

**Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund
2012-2013 Request for Proposals (RFP)**

Project Title:

ENRTF ID: 157-I

Voyageurs National Park Clean Water Project

Topic Area: I. Water Resources

Total Project Budget: \$ 150,000

Proposed Project Time Period for the Funding Requested: 3 yrs. July 2013 - June 2016

Other Non-State Funds: \$ 150,000

Summary:

Continue to address water quality issues in the Voyageurs National Park area by developing sewer districts, pursuing project financing and to implement sanitary sewer improvements in this pristine National Park.

Name: Julie Kennedy

Sponsoring Organization: Voyagers National Park Clean Water Project Joint Powers Board

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International Falls MN 56649

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Email: jkennedy@sehinc.com

Web Address: http://www.sehinc.com

Location

Region: NE

County Name: Statewide

City / Township: See Map

<input type="checkbox"/>	Funding Priorities	<input type="checkbox"/>	Multiple Benefits	<input type="checkbox"/>	Outcomes	<input type="checkbox"/>	Knowledge Base
<input type="checkbox"/>	Extent of Impact	<input type="checkbox"/>	Innovation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Scientific/Tech Basis	<input type="checkbox"/>	Urgency
<input type="checkbox"/>	Capacity Readiness	<input type="checkbox"/>	Leverage	<input type="checkbox"/>	Employment	<input type="checkbox"/>	TOTAL <input type="checkbox"/> %



Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)

2012-2013 Main Proposal

PROJECT TITLE: Voyageur's National Park Clean Water Project

I. PROJECT STATEMENT

The purpose of this project is to improve the water quality of the Voyageur's National Park by using state of the art technology to meet the sanitary sewer needs of remote residents, recreational users and resorts which will aid in preserving the Park, enhancing access, and saving its water for future generations.

Individual septic system testing has proven that there are significant failures along the coast of the Park among the hundreds of systems currently handling the sewage load. A recent study in one area of the Park showed 94% of these individual systems were failing. This suggests a significant negative impact on the Park, which threatens the long-term health of the ecosystem and the economic health of the tourism industry upon which the local economy is based. Preserving the water quality of the Park is the focus of this request. The proposed strategy to address the water quality issues is to develop sewer district(s), to pursue project financing and to implement sanitary sewer improvements for the residential and commercial properties located in the Park area.

The prime sponsor of this project will be the Voyageur's National Park Clean Water Joint Powers Board with support from St. Louis and Koochiching Counties it will serve the residents of both of these counties and includes the area surrounding Ash River, Kabetogama and Crane Lake.

The primary focus for use of the LCCMR funds will be to continue stakeholder outreach, prioritize project development, design a centralized management system for a variety of decentralized systems and to continue our funding activities and associated funding administration.

II. DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT ACTIVITIES

Activity 1: Stakeholder Outreach/Public Relations and Awareness Budget: \$75,000 of which we are asking \$37,500 from LCCMR.

Detailed activities include quarterly public meetings in the Ash River, Kabetogama and Crane Lake Community. Monthly Joint Powers Board meetings and additional meetings as needed to update the stakeholders on project funding, development and prioritization.

Outcome	Completion Date
1. Continued Active Public Participation and By-In	July 2016
2. Organized and Productive Public Meetings	July 2016
3. Monthly JPB Meetings are scheduled and well attended	July 2016
Etc.	

Activity 2: Prioritized Project Development Budget: \$95,000 of which we are asking \$47,500 from LCCMR.

Detailed activities include developing and assessing the prioritized projects established within the clean water basin studies and actively educate and promote the project to all stakeholders.

Outcome	Completion Date
1. Provide Information packets to all property owners in project areas	July 2016
2. Conduct informational surveys of the constituents	July 2016
3. Neighborhood meetings to discuss area projects, impacts and cost	July 2016
Etc.	

Activity 3: Centralized Management of Decentralized Systems Budget: \$37,000 of which we are asking \$18,500 from LCCMR.

Detailed activities include design a centralized sanitary sewer management system to oversee and manage remote systems due to their geographical distance from densely populated areas.

Outcome	Completion Date
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1. Reassess with stakeholders the areas that would warrant centralized management.	July 2016
2. Review options for centralized management from example entities that have been established to perform these types of services in other areas.	July 2016
3. Well researched recommendations for a centralized management system	July 2016
Etc.	

Activity 4: Funding Development and Administration Budget: \$93,000 of which we are asking \$46,500 from LCCMR.

In order to undertake a far reaching project in a remote area with a small permanent population and very large tourist population it is extremely important to undertake extensive funding efforts in order to implement projects. To this end, this detailed activity will involve drafting funding applications, administration of funds received and providing all necessary funding documentation and reports.

Outcome	Completion Date
1. Funding secured for projects as prioritized	July 2016
2. Funds administered as directed by funding organizations	July 2016
3. All necessary reports, studies etc. submitted to funders	July 2016
Etc.	

