

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

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**Project Title:**

**ENRTF ID: 256-G**

Britton Peak to Lutsen Mountains Mountain Bike Trail

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

**Sub-Category:**

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**Total Project Budget: \$** 350,000

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

**Summary:**

Sustainably built singletrack mountain bike trail connecting trail clusters that draws new visitors and becomes part of the NE Minnesota efforts to become a national destination for mountain biking.

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**Name:** Tim Kennedy

**Sponsoring Organization:** Superior Cycling Association

**Title:** President

**Department:**

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Grand Marais MN 55604

**Telephone Number:** (218) 370-0955

**Email** tkennedy@boreal.org

**Web Address** superiorcycling.org

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**Location**

**Region:** Northeast

**County Name:** Cook

**City / Township:** Tofte and Lutsen Townships

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**Alternate Text for Visual:**

Map of phased construction for Connector Trail with photos of trail construction elements, Minnesota Conservation Corps working on existing trail, and kids, our future generation of outdoor enthusiasts.

_____ 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?			



**PROJECT TITLE: Britton Peak to Lutsen Mountains Mountain Bike Trail**

**I. PROJECT STATEMENT:** This project is intended to expand a system of mountain bike (MTB) trails in Cook County, creating a regional, national and international destination for beginning to advanced MTB enthusiasts. Through implementation of this project, the Superior Cycling Association (SCA) will achieve its goal of constructing a 15.9 mile, purposefully designed and sustainably-built single-track mountain bike trail experience, connecting existing MTB trail clusters at Britton Peak (Tofte) and Lutsen Mountains (Connector). When completed, a network of over 35-miles of single-track MTB trails will be available, enhancing Cook County's reputation as a multi-use recreational destination, supporting the County's tourist-based economy, and beckoning to those whose sense of exploration and adventure is enticed and enhanced by riding a bicycle on Cook County's expanding, wilderness MTB trail network.

The SCA has already established an effective, productive, and cooperative working relationship with Cook County, the United States Forest Service (USFS), the International Mountain Bike Association (IMBA), Visit Cook County, and other local and regional interests. These relationships come as the Cook County Mountain Bike Trails Master Plan unfolds, defining the County's short- and long-term recreational mountain biking goals. From that Plan, the design, development, construction, maintenance, and marketing of mountain biking in Cook County will truly change the recreational, North Shore landscape.

- This project is necessary because of the demand for high quality, environmentally designed and constructed, and well maintained single-track MTB trails. Cook County's MTB trails offer some of the most scenic and enticing mountain biking experiences in Minnesota, and beyond.
- The Cook County Mountain Bike Trail System has been designated by the Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Commission for inclusion in their regional parks and trails system.
- Thousands of trail users are already drawn to Cook County to experience established MTB trails, providing a necessary boost to our tourism economy.
- This innovative project uses sustainable design and construction standards, implemented and overseen by professional trail builders.
- The SCA and our partners have already generated \$458,000 in funding, dedicated to the 2018 start-up of Connector construction.
- Sustainable trail construction and maintenance are critical components of the Cook County MTB system.
- The purpose of this project is to meet the growing demand for one of the fastest growing (and exhilarating), recreational activities in Minnesota.

**II. PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES**

**Activity 1:** Construction of 5 miles of a 15.9 mile sustainably designed and professionally built singletrack mountain bike trail connecting existing mountain bike trail clusters and trailheads located at Britton Peak (Tofte) and Lutsen Mountains.

- Phase 1 of the 15.9 mile trail has been funded by the Federal Recreation Trails Program and the Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Commission with construction to be completed in 2018. Phase 2 is the proposed 5 miles section which will be completed in 2019 and allows a connection to Lutsen Mountains on existing trails. Phase 3 is completion of the remaining section that completes the entire 15.9 mile trail.



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

- Trail construction will be done by qualified and experienced mountain bike trail builders that understand how to build environmentally sustainable singletrack trails in challenging terrain. This trail was laid out to minimize impacts to the environment. The US Forest Service conducted an environmental review to assure this trail will avoid sensitive areas. When possible wetlands will be avoided and where necessary to cross wetlands, boardwalks will be built to minimize impacts.

**ENRTF BUDGET: \$350,000**

Outcome	Completion Date
1. Construction of 5 miles of singletrack mountain bike trail including; machine built bench cut tread 20,000', raised tread 4000', berms 1000', rock armor, culverts, boardwalk 1000', and bridges-2@40' each.	<i>November 2020</i>

**III. PROJECT PARTNERS:**

**A. Partners receiving ENRTF funding**

Name	Title	Affiliation	Role

**B. Partners NOT receiving ENRTF funding**

Name	Title	Affiliation	Role
US Forest Service			Land manager

**IV. LONG-TERM- IMPLEMENTATION AND FUNDING:** The Cook County Mountain Bike Trail System is managed by the Superior Cycling Association with a partnership agreement with the US Forest Service and in cooperation with Cook County. All trails are located on either US Forest Service or County lands. The Superior Cycling Association has an annual budget of over \$20,000 and annually budgets for trail maintenance to keep all trails open, safe, and rideable.

**V. TIME LINE REQUIREMENTS:** The project would begin in August 2019 and be completed by Nov. 2020.

**VI. SEE ADDITIONAL PROPOSAL COMPONENTS:**

- A. Proposal Budget Spreadsheet
- B. Visual Component or Map
- C. Parcel List Spreadsheet
- D. Acquisition, Easements, and Restoration Requirements
- E. Research Addendum (not required at proposal stage)
- F. Project Manager Qualifications and Organization Description
- G. Letter or Resolution
- H. Certified Audit or 990 Tax Information

## 2019 Proposal Budget Spreadsheet

Project Title: Britton Peak to Lutsen Mountains mountain bike trail

### IV. TOTAL ENRTF REQUEST BUDGET *[Insert # of years for project]* years **2** years

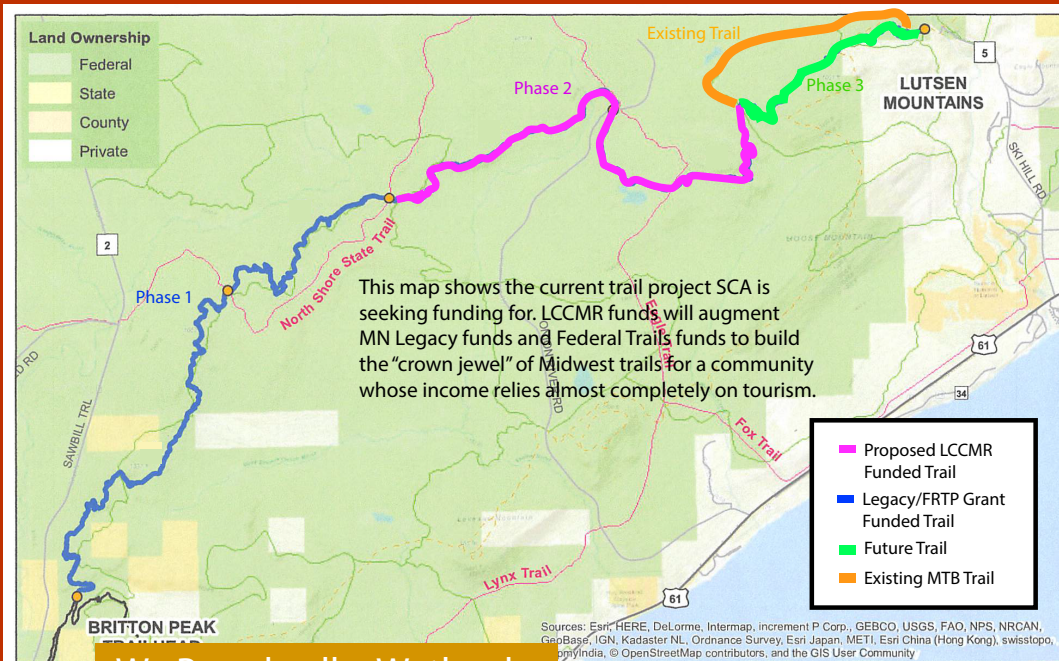
BUDGET ITEM (See "Guidance on Allowable Expenses")	AMOUNT
Personnel:	\$ -
Professional/Technical/Service Contracts:	\$ 323,000
Equipment/Tools/Supplies: Signposts, Boardwalk, Bridge materials	\$ 27,000
Acquisition (Fee Title or Permanent Easements):	\$ -
Travel:	\$ -
Additional Budget Items:	\$ -
<b>TOTAL ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND \$ REQUEST =</b>	<b>\$ 350,000</b>

