



Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

2024 Request for Proposal

General Information

Proposal ID: 2024-042

Proposal Title: Split Rock Wilds Beaver Bay Expansion

Project Manager Information

Name: Dave Cizmas

Organization: Lake County Forestry

Office Telephone: (218) 834-8340

Email: david.cizmas@co.lake.mn.us

Project Basic Information

Project Summary: The Split Rock Wilds Beaver Bay Expansion will create a trail that directly connects Beaver Bay with a bike optimized, multiuse single track trail system.

Funds Requested: \$500,000

Proposed Project Completion: October 31, 2025

LCCMR Funding Category: Land Acquisition, Habitat, and Recreation (G)

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?

Region(s): NE

When will the work impact occur?

During the Project

Narrative

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

In 2020, after many years of planning, a Comprehensive Trail Plan, and a Mountain Bike Trail Plan, Lake County Forestry started the build of 12 miles of mountain bike trails with the help of the IRRRB, Greater Minnesota Parks and Trails Legacy Fund, MN Lake Superior Coastal Program and the One Track Mind Foundation. The trails are located between the new Shipwreck Creek Campground and the Cove Point Lodge property in Beaver Bay. In 2021 we added an additional 9 miles giving riders the option of riding a loop. The majority of the trails in the Split Rock Wilds trail system are rocky and offer a level of challenge not found at any other trail system in Minnesota.

Currently trail users in Beaver Bay access Split Rock Wilds singletrack trails by having to cross Hwy 61 twice. One of the crossings is unprotected. One of the goals of this trail project was to have safe direct access from Beaver Bay and Silver Bay. Additionally, the vast majority of singletrack in the Split Rock Wilds trail system is built for intermediate to expert level riders. On the Beaver Bay end of the trail system there are no beginner level trails.

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

The SRW Beaver Bay Expansion will allow singletrack users to access trails without having to cross Hwy 61. These trails will allow riders skill level to progress to the point that they can enjoy all the trails in the SRW system. The trails built in this project will be built to appeal to beginner and intermediate level riders while still being entertaining for more advanced riders. Citizens of Beaver Bay and Silver Bay as well as visitors will have more direct access to a multiuse non-motorized trail system. In 2018 an EAW was completed for SRW including the Beaver Bay Expansion area. A wetland delineation was also completed for this area. This proposed multi-use bike optimized trail system will be open to all non-motorized uses including walking and trail running. The goal is to work with adjacent landowners to connect this trail system with the main Split Rock Wilds trail system in the future.

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?

Split Rock Wilds Beaver Bay Expansion will add trail infrastructure which will help protect the properties above Beaver Bay by keeping them in public ownership for the foreseeable future. Building trails in this area will make it easier for the public to enjoy this unique piece of property. The trail will be sustainably built to prevent erosion. The trail will also provide more access to the public land managed by Lake County.

Activities and Milestones

Activity 1: Environmental Review

Activity Budget: \$20,000

Activity Description:

Field survey of project area for Archeological review, wetland delineation and SWPPP creation.

Activity Milestones:

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Complete field work	September 30, 2024
Field report completed.	November 30, 2024
Field report submitted to appropriate agency	November 30, 2024
SWPPP generated.	January 31, 2025

Activity 2: Trail work

Activity Budget: \$480,000

Activity Description:

Starting with the request for proposals for trail work, to awarding the contract to trail building.

Activity Milestones:

Description	Approximate Completion Date
RFPs sent to potential bidders	December 31, 2024
Trail building contracts awarded.	January 31, 2025
Trail building starts	May 31, 2025
Trail building finishes	September 30, 2025

Project Partners and Collaborators

Name	Organization	Role	Receiving Funds
Tracy Paradise	One Track Mind Foundation	The One Track Mind Foundation supports maintenance and trail development at Split Rock Wilds.	No
Gina McCafferty	Lake County Mountain Bike Club	The newly formed Lake County MTB Club will promote the Split Rock Wilds Trails as well as host events and help with trail maintenance.	No
Jannele Jones	Lovin' Lake County	Marketing and Promotions	No

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 work be funded?

Trail maintenance will be completed by teams from the OTM Foundation as well as the Lake County MTB Club. Trail maintenance and improvements will be overseen by Lake County Forestry.

Project Manager and Organization Qualifications

Project Manager Name: Dave Cizmas

Job Title: Recreation Forester

Provide description of the project manager's qualifications to manage the proposed project.

In the past three years, Dave Cizmas has taken Split Rock Wilds from the planning stage to the current 22 miles of single-track MTB trails. Dave Cizmas has been the project manager for Split Rock Wilds since 2019 he has seen the successful administration of two GMPTC legacy grants, two IRRRB grants as well as the partnership with the OTM Foundation.

Organization: Lake County Forestry

Organization Description:

Established in 1986, Lake County Forestry/Land Department is responsible for the administration and management of State tax-forfeit lands within the boundaries of Lake County, and is charged with the full range of land and timber resource management activities, including timber sales, forest management and development, and tax forfeited land administration. It is the intent of Lake County Forestry to protect, develop and administer Lake County's land and timber resources to best meet the needs of county residents. Natural resource management efforts will stress multiple-use and sustained yield principles, recognizing the importance of providing for a diverse mixture of resource uses and outputs over time. Full and proper utilization of this resource will be carried out consistent with generally accepted social, economic and environment principles, and within the confines of all applicable administrative and State statutory guidelines.

Budget Summary

Category / Name	Subcategory or Type	Description	Purpose	Gen. Ineligible	% Benefits	# FTE	Classified Staff?	\$ Amount
Personnel								
							Sub Total	-
Contracts and Services								
Trail Builder	Professional or Technical Service Contract	Contractor will be responsible to build mountain bike optimized singletrack trails that follow IMBA standards for sustainability and rating. During construction, contractor will follow all BMP standards and guidelines outlined in SWPPP. We anticipate the trail to cost \$16.83 per foot for 5.4 miles of trail.				0		\$480,000
Environmental Reviewer	Professional or Technical Service Contract	Develop SWPPP, conduct all necessary environmental reviews.				-		\$20,000
							Sub Total	\$500,000
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								
							Sub Total	-
							Grand Total	\$500,000

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				
			Non State Sub Total	-
			Funds Total	-

Attachments

Required Attachments

Visual Component

File: [9dc1ca2d-a00.pdf](#)

Alternate Text for Visual Component

Attached is a map of the proposed trail system....

Board Resolution or Letter

Title	File
Request for County Board Action	51b311bc-216.docx
Lake County Authorizing Resolution	5d770532-178.pdf

Optional Attachments

Support Letter, Photos, Media, Other

Title	File
SRW EAW	22a89bd5-c02.pdf
City of Beaver Bay LOS	27f92e22-5dd.pdf
Letters of Support for the SRW trail project	453c1d51-17d.pdf

Administrative Use

Does your project include restoration or acquisition of land rights?

No

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

Does your project include the design, construction, or renovation of a building, trail, campground, or other capital asset costing \$10,000 or more?

Yes

Do you propose using an appropriation from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund to conduct a project that provides children's services, as defined in Minnesota Statutes section 299C.61 Subd.7?

Yes

Do you certify that background checks are performed for background check crimes, as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 299C.61, Subd. 2, on all employees, contractors, and volunteers who have or may have access to a child to

whom children's services are provided by your organization?

Yes