



Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

2027 Request for Proposal

General Information

Proposal ID: 2027-428

Proposal Title: Glacial Edge Regional Trail - Cabbage Hill Segment

Project Manager Information

Name: Kevin Fellbaum

Organization: Otter Tail County

Office Telephone: (218) 998-8492

Email: kfellbaum@ottertailcounty.gov

Project Basic Information

Project Summary: Construction of the Cabbage Hill Segment (5.0 miles) of the 14-mile Glacial Edge Regional Trail that will connect the City of Fergus Falls to West Red River Lake.

ENRTF Funds Requested: \$1,838,000

Proposed Project Completion: December 31, 2029

LCCMR Funding Category: Education and Outdoor Recreation (C)

Project Location

What is the best scale for describing where your work will take place?

Region(s): Central

What is the best scale to describe the area impacted by your work?

Region(s): Central

When will the work impact occur?

During the Project and In the Future

Narrative

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

In 2019, Otter Tail County in conjunction with the city of Fergus Falls completed a Trail Master Plan that would lay out a trail connection corridor that would connect the State of Minnesota's Central Lakes Trail in Fergus Falls to the County's Heart of the Lakes Regional Trail in Maplewood State Park. By making a multi-use trail connection between these two established trail corridors, this will not only open up more recreational opportunities for residents and visitors alike, but it will also serve as a secondary transportation corridor opportunity between the cities of Perham, Pelican Rapids, Dent, Vergas, and Fergus Falls in Otter Tail County to all of the cities that are along the State's Central Lakes Trail Corridor.

In 2022, The Glacial Edge Trail received Regional Designation through Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Commission. Additionally, MN-DOT's Statewide Bicycle Plan identifies the Glacial Edge Trail corridor as an important piece of a High Priority Bikeway Corridor that would establish an alternative mode of transportation connection from Moorhead to St. Cloud. Increasing free, public outdoor recreational opportunities is a priority for Otter Tail County as identified in our long-range strategic plan, while secondarily adding another option for safe inexpensive travel.

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 project will increase access to and expand opportunities for culturally relevant and innovative connections to lands and waters of Minnesota by allowing trail users to recreate more safely along one of the highest traveled vehicular road corridors in the County. LCCMR funding will be utilized to create a separated 5-mile multi-use trail corridor that will serve as the first leg of the connection of the City of Fergus Falls and the State's Central Lakes Trail to several recreation areas that include Maplewood State Park, Heart of the Lakes Regional Trail, The Duenow Waterfowl Production Area, and West Red River Lake. By creating off-road transportation and recreation corridors, we are providing users an opportunity to move from one recreation area to another more safely. This project will reduce social, economic and physical barriers to outdoor recreation for the residents of Fergus Falls and the surrounding area by constructing a project that will assist Minnesota in achieving reliance on non-polluting, renewable transportation alternatives by creating safe, recreational, non-motorized routes between Fergus Falls, Maplewood State Park, and several other neighboring communities.

Increasing access to outdoor recreational opportunities provides many benefits for greater Minnesota communities, including health, environmental, and economic benefits.

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?

At the completion of this project, Otter Tail County will have constructed 5 miles of ADA compliant multi-use paved trail that will expand the trail corridor outside of the city limits of Fergus Falls up to West Red River Lake. Also, part of this project will be the establishment of a Trailhead Parking area which will include amenities as a paved parking lot, benches, bike racks, bike repair station, wayfinding kiosk, trash/recycling bins, and vault toilet/changing room structure in order to provide trail users a safe/sanitary location to expand their ability for outdoor recreation activity.

Activities and Milestones

Activity 1: Planning, Engineering, and Design

Activity Budget: \$1

Activity Description:

Complete the necessary survey work, engineering and design, permitting, ROW and Easement Work, and Project Bidding

Activity Milestones:

Description	Approximate Completion Date
ESA (Checklist and Records Check or Phase 1) (Non-ENRTF)	March 31, 2028
Environmental Assessment Worksheet (Non-ENRTF)	March 31, 2028
Title Review and Appraisal (Non-ENRTF)	March 31, 2028
Notice of Funding Recorded (Non-ENRTF)	March 31, 2028
Survey/ESA (Non-ENRTF)	May 31, 2028
Dept of Admin Pre-design Review (Non-ENRTF)	May 31, 2028
Consultation with SHPO (Non-ENRTF)	May 31, 2028
Permitting, Agency Review, Approval of Final Plans (Non-ENRTF)	July 31, 2028
Advertisement for Bid	December 31, 2028

Activity 2: Construction of Multi-Use Trail and Trailhead area

Activity Budget: \$1,837,998

Activity Description:

LCCMR funding will be used to competitively bid and construct 5 miles of 10ft wide ADA compliant multi-use trail, along CSAH 1 and CSAH 3 from 245th Street up to 292nd Street. Construction will also include the building of a trailhead parking area on County Hwy Dept owned property at the edge of the city of Fergus Falls. Constructed Amenities that will be a part of this trailhead will include, benches, bike racks, trash facilities, bike repair station, wayfinding kiosk, and vault restroom building.

Activity Milestones:

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Construction Funds Legally Secured (Non-ENRTF)	December 31, 2028
Initiate Construction	April 30, 2029
Staking, Mobilization and Site Prep	April 30, 2029
Complete Construction of Bituminous Trail, Bituminous Parking Lot and Trailhead Amenities, and Vault Toilet	October 31, 2029

Activity 3: Project Completion and Punchlist Items

Activity Budget: \$1

Activity Description:

Verify completion of project to required design standards, turf establishment, signage and wayfinding installation.

Activity Milestones:

Description	Approximate Completion Date
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Notice of Funding Recorded (Non-ENRTF)	December 31, 2029
Signage Installed with ENRTF Logo (Non-ENRTF)	December 31, 2029
Open for Intended Use (Non-ENRTF)	December 31, 2029

Project Partners and Collaborators

Name	Organization	Role	Receiving Funds
Adam Ruud	Houston Engineering	Design Engineer for Project	No
Klara Beck	City of Fergus Falls	Regional Partner in the Construction of the Glacial Edge Trail. Glacial Edge Trail is the connecting piece between the Central Lakes State Trail in Fergus Falls and the County's Heart of the Lakes Regional Trail	No
Jody Rader	HKGi	Glacial Edge Masterplan Designer	No

Dissemination

Describe your plans for dissemination, presentation, documentation, or sharing of data, results, samples, physical collections, and other products and how they will follow ENRTF Acknowledgement Requirements and Guidelines.

We will acknowledge the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund through use of the trust fund logo on signage along with trail corridor and through attribution language on project print and electronic media, publications, and other communications and outreach.

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?

The ability to complete and maintain the project long-term is of utmost importance. Per the attached resolution, the Otter Tail County Board of Commissioners have approved this grant application for the construction of the Glacial Edge Regional Trail- Cabbage Hill Segment. Once the project is completed, Otter Tail County will assume financial responsibility for the ongoing protection, upkeep, and maintenance of the trail infrastructure and trail amenities through their Parks and Trails Dept.

Other ENRTF Appropriations Awarded in the Last Six Years

Name	Appropriation	Amount Awarded
Perham to Pelican Rapids Regional Trail (McDonald Segment)	M.L. 2021, First Special Session, Chp. 6, Art. 6, Sec. 2, Subd. 09a	\$2,245,000
Phelps Mill Wetland and Prairie Restoration	M.L. 2023, , Chp. 60, Art. 2, Sec. 2, Subd. 08r	\$974,000
Maplewood State Park Trail Segment	M.L. 2023, , Chp. 60, Art. 2, Sec. 2, Subd. 09o	\$2,514,000
Dent and Vergas Spur Trails	M.L. 2024, , Chp. 83, Art. , Sec. 2, Subd. 09j	\$934,000
Echo Bay County Park - Phase 1 Construction	M.L. 2025, First Special Session, Chp. 1, Art. 2, Sec. 2, Subd. 09m	\$1,122,000

Project Manager and Organization Qualifications

Project Manager Name: Kevin Fellbaum

Job Title: Parks and Trails Director

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

Kevin Fellbaum will serve as the project manager for the Glacial Edge