### 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
Other Non-State \$ To Be Applied To Project During Project Period:	\$ -	
Other State \$ To Be Applied To Project During Project Period:	\$ -	
In-kind Services To Be Applied To Project During Project Period:	\$ -	
Past and Current ENRTF Appropriation:		
Other Funding History: Federal Recreation Trails Program	\$ 180,000	Secured
Other Funding History: Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Commission	278,000	Secured



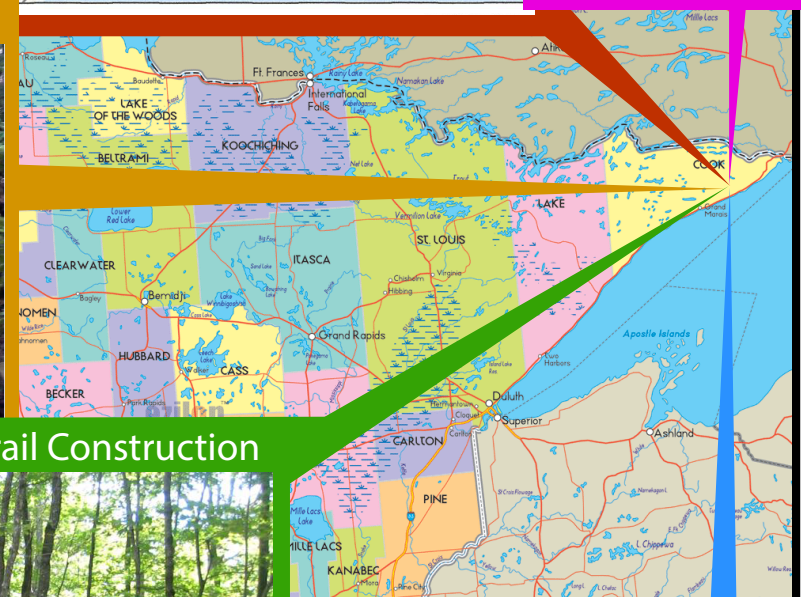
# Midwest's Longest Wilderness Singletrack Mountain Bike Trail



## Bench Cut = Sustainable



## We Boardwalk - Wetlands



## Environmentally Conscious Trail Construction



## Family Friendly



## **PROJECT MANAGER QUALIFICATIONS AND ORGANIZATION DESCRIPTION**

The Superior Cycling Association (SCA) was formed as a Minnesota Non Profit Corporation in 2009 and subsequently became a Chapter of the International Mountain Biking Association and operates under their umbrella 501 (c)(3) status. The Superior Cycling Association is managed by a 10 member Board of Directors. SCA works in partnership with the US Forest Service, Cook County, Tofte and Lutsen Townships, the Cook County/Grand Marais Joint Economic Development Authority, Visit Cook County, the Lutsen Tofte Tourism Association, and numerous local businesses to develop and maintain the existing and expanding system of mountain bike trails in Cook County. The Cook County Mountain Bike Trail Master plan was developed and adopted by the Superior Cycling Association.

Tim Kennedy, President of the Superior Cycling Association since 2012, has overseen grant administration, contracting, construction, and trail maintenance. During this time there have been multiple contracts for new trail construction at both the Britton Peak and Pincushion Mountain sites which has resulted in high quality single track trail.