



## Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

### 2026 Request for Proposal

#### General Information

**Proposal ID:** 2026-450

**Proposal Title:** Facility Outdoor Improvements

#### 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 with the construction and improvements to our Facility.

**ENRTF Funds Requested:** \$180,000

**Proposed Project Completion:** February 28, 2028

**LCCMR Funding Category:** Small Projects (G)

**Secondary Category:** Education and Outdoor Recreation (C)

#### 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.**

1. The Facility has an old Boat House which is not wheel chair accessible.
2. The Facility has an old Fish Cleaning House which is not wheel chair accessible.
3. The Facility is resurfacing the Basketball court/ Sled hockey training area area in 2025 and needs to paint lines replace the pickle ball/tennis nets and basketball hoops and purchase equipment.

**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.**

1. The old Boat house would be removed and replaced with a fishing pier and wheelchair accessible ramp. The pier would also serve as a loading dock for people with mobility issues. We have one wheel chair accessible fishing pier capable of supporting power wheel chairs and it is constant use.
2. The old Fish House would be torn down and replaced with a new building. Handicap access and fixtures would be incorporated.
3. After resurfacing the Basketball/ Sled Hockey training area will need the be repainted and nets/hoops will need to be replace to facilitate the use of this multiple use outdoor recreation area.

**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?**

1. The Boat House project would remove an old building from the shoreline replace it with a Fishing Pier / Dock. Enhancing everyone's ability to access the outdoors.
2. The Fish House project would remove existing barriers for people with mobility issues and give them an opportunity to do things many of us take for granted (clean the fish we catch). We plan to improve the treatment of fish house waste water in this project.
3. Funding after the resurfacing of the Basketball/ Sled hockey training area allows the creation of a multiple use area which will give everyone opportunity.

## Activities and Milestones

### Activity 1: Design and Engineering

**Activity Budget:** \$5,000

**Activity Description:**

VOTL will use people with expertise to design and engineer the specific project.

1. The Boat House replacement with a Fishing Pier / Dock - would utilize the expertise of dock builders and vendors involved in demolition.
2. The Fish Cleaning House - Building contractors and vendors involved in waster water design.
3. Basketball/ Sled Hockey training area. - Vendors who assist with the design of recreation areas.

**Activity Milestones:**

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Design and Engineer	December 31, 2026

### Activity 2: Construction

**Activity Budget:** \$175,000

**Activity Description:**

VOTL will construct the project.

1. Fishing Pier/ Dock estimate for Demo/ Construction \$85,000
2. Fish Cleaning house estimate for Demo/ Construction \$ 80,000
3. Finishing touches to Basketball/Sled Hockey Training area \$10.000

**Activity Milestones:**

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Begin Construction	June 30, 2027
Construction Complete	December 31, 2027

## 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					\$180,000

							<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$180,000</b>
							<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$180,000</b>

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	\$45,000
			Non State Sub Total	\$45,000
			Funds Total	\$45,000

Total Project Cost: \$225,000

This amount accurately reflects total project cost?

Yes



## Attachments

### Required Attachments

#### *Visual Component*

File: [1dbc9714-bb4.pdf](#)

#### *Alternate Text for Visual Component*

1. The old Boat House would be demo. A handicap accessible Fishing Pier would replace it.
2. The Fish Cleaning House would be demo. A new Handicap accessible Cleaning house would replace it.
3. After repaving the Basketball/Sled Hockey area would get new hoops, nets and lines painted....

#### *Financial Capacity*

Title	File
Letter regarding Audit	<a href="#">e62c11b6-c46.pdf</a>
Veterans on the Lake 990 for 2023	<a href="#">317fc12e-7b7.pdf</a>

#### *Board Resolution or Letter*

Title	File
Resolution for small projects	<a href="#">9e8d916e-65b.docx</a>

### Supplemental Attachments

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

Title	File
Basketball/Recreation Area	<a href="#">dec82819-a3f.jpe</a>
Fish Cleaning house upgrade	<a href="#">63bccc06-1a6.jpe</a>
Boat House replacement	<a href="#">e31d42a4-c5c.jpe</a>

## Administrative Use

**Does your project include restoration or acquisition of land rights?**

No

**Do you understand that travel expenses are only approved if they follow the "Commissioner's Plan" promulgated by the Commissioner of Management of Budget or, for University of Minnesota projects, the University of Minnesota plan?**

N/A

**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

**Do you understand that a named service contract does not constitute a funder-designated subrecipient or approval of a sole-source contract? In other words, a service contract entity is only approved if it has been selected according to the contracting rules identified in state law and policy for organizations that receive ENRTF funds through direct appropriations, or in the DNR's reimbursement manual for non-state organizations. These rules may include competitive bidding and prevailing wage requirements**

N/A