

**Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund  
2019 Request for Proposals (RFP)**

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**Project Title:**

**ENRTF ID: 251-G**

Minnesota State Trails Development

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**Category:** G. Land Acquisition for Habitat and Recreation

**Sub-Category:**

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**Total Project Budget: \$** 8,750,000

**Proposed Project Time Period for the Funding Requested:** June 30, 2021 (2 yrs)

**Summary:**

This project fulfills legislative direction to expand recreational opportunities on Minnesota State Trails through the development of new trail segments; and the rehabilitation and enhancement of existing State Trails.

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**Name:** Kent Skaar

**Sponsoring Organization:** MN DNR

**Title:** Senior Project Manager

**Department:** Parks and Trails Division

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St. Paul MN 55155

**Telephone Number:** (651) 259-5636

**Email** kent.skaar@state.mn.us

**Web Address** mndnr.gov

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**Location**

**Region:** Statewide

**County Name:** Statewide

**City / Township:**

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**Alternate Text for Visual:**

Proposal Map provides locations for each of the State Trail segments to be developed or enhanced.

_____ Funding Priorities	_____ Multiple Benefits	_____ Outcomes	_____ Knowledge Base
_____ Extent of Impact	_____ Innovation	_____ Scientific/Tech Basis	_____ Urgency
_____ Capacity	_____ Readiness	_____ Leverage	_____ TOTAL _____%
_____ If under \$200,000, waive presentation?			



**Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)  
2019 Main Proposal**

**PROJECT TITLE: Minnesota State Trails Development**

**I. PROJECT STATEMENT**

This project fulfills legislative direction to expand recreational opportunities on Minnesota State Trails through the development of new trail segments; and the rehabilitation and enhancement of existing State Trails. Engineering, design, and construction will meet the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Trail Planning, Design and Development Guidelines, the Minnesota Department of Transportation Bikeways Facility Design Manual, and the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) guide for the development of bicycle facilities.

**The Minnesota State Trail projects in this ENRTF project include:**

- State Trail Bridge Renewal or Replacement: Rehabilitation or Replacement of 5-7 bridges Statewide
- Paul Bunyan State Trail: City of Bemidji - Clausen Ave. Connection
- Gateway State Trail: City of St. Paul - L'Orient Ave. Realignment
- Heartland State Trail: Cass County - Steamboat Loop/Co Rd. 142 Realignment
- Gitchi Gami State Trail: Lutsen Connection
- Minnesota Valley State Trail: Fort Snelling State Park Segment
- Gitchi Gami State Trail: Silver Bay to Tettegouche State Park Segment
- Blazing Star State Trail: Albert Lea Lake / Myre - Big Island State Park Segment

Each of the identified projects enhance recreational opportunities by completing a connection between existing trail segments and communities, by providing matching funds for projects with Federal Grants, or by completing of public safety improvements. If any of the final project plans identify the need for limited land acquisition, an update to the ENTF Work Plan will be submitted. Should any of the above-referenced projects experience unanticipated delays or barriers to completion, an update to the ENRTF work plan will be submitted in order to include the next priority State Trail project(s).

**II. PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES**

**Activity 1: State Trail Bridge Renewal or Replacement:** This project includes the renewal or replacement of 5-7 existing State Trail Bridges that have a Conditional Index Rating of Fair to Poor and are recommended for substantial rehabilitation or complete replacement within 2 years.

**ENRTF BUDGET: \$2,500,000**

Outcome	Completion Date
1. State Trail Bridge Renewal or Replacement: Engineering and Construction	12/1/2021

**Activity 2: Paul Bunyan State Trail – City of Bemidji - Clausen Ave. Connection:** This project proposes the construction of a 0.5 mile new trail segment adjacent to Clausen Ave. in the City of Bemidji. The ENRTF Budget for this project will be supplemented by a \$150,000 Federal Recreational Trail Grant.

**ENRTF BUDGET: \$450,000**

Outcome	Completion Date
1. Paul Bunyan State Trail - Clausen Ave.: Engineering and Construction	12/1/2020

**Activity 3: Gateway State Trail – City of St. Paul - L'Orient Ave. Realignment:** This project is the realignment of a 0.65 mile segment of the Gateway State Trail in St. Paul, eliminating an existing trail crossing of L'Orient Avenue.

**ENRTF BUDGET: \$600,000**

Outcome	Completion Date
1. Gateway State Trail – L'Orient Ave.: Engineering and Construction	6/30/2021

**Activity 4: Heartland State Trail – Cass County - Steamboat Loop/Co Rd. 142 Realignment:** This project is the development of 1.0 mile of new recreational trail, on acquired lands, located 7.5 miles north of the community of



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**2019 Main Proposal**

Walker. The development will eliminate the current requirement that trail users to travel on the shoulder of the Cass CR 142 / Steamboat Loop roadway.

**ENRTF BUDGET: \$900,000**

Outcome	Completion Date
1. <i>Heartland State Trail – Steamboat Loop: Construction</i>	10/1/2020

**Activity 5: Gitchi Gami State Trail - Lutsen Connection:** This project is the development of a 1.5 mile new segment of the Gitchi Gami State that will connect the community of Lutsen to the towns of Tofte and Schroeder. The ENRTF Budget for this project will supplemented by a \$600,000 Federal TAP Grant.

**ENRTF BUDGET: \$500,000**

Outcome	Completion Date
1. <i>Gitchi Gami State Trail - Lutsen Connection: Engineering and Construction.</i>	12/1/2020

**Activity 6: Minnesota Valley State Trail - Ft. Snelling State Park Segment:** This project is for rehabilitation of the 0.6 mile segment of Minnesota Valley State Trail located within Fort Snelling State Park. Final plans and specifications for this project have been completed. The ENRTF Budget for this project will supplemented by a \$200,000 NPS Grant.

**ENRTF BUDGET: \$900,000**

Outcome	Completion Date
1. <i>Minnesota Valley State Trail: Rehabilitation of trail segment</i>	8/1/2020

**Activity 7: Gitchi Gami State Trail – Silver Bay to Tettegouche State Park Segment:** This project is limited to preliminary engineering for the proposed segment of the Gitchi Gami State Trail that is to extend 7.0 miles between the City of Silver Bay and Tettegouche State Park. The completion of the project will provide for the identification of a final trail corridor and trail construction estimates.

**ENRTF BUDGET: \$200,000**

Outcome	Completion Date
1. <i>Gitchi Gami State Trail – Silver Bay to Tettegouche State Park: Preliminary Engineering</i>	12/31/20

**Activity 8: Blazing Star State Trail – Albert Lea Lake / Myre-Big Island State Park Segment:** This project represents the development of a 0.4 mile connection of the Blazing Star State Trail within Myre-Big Island State Park, connecting the Communities of Albert Lea and Hayward. Project engineering and permitting are in-progress.

**ENRTF BUDGET: \$2,700,000**

Outcome	Completion Date
1. <i>Blazing Star State Trail – Albert Lea to Hayward: Engineering and Construction</i>	6/30/21

**III. PROJECT PARTNERS:**

**A. Partners receiving ENRTF funding: NONE**

**B. Partners NOT receiving ENRTF funding:** Project partners include the National Park Service, MnDOT, the cities of St. Paul, Bemidji, Lutsen and Silver Bay, Lake County and the Gitchi Gami, Gateway-Browns Creek and Blazing Star Trail Associations. Partner participation will include supplemental funding, providing trail rights-of-way and design review assistance.

**IV. LONG-TERM- IMPLEMENTATION AND FUNDING:** Each of the identified projects are all existing or proposed components of the Outdoor Recreation System and will be implemented through the MNDNR Division of Parks and Trails Division staff. All project engineering, design, contract administration and construction inspection will be completed by or under the direct oversight of the MNDNR Division of Operation Services. The Department will operate, maintain and protect each of the facilities when complete.

