



Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

2025 Request for Proposal

General Information

Proposal ID: 2025-186

Proposal Title: Facility Accessibility Upgrades

Project Manager Information

Name: Eric Mayranen

Organization: Veterans on the Lake

Office Telephone: (218) 365-5848

Email: ecmayranen@yahoo.com

Project Basic Information

Project Summary: We seek to connect disabled veterans and citizens with the outdoors and BWCA through the upgrading of our facilities and the construction of a new ADA compliant facility.

ENRTF Funds Requested: \$400,000

Proposed Project Completion: July 31, 2026

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?

Statewide

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.

This facility replacement project would demolish and remove an existing non ADA compliant 38' x 81' building at Veterans on the Lake and replace it with an ADA compliant building. The proposed building will have three separate, enjoined living areas. The new building would measure 38'x 81' with an 8' attached deck on two sides and a wheelchair access ramp from the parking area. A basement utility room 8'x27' for central heating and cooling would be included. The new building heating and cooling will be upgraded to more energy efficient units and windows, doors and lighting will be upgraded. This facility will allow disabled veterans and citizens an opportunity to visit Veterans on the Lake and experience the Superior National Forest and Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness.

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.

This facility replacement project would demolish and remove an existing non ADA compliant 38' x 81' building at Veterans on the Lake and replace it with an ADA compliant building.

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 facility will allow disabled veterans and citizens an opportunity to visit Veterans on the Lake and experience the Superior National Forest and Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. Veterans on the Lake works to increase public access for recreation, particularly those Minnesotan's who are disabled or disabled veterans.

Activities and Milestones

Activity 1: Design and Engineering

Activity Budget: \$10,000

Activity Description:

VOTL will design and engineer the project.

Activity Milestones:

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Design and Engineer	July 31, 2025

Activity 2: Construction

Activity Budget: \$390,000

Activity Description:

VOTL will construct the project.

Activity Milestones:

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Begin Construction	August 31, 2025
Construction Complete	July 31, 2026

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

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?

Veterans on the Lake has operated for 40+ years. We are a 501c3 non-profit entity governed by a board of directors. We will raise money privately if additional work is needed.

Other ENRTF Appropriations Awarded in the Last Six Years

Name	Appropriation	Amount Awarded
Veterans On The Lake	M.L. 2021, First Special Session, Chp. 6, Art. 6, Sec. 2, Subd. 09m	\$553,000

Project Manager and Organization Qualifications

Project Manager Name: Eric Mayranen

Job Title: Board Chair

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

Mr. Mayranen is board chair at Veterans on the Lake and managed the previous LCCMR grant, as well as IRRRB, Saint Louis County, and private grants directed to the organization.

Organization: Veterans on the Lake

Organization Description:

Veterans on the Lake is a resort and recreational facility for disabled American Veterans and their families located on Fall Lake near Ely with direct access into the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. It is a 501c3 non-profit organization created in 1982 from two private resorts purchased by the federal government as a result of the creation of an expanded BWCAW in 1978. The organization's mission is to reduce barriers and provide safe year-round access to recreational experiences for veterans, the disabled, and the general public. Further, Veterans on the Lake Resort focuses on providing veterans, the disabled, and the general public opportunities for inclusion in outdoor recreational activities and mental respite. Our resort is designed to honor those who have contributed to and sacrificed for our nation, in order to help them heal from the pain and suffering they endure. We strive to make the Veterans on the Lake Resort facilities and outdoor amenities safely accessible and barrier-free. Vets from the St. Cloud VA Medical Center to groups from Minnesota State Veterans Homes in Minneapolis, Hastings, and Fergus Falls to the Duluth Vets Clinic have enjoyed the Resort. To make it affordable, scholarships and discounts are available.

Budget Summary

Category / Name	Subcategory or Type	Description	Purpose	Gen. Ineligible	% Benefits	# FTE	Classified Staff?	\$ Amount
Personnel								
							Sub Total	-
Contracts and Services								
							Sub Total	-
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								
		Design, Engineering, and Construction	For construction of the project					\$400,000

							Sub Total	\$400,000
							Grand Total	\$400,000

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	Veterans on the Lake	Construction	Secured	\$231,000
			Non State Sub Total	\$231,000
			Funds Total	\$231,000

Total Project Cost: \$631,000

This amount accurately reflects total project cost?

Yes

Attachments

Required Attachments

Visual Component

File: [bb8c6d9f-0a6.pdf](#)

Alternate Text for Visual Component

Floor plan of new, handicap accessible wilderness facility....

Financial Capacity

Title	File
990	6f02aa5f-d51.pdf

Board Resolution or Letter

Title	File
Resolution	a4020581-36a.pdf

Supplemental Attachments

Capital Project Questionnaire, Budget Supplements, Support Letter, Photos, Media, Other

Title	File
Capital Questionnaire	c761eb48-c7f.docx

Administrative Use

Does your project include restoration or acquisition of land rights?

No

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

Yes

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

Yes

Do you wish to request reinvestment of any revenues into your project instead of returning revenue to the ENRTF? If so, describe here (1) the source and estimated amounts of any revenue and (2) how you propose to use those revenues:

Yes, Any revenue generated by the facility will be reinvested into maintenance of the facility.

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 pre-design, design, construction, or renovation of a building, trail, campground, or other fixed capital asset costing \$10,000 or more or large-scale stream or wetland restoration?

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 as "the provision of care,

treatment, education, training, instruction, or recreation to children")?

No

Provide the name(s) and organization(s) of additional individuals assisting in the completion of this proposal:

Eric Mayranen, Veterans on the Lake/Jeff Anderson, Costin Group