Grantee will be required to record a condition with the deed of the property acquired and, if necessary, adjacent lands owned by the applicant. The condition is to ensure that the property will be managed and maintained consistent with the purpose and type of property acquired using appropriate management and protection practices to protect the natural and/or scenic resources and that the property will not be converted to any uses other than permitted in the grant agreement without the prior written approval of the State. The specific language for the condition will depend on the funding source provided and will be stated in the grant agreement.

PROJECT CLOSEOUT PROCEDURES

Upon completion of your project, a final billing must be submitted to our office no later than 30 days after the expiration date on your agreement. Program staff will complete a final inspection of the project. The inspection will focus on ensuring that the project was completed in accordance with the grant agreement, that facilities developed are accessible and a funding acknowledgment sign is installed. If any problems are revealed during the inspection, they will need to be corrected before you receive final reimbursement for your grant and the official closeout notification for your project.

NOTE: All expenditures are subject to verification by an independent state audit and, therefore, you must retain all project records for a period of at least six years after you receive the official closeout notification letter.

Acknowledgment Sign

All projects acquired or developed with assistance from this program must display a state approved funding acknowledgment sign at the main entrance to the park. The grant program will provide the specific sign information.

Availability to Users

Public property, facilities & programs that receive state assistance and future development of a site that has received state assistance shall be open to entry by all persons regardless of race, color, national origin, religion or sex. No person shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in any program or activity receiving state assistance. Finally, discrimination on the basis of residence, including preferential reservation, membership or annual permit systems is prohibited except to the extent that reasonable differences in admission and other fees may be maintained on the basis of residence. Fees charged to non-residents cannot exceed twice that charged to residents and must be comparable to fees charged at other state or local facilities.

Compliance Inspections

Periodic post-completion inspections will be conducted to ensure that the site is being properly operated and maintained and that no conversion of use has occurred.

CRITERIA

The following factors are part of the general criteria used by DNR to evaluate and rank Regional Park Grant applications. These criteria were used to identify examples of non-metro regional parks.

1. **Size:** 100 or more acres (with exceptions based on use characteristics, special features, etc.).
2. **Use:** Evidence that the park serves at least a regional clientele (as opposed to mostly local). Other related factors may include evidence that the facility draws tourists from outside the local area.
3. **Recreation Activities Offered:** The park should provide outdoor recreation facilities and activities that are primarily natural resource based (camping, picnicking, hiking, swimming, boating, canoeing, fishing, nature study). A related measure is the range of these activities accommodated within the park. For example, a park with a beach, campground and boat launch facilities are more likely to attract a regional clientele than a park with only a fishing pier.
4. **Special Features:** Unique or unusual geologic features or historical significance of the site; zoos; etc.
5. **Scarcity of Recreational Resources:** The park provides public natural resource based recreational opportunities that are not otherwise available within a reasonable distance. These might include water-based activities, such as swimming, fishing and boating; interpretive nature trails; public campgrounds, etc.
6. **Statewide Significance:** Characteristics of the park are of statewide significance, such as site of a major state historical event, unique resource of statewide significance, etc.
7. **Minimum Grant Request:** The grant request must be at least \$20,000.

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