**V. TIME LINE REQUIREMENTS:** Each of the proposed projects will require between 1 and 3 years to complete.

## 2019 Proposal Budget Spreadsheet

**Project Title: Minnesota State Trails Development**

### IV. TOTAL ENRTF REQUEST BUDGET: 3 years may be required for some projects

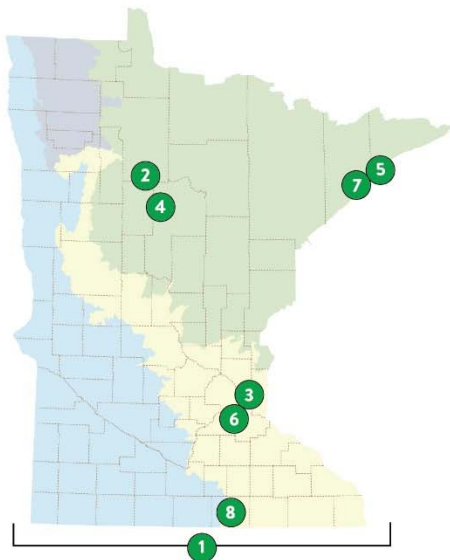
BUDGET ITEM (See "Guidance on Allowable Expenses")	AMOUNT
<b>Personnel: Not Applicable</b>	NA
<b>Professional/Technical/Service Contracts: Construction</b> State Trail Bridges Renewal or Replacement: Construction Contract \$2,319,264 Paul Bunyan State Trail (Clausen Ave): Construction Contract - \$399,237 Gateway State Trail (L'Orient Ave): Construction Contract - \$533,277 Heartland State Trail (Steamboat Loop): Construction Contract - \$843,474 Gitchi Gami State Trail (Lutsen): Construction Contract - \$444,237 Minnesota Valley State Trail (Ft Snelling State Park): Construction Contract - \$900,000 Gitchi Gami State Trail (Silver Bay to Tettegouche SP): NA Blazing Star State Trail (Albert Lea Lake): Construction Contract - \$2,477,343	\$ 7,916,832
<b>Professional/Technical/Service Contracts: Engineering and Design</b> <i>Principal Project Engineering and Design will be the responsibility of MnDNR Engineering and Design. However some projects may be subject to Engineering and Design Contracts</i> State Trail Bridges Renewal or Replacement: MnDNR Engineering \$150,000 Paul Bunyan State Trail (Clausen Ave): MnDNR Engineering - \$45,000 Gateway State Trail (L'Orient Ave): MnDNR Engineering - \$60,000 Heartland State Trail (Steamboat Loop): MnDNR Engineering - \$45,000 Gitchi Gami State Trail (Lutsen): MnDNR Engineering - \$50,000 Minnesota Valley State Trail (Ft Snelling State Park): Construction Contract - NA Gitchi Gami State Trail (Silver Bay): Consultant Eng/Design Contract \$197,119 Blazing Star State Trail (Albert Lea Lake): MnDNR Engineering - \$190,000	\$ 737,119
<b>Additional Budget Items:</b> Direct and Necessary expenses: HR Support (NA), Safety Support (NA), Financial Support (~\$96,049.00), Communication Support (NA), IT Support (NA), and Planning Support (NA) necessary to accomplish funded programs/projects.	\$ 96,049
<b>TOTAL ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND \$ REQUEST =</b>	<b>\$ 8,750,000</b>

\*Direct and Necessary expenses include Department Support Services (Human Resources, IT Support, Safety, Financial Support, Communications Support, and Planning Support). Department Support Services are described in the agency Service Level Agreement and billed internally to divisions based on rate that have been developed for each area of service. These services are directly related to and necessary for the appropriation. Department leadership services (Commissioner's Office and Regional Directors) are not assessed. Those elements of individual projects that put little or no demand on support services such as large single-source contracts, large land acquisitions, and funds that are passed through to other entities are not assessed Direct and Necessary costs for those activities