III. PROJECT STRATEGY

A. Project Team/Partners

Dale Olson – Environmental Services Director for Koochiching County

Dale will be the team’s liaison with the Voyageur’s National Park Joint Powers Board , the Koochiching County Board and the St. Louis County Board.

Randy Jenniges – Professional Engineer with Short Elliott Hendrickson

Randy will serve as client service/ manager for this team.

Gary Cerkvenik – President, The Costin Group, Inc.

Gary has extensive knowledge of government affairs, public finance, public relations and project organization.

Mike Larson – Community Development Manager for Short Elliott Hendrickson

Mike’s role will consist of project development, project finance and funding administration. Julie

Kennedy – Professional Engineer for Short Elliott Hendrickson

Julie will serve as the overall Project Manager and will be responsible for the day to day oversight and management of the Voyageurs National Park Clean Water Project.

B. Timeline Requirements

The timelines for the activities described in this application are designed to move this project forward for the next 3 years (36 months). The overall project which consists of providing sanitary sewer solution for the entire Voyageur’s National Park will take many years to accomplish. Projects will be designed and constructed as successful funding efforts are realized. In addition to the actual project financing, this team will be responsible for successfully funding and overseeing all project administration and design described in this application for the duration of the project .

C. Long-Term Strategy and Future Funding Needs

This project is a part of a long- term project to address water quality issues throughout the Voyageurs National Park. To date, we have successfully raised funds from St. Louis County, IRRRB, PFA, Small Communities Fund and the State Bonding Bill. We have completed a long range plan, funded a couple of small projects, have secured funds for a large (\$2,000,000) project in Kabetogama and are conducting public outreach. We will continue to submit funding applications to all local, state and federal sources as projects are identified and designed.

