



Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

M.L. 2021 Approved Work Plan

General Information

ID Number: 2021-325

Staff Lead: Becca Nash

Date this document submitted to LCCMR: July 21, 2021

Project Title: Veterans On The Lake

Project Budget: \$553,000

Project Manager Information

Name: Neil Olson

Organization: Veterans on the Lake

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Project Reporting

Date Work Plan Approved by LCCMR: July 20, 2021

Reporting Schedule: December 1 / June 1 of each year.

Project Completion: July 31, 2023

Final Report Due Date: September 14, 2023

Legal Information

Legal Citation: M.L. 2021, First Special Session, Chp. 6, Art. 6, Sec. 2, Subd. 09m

Appropriation Language: \$553,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Lake County for Veterans on the Lake to conduct accessibility upgrades to Veterans on the Lake's existing trails, roadway, and buildings to improve access to the wilderness and outdoor recreation for disabled American veterans.

Appropriation End Date: June 30, 2024

Narrative

Project Summary: 553,000 is respectfully requested for accessibility/handicap renovations to existing structures and roadway and trail construction for upgrading accessibility for our clients 81% of which are disabled American Veterans.

Describe the opportunity or problem your proposal seeks to address. Include any relevant background information.

Veterans on the Lake is a resort and recreational facility for disabled American Veterans and their families, created on a lake partially within the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness in 1982 as a 501c3 non-profit organization. The resort is made up of more than 30 aging cabins, pathways, trails, common areas, pool, boat house, docks, lodge and supporting facilities. For 38 years, these facilities have been adequate to addressing our mission to provide quality access to the wilderness and outdoor recreation for our guests and their families. Now, with a limited budget that covers our operating expenses and maintenance, it is time for targeted upgrades focusing on increasing accessibility and repairing our trails, pathways, docks, and roadway to allow barrier free access as the first priority. The second priority will be to increase the accessibility of our existing cabins and lodge and improve their energy efficiency in order to reduce long-term operating costs. Some cabins will be razed and replaced due to structural issues.

What is your proposed solution to the problem or opportunity discussed above? i.e. What are you seeking funding to do? You will be asked to expand on this in Activities and Milestones.

First, trails, pathways, docks, and the roadway will be upgraded to allow barrier free access, including below grade work, paving, and dock renovation. Second, upgrades for our cabins and lodge will include widening doorways, building new accessibility ramps, adding grab bars, walk-in showers and bathtubs, upgrading flooring, closets, automatic doors/handles, accessible kitchens as well as energy improvements including windows, roofing, insulation, and heat plant infrastructure. Finally, some cabins will be razed and replaced.

What are the specific project outcomes as they relate to the public purpose of protection, conservation, preservation, and enhancement of the state's natural resources?

This is an effort to increase public access for recreation, particularly in the area of providing high quality access for disabled American Veterans and their families to access Minnesota's BWCAW and nearby outdoor recreation opportunities and educational/cultural programs through area attractions near Ely such as the International Wolf Center, the North American Bear Center, the Dorothy Molter Museum, and the US Forest Service BWCAW information center.

Project Location

What is the best scale for describing where your work will take place?

Region(s): NE

What is the best scale to describe the area impacted by your work?

Statewide

When will the work impact occur?

During the Project

Activities and Milestones

Activity 1: Project Construction Engineering

Activity Budget: \$50,000

Activity Description:

Construction engineering includes construction administration, onsite observations, and architectural plans focused on the upgrades and accessibility projects related to trails, paths, ramps and cabin upgrades on this first phase of our project.

Activity Milestones:

Description	Completion Date
Construction Engineering Start	July 31, 2021
Construction Engineering Complete	September 30, 2021

Activity 2: Trail Paving Project Construction

Activity Budget: \$85,610

Activity Description:

Our accessibility upgrade project at Veterans on the Lake includes paving and trail construction to meet ADA requirements. This includes trails, pathways, docks, and the roadway that will be upgraded to allow barrier free access, including below grade work, paving, and dock renovation. We will also be using funding from St. Louis County (\$100,000) and Dept. of Iron Range Resources (\$125,000) for this part of the project as we can begin this Fall or first thing in the Spring. This funding was awarded to us in 2019 and 2020 respectively. We are working through our fiscal agent, Lake County, to make sure we are following the LCCMR/IRRB/State of MN bidding process. We did discuss this via e-mail with Director Becca Nash in order to make sure we are following the correct bidding process. With non-ENRTF dollars will complete most of the trail upgrades. We will not fully complete the trail and path upgrades until an LCCMR award is finalized.

Activity Milestones:

Description	Completion Date
Construction Begins	October 31, 2020
Project Bid	October 31, 2020
Construction Complete	July 31, 2022

Activity 3: Cabin Renovation/Reconstruction

Activity Budget: \$417,390

Activity Description:

Cabin upgrades/renovations/replacements is a multi-phase project as we have 30 aging buildings at the facility. This phase of our project includes upgrades for two (2) of our cabins and will include widening doorways, building new accessibility ramps, adding grab bars, walk-in showers and bathtubs, upgrading flooring, closets, automatic doors/handles, accessible kitchens as well as energy improvements including windows, roofing, insulation, and heat plant infrastructure. At this stage our plan is to renovate the two cabins, however, if it because cost prohibitive, we would raze the cabins and reconstruct them likely with modular cabins.

Activity Milestones:

Description	Completion Date
Project Bidding	August 31, 2021
Construction Begins on 2 Cabin Renovation/Reconstruction	September 30, 2021
Construction Completed	July 31, 2022

Project Partners and Collaborators

Name	Organization	Role	Receiving Funds
U.S. Forest Service	Government	The lands used by Veterans on the Lake to serve disabled American Veterans is leased in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service.	No
Lake County	Government	Lake County is supportive of the project, considering a grant and will act as our fiscal agent.	Yes
Minnesota Department of Iron Range Resources	Government	The Minnesota Department of Iron Range Resources is supportive of the Veterans on the Lake project and considering a grant toward the project.	Yes
St. Louis County	Government	St. Louis County is supportive of the Veterans on the Lake project and has contributed \$100,000 toward it.	Yes

Dissemination

Describe your plans for dissemination, presentation, documentation, or sharing of data, results, samples, physical collections, and other products and how they will follow ENRTF Acknowledgement Requirements and Guidelines.

Veterans on the Lake has regular project meetings. Documentation of these meetings are developed in the form of meeting minutes that are available upon request.

The Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) will be acknowledged through use of the trust fund logo or attribution language on project print and electronic media, publications, signage, and other communications per the ENRTF Acknowledgement Guidelines.

Long-Term Implementation and Funding

Describe how the results will be implemented and how any ongoing effort will be funded. If not already addressed as part of the project, how will findings, results, and products developed be implemented after project completion? If additional work is needed, how will this be funded?

The results will be implemented by working with our fiscal agent, Lake County, to publicly bid and award the construction and repair work described above according to county purchasing rules and some matching funding has already been received and committed to the project. Ongoing operations of the resort will continue, as it has since 1982, by a combination of revenues from guests, donations, and support from local communities, local government, and veterans organizations.

Budget Summary

Category / Name	Subcategory or Type	Description	Purpose	Gen. Ineligible	% Benefits	# FTE	Classified Staff?	\$ Amount
Personnel								
							Sub Total	-
Contracts and Services								
Engineering Firm Hired Through A Competitive Process	Professional or Technical Service Contract	The engineering firm will be responsible for project design and construction administration.				-		\$50,000
							Sub Total	\$50,000
Equipment, Tools, and Supplies								
							Sub Total	-
Capital Expenditures								
							Sub Total	-
Acquisitions and Stewardship								
							Sub Total	-
Travel In Minnesota								
							Sub Total	-
Travel Outside Minnesota								
							Sub Total	-

Printing and Publication								
							Sub Total	-
Other Expenses								
		General Contractor for Construction	G.C. Hired Through Competitive Bid Process					\$503,000
							Sub Total	\$503,000
							Grand Total	\$553,000

Classified Staff or Generally Ineligible Expenses

Category/Name	Subcategory or Type	Description	Justification Ineligible Expense or Classified Staff Request
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Non ENRTF Funds

Category	Specific Source	Use	Status	Amount
State				
			State Sub Total	-
Non-State				
Cash	Saint Louis County, Minnesota	The grant from Saint Louis County will be used for the trail and path accessibility project and serve toward matching funds for ENRTF funds.	Secured	\$100,000
Cash	Lake County	We are seeking a \$10,000 grant from Lake County, Minnesota.	Pending	\$10,000
In-Kind	Pre-engineering - JPJ Engineering	JPJ Engineering has provided in-kind support for early planning of project.	Secured	\$15,000
Cash	Veterans on the Lake	Veterans on the Lake will be contributing a minimum of \$10,000 to the project.	Secured	\$10,000
Cash	Department of Iron Range Resources	For use in construction.	Secured	\$125,000
			Non State Sub Total	\$260,000
			Funds Total	\$260,000

Attachments

Required Attachments

Visual Component

File: [cd29c2e9-b6e.pdf](#)

Alternate Text for Visual Component

Site map of Veterans on the Lake....

Financial Capacity

File: [417af615-df6.pdf](#)

Board Resolution or Letter

Title	File
Veteran on the Lake Resolution	b201dccb-039.pdf

Optional Attachments

Support Letter or Other

Title	File
LCCMR Background Check Document	f899554e-6b3.pdf

Difference between Proposal and Work Plan

Describe changes from Proposal to Work Plan Stage

Responding to changes. Thank you!

Additional Acknowledgements and Conditions:

The following are acknowledgements and conditions beyond those already included in the above workplan:

Do you understand and acknowledge the ENRTF repayment requirements if the use of capital equipment changes?

N/A

Do you agree travel expenses must follow the "Commissioner's Plan" promulgated by the Commissioner of Management of Budget or, for University of Minnesota projects, the University of Minnesota plan?

N/A

Does your project have potential for royalties, copyrights, patents, or sale of products and assets?

No

Do you understand and acknowledge IP and revenue-return and sharing requirements in 116P.10?

N/A

Do you wish to request reinvestment of any revenues into your project instead of returning revenue to the ENRTF?

N/A

Does your project include original, hypothesis-driven research?

No

Does the organization have a fiscal agent for this project?

Yes, Lake County



	1" BITUMINOUS WEARING COURSE
	2" BITUMINOUS NON WEARING COURSE
	4" AGGREGATE BASE, CLASS 5
	GEOTEXTILE FABRIC

WEST PORTION

WEST

FALL LAKE

EAST PORTION

EAST PARKING LOT

WEST PORTION

EAST PORTION

EAST PARKING LOT

FERNBERG ROAD