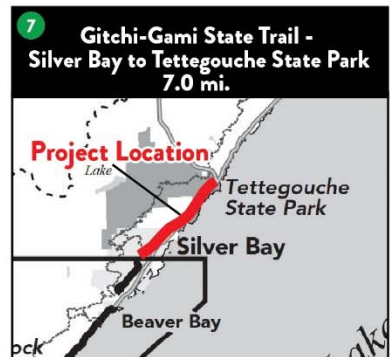
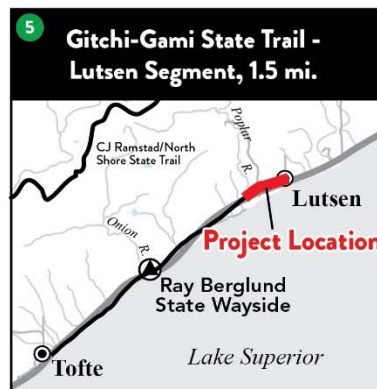
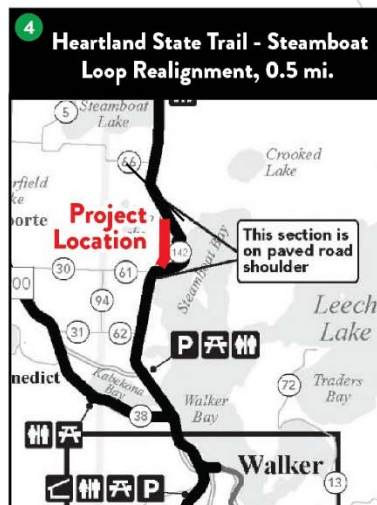
### V. OTHER FUNDS (This entire section must be filled out. Do not delete rows. Indicate "N/A" if row is not applicable.)

SOURCE OF FUNDS	AMOUNT	Status
<b>Other Non-State \$ To Be Applied To Project During Project Period:</b> Paul Bunyan State Trail (Clausen Ave) awarded a Federal Recreation Trail Grant (\$150,000) Gitchi Gami State Trail (Lutsen) - Awarded Transportation Alternatives Grant (\$600,000). Minnesota Valley State Trail (Minnehaha Segment) NPS Grant (\$200,000)	\$ 950,000	Secured
<b>Other State \$ To Be Applied To Project During Project Period:</b>	\$ -	NA
<b>In-kind Services To Be Applied To Project During Project Period:</b> Minnesota Valley State Trail (Fort Snelling) the National Park Service will be providing Final Engineering and construction administration (Cost Estimated)	\$ 50,000	Secured
<b>Past and Current ENRTF Appropriation:</b> ML 2017, Chp. 96, Sec. 2, Subd. 09d. - Minnesota State Trail Projects on the Mill Towns and Casey Jones State Trails.	\$ 1,038,000	Secured
<b>Past and Current ENRTF Appropriation:</b> ML 2018, Chp. xx, Sec. xx, Subd. sss. - Minnesota State Trail Projects on the Gateway and Gitchi Gami State Trails.	\$ 2,500,000	Requires 2018 Legislative Approval
<b>Other Funding History:</b> <b>ML.14.294.01.07</b> Project Permitting and Engineering will continue during 2018 on the proposed Blazing Star State Trail (Albert Lea Lake) project. Capital Bond Appropriation.	\$ 240,000	Secured

# Minnesota State Trail Development and Enhancement



**1** Statewide Bridge Replacement



## **Project Manager Qualifications and Organization Description**

**Project Manager:** Kent Skaar  
**Affiliation:** Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Trails  
**Telephone Number:** 651-259-5636  
**Title:** Senior Project Manager – Acquisition and Development

### **Experience:**

Kent Skaar has been an Employee of the State of Minnesota for more than 29 years. For the last 18 years he has been principally responsible for the development of MnDNR administered Public Water Accesses, State Trails and Motorized Off-Highway Recreational facilities. His experience includes facility design, construction, and project management for project of all sizes. Many of the projects include multiple disciplines and local partners. Mr. Skaar has extensive experience with the grant management, procedures and the requirements associated with a variety of federal and non-federal funding.

### **Organization Description:**

The Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Trails operates 67 state parks, 8 state recreation areas, 650 miles of surfaced, improved state trail, 1,610 water access sites, 30 water trails and 9 state waysides throughout Minnesota. The Division connects people to the state's natural resources by providing access to outdoor recreation, conservation education and natural resource restoration and management. The vision of the Parks and Trails Division is to create unforgettable park, trail and water recreation experiences that inspire people to pass along the love for the outdoors to current and future generations. More information on the Minnesota DNR can be found at [MNDNR.gov](http://MNDNR.gov)