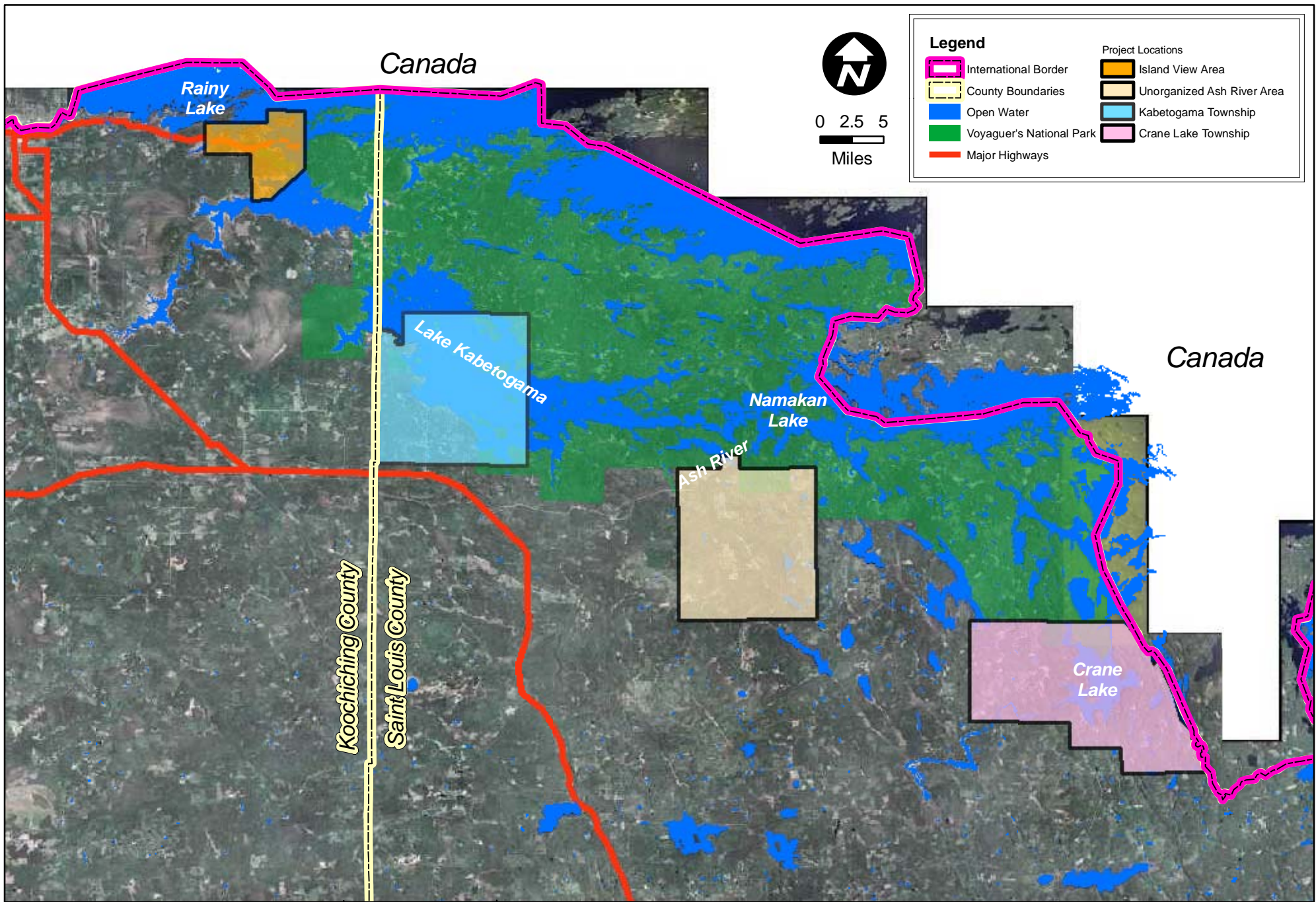
2012-2013 Detailed Project Budget

IV. TOTAL ENRTF REQUEST BUDGET 3 years

BUDGET ITEM (See list of Eligible and Non-Eligible Costs, p. 11)	AMOUNT
Personnel:	
Julie Kennedy Activities 1,2,3 (100% salary) Project Manager 36 Mos. 15% FTE	\$71,000
Randy Jenniges Activities 1,2,3 (100% salary) Project Engineer 36 Mos. 8%	\$32,500
Gary Cerkvenik Activities 1,4 (100% salary) Project Finance/PR 36 Mos. 6%	\$23,250
Mike Larson Activities 1,4 (100% salary) Project Finance 36 Mos. 6%	\$23,250
Contracts: <i>In this column, list out proposed contracts. Be clear about whom the contract is to be made with and what services will be provided. If a specific contractor is not yet determined, specify the type of contractor sought. List out by contract types/categories - one row per type/category.</i>	\$ -
Equipment/Tools/Supplies: <i>In this column, list out general descriptions of item(s) or item type(s) and their purpose - one row per item/item type.</i>	\$ -
Acquisition (Fee Title or Permanent Easements): <i>In this column, indicate proposed number of acres and name of organization or entity who will hold title.</i>	\$ -
Travel: <i>Be specific. Only in-state travel essential to completing project activities can be included.</i>	\$ -
Additional Budget Items: <i>In this column, list any additional budget items that do not fit above categories. List by item(s) or item type(s) and explain how number was reached. One row per type/category.</i>	\$ -
TOTAL ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND \$ REQUEST =	\$ 150,000

V. OTHER FUNDS

SOURCE OF FUNDS	AMOUNT	Status
Other State \$ Being Applied to Project During Project Period:	\$ -	<i>Indicate: Secured or Pending</i>
IRRRB	\$100,000	<i>Secured</i>
St. Louis County	\$100,000	<i>Secured</i>
Other State \$ Being Applied to Project During Project Period: <i>Indicate any additional state cash dollars (e.g. bonding, other grants) to be spent on the project during the funding period. For each individual sum, list out the source of the funds, the amount, and indicate whether the funds are secured or pending approval.</i>	\$ -	<i>Indicate: Unspent? Not Legally Obligated? Other?</i>
In-kind Services During Project Period: <i>Indicate any in-kind services to be provided during the funding period. List type of service(s) and estimated value. In-kind services listed must be specific to the project.</i>	\$ -	



Project Manager Qualifications and Organization Description

Organization Description

The Voyageur's National Park Clean Water Joint Powers Board (JPB) was created between St. Louis and Koochiching Counties to help the project partners provide an environmentally sensitive and reasonable solution to the problem of non-compliant and failing septic systems within the lands adjacent to the Voyageurs National Park. Four county commissioners, two from each of the counties, serve as the voting Board members for the JPB. The JPB is supported by an advisory committee made up of St. Louis and Koochiching County Environmental Services Departments staff, the VNP Superintendent and staff, a Kabetogama Township Supervisor, a Crane Lake Water & Sanitary District Boardmember, an Island View Sanitary Sewer Committee Boardmember, as well as citizen representatives from the unorganized area of Ash River.

Project Manager Qualifications

Julie will be the Project Manager and Public Involvement Specialist for the Namakan Basin project. Julie possesses a combination of leadership skills and technical experience that are critical to managing complex projects and facilitating the public participation process. Her experience includes sanitary sewer collection system extensions and upgrades, water treatment system improvements, airport runway extension and reconstruction, environmental assessments, and wetland replacement projects.

Ms. Kennedy joined the Grand Rapids office of SEH in July 2002 as a Project Engineer. Prior to joining SEH, she spent one year designing wastewater treatment systems for a Minneapolis company and four years managing engineering research projects for the University of Minnesota's Hydraulic Laboratory. Julie graduated Cum Laude in December 1997 from the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities with a Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering. In June 2004, Julie became a registered professional engineer in the state of Minnesota.

Julie is responsible for the overall outcome of a variety of project types. Her projects have included streets and roadways, sanitary sewer collection systems, grading and drainage, water distribution systems, site development, site planning, and parking improvements. Julie has additional experience in multi-use trails, environmental assessments, wetland replacement, and platting.