

LWCF Application Information Page

Application Deadline - April 1st on EVEN YEARS

Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant awards are available to the State of Louisiana and its political subdivisions to acquire land for park and recreation areas and /or to develop and/or renovate outdoor recreation facilities. Project sponsor eligibility is limited to political subdivisions or state agencies. Political subdivisions include parishes, cities, towns, school districts or special assessment districts, such as recreation districts. Nonprofit or charitable organizations must work through their local or state agencies, parishes, cities, towns, school districts or special assessment districts in order to qualify for assistance under this program. Private individuals and organizations are not eligible for assistance.

The LWCF is funded annually through the Federal budget by the United States Congress and apportioned to states by the Department of the Interior. Administration of the program within Louisiana is conducted by the Office of State Parks (OSP), Division of Outdoor Recreation under agreement with the National Park Service (NPS).

Projects reviewed, approved, and selected at the state level are submitted to the NPS for federal review and approval. Project proposals must be approved at both the Federal and state levels. Upon NPS approval of a project application, a state agreement is prepared by OSP and forwarded to the project sponsor for signature.

Recreation areas that receive Federal assistance through the LWCF must remain dedicated to public outdoor recreation use in perpetuity. Property within the project boundary may not be converted to any use other than outdoor recreation without prior approval from the OSP and the NPS. The local sponsor must replace any converted property with property of equal or greater recreational value and usefulness in accordance with Section 6(f) of the LWCF Act. Project sponsors are responsible for notifying OSP of any changes in usage to assure that a conversion is not required.

LWCF grants reimburse up to 50 percent of the cost for land acquisition, development or renovation/restoration projects less administrative fees. Project totals less than \$60,000 are not considered competitive. **The maximum level of Federal assistance available for a single LWCF grant is \$250,000.** Project sponsors cannot be reimbursed for funds incurred before an application receives federal approval and a local grant agreement is signed.

The application deadline is **April 1st** of each even year (2016, 2018, etc.). Applications must be submitted on or before that date. Late or incomplete applications will not be considered. Applications may not be submitted for multiple sites.

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|--------------------------|---|
| April 1- April 15 | Preliminary State Review & approval |
| April 15-June 1 | Sponsors approved during preliminary review will be contacted & receive 90 days to make corrections and submit remainder of application documents |
| June 1 – July 15 | State Review |
| TBA | State submittal to National Park Service for Federal review |

ELECTRONIC SUBMISSIONS ONLY shall be emailed or send your cloud server link to outdoorrec@crt.la.gov. Prior to submission contact the Division of Outdoor Recreation at 225/342-8111 or Toll free 1-888/677-1400 for further instructions.

Land & Water Conservation Fund Program Grant Application

I. GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Name: _____

Project Sponsor: (Ex. Town of Walker or Livingston Parish) _____

Parish: _____

Property or Official Park Name: (Project location) _____

Type of Project (check one):

- ☐ Acquisition
- ☐ Combination Acquisition and Development
- ☐ Development

Is there a previous grant from another federal agency on this site? ____ Yes ____ No

If so, what is the name of the agency? _____

Name of the other agency's project? _____

II. POINT OF CONTACT (applicant Author)

Name: _____ Title: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email address: _____

Alternate Contact Name: _____ Phone # _____

Email: _____ Website: _____

III. PROJECT SPONSOR & APPOINTED AUTHORITY

Name: _____ Title: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email address: _____

Alternate Contact Name: _____ Phone # _____

Email: _____ Website: _____

IV. PROJECT PHYSICAL LOCATION INFORMATION:

Municipal Address: _____

Geocode: (latitude / longitude coordinates) _____

Township: N/S _____ Range: E/W _____ Section: _____ Congressional District: _____

SCORP Planning Region: _____ Current Population of area to be served: _____

Population of Parish: _____

Estimated annual visitation of proposed project area: _____

Project enhanced acreage _____ Acres needed to purchase: _____ Total 6(f) acreage: _____

V. SITE CLASSIFICATION (Check all that apply)

____ Sports Park / recreation area (more than 4 athletic fields, includes regional parks)

____ Neighborhood Park /multipurpose outdoor recreation area (playground, athletic fields, etc.)

____ Natural Area / Passive recreation (community gardens, arboretum, amphitheater)

____ Water based recreation area (fishing, boat launch, piers, swimming, overlooks, etc.)

____ Outstanding natural environmental area /Preservation area (trails, picnic area)

____ Historic or cultural site

____ Other (Explain) _____

VI. PROJECT CATEGORY / SCORP PRIORITIES (2014-2019 SCORP page 97)

____ Trails (paved & unpaved to facilitate non-motorized travel to outdoor recreation opportunities)

____ Public Access to Water (fishing, beach & lake swimming, kayak & canoe trails, boat launches)

____ Land Acquisition for Preservation / Protection (wilderness conservation & open space)

____ Camping (designated camping areas & rental cabins with access to outdoor amenities)

____ Playgrounds & Picnic Areas (upgrades & new developments meeting national standards)

VII. TIME / DISTANCE CLASSIFICATION (refers to primary or 80% of users)

____ Neighborhood / walking distance ____ Community / town (within 15 minute drive)

____ Weekend or day use (over 2 hour drive) ____ Metropolitan / regional (within 45 minute drive)

VIII. WATER RESOURCE

Marine shoreline frontage _____ linear feet

Freshwater shoreline frontage including reservoirs _____ linear feet

Rivers / streams frontage _____ linear feet

Natural lakes / ponds _____# of water bodies & total water surface _____acres

Artificial impoundments ____ # of water bodies & total water surface area ____ acres

IX. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

1. Total Project Cost \$ _____

2. Requested Fund Amount (not to exceed \$250,000) \$ _____

3. Matching Fund Source: _____

This section certifies that the sponsor has their share of money available and has earmarked these funds for use on this project. It is necessary to have 50% of the total project cost available.

3. Do you have a **MASTER PLAN** for your park or site? ____ yes ____ no (You are submitting a Conceptual Development Plan for your project with this application, it should be a portion of the Master Plan which is a guide for all future development for the site)

4. Is the project part of a local strategic plan for outdoor recreation and / or has a community survey been conducted that indicates the need for this project? ____ yes ____ no

4. (a) If yes, please explain the public input process in planning for this project:

Surveys ____ Community Meetings ____ Website Information ____ Public Web Forum ____

5. How many phases of work do you anticipate to complete the master plan for this site? _____

5. Do you have a **REGIONAL PLAN** for your parish that includes outdoor recreation? _____

6. Description of your project / List of the project elements – *100 character limit* (Ex. 1 restroom with 4 stalls, 1 lighted ball field, a 40 car gravel parking lot, playground equipment for ages 6-12) You will have opportunity to explain further in a separate document - your **Project Narrative**.

7. Describe any impact (positive or negative) to the site by the completion of this project.

8. How does the project meet requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act and Architectural Barriers Act, as well as the special needs of senior citizens?

10. Is this project a renovation of an existing LWCF facility? ____yes ____ no

10(a) If yes, please indicate the year funds were awarded for the initial project ____.

11. Are there other facilities in the area similar to the proposed project? ____ yes ____ no

11(a) If yes, please describe the existing recreation facility elements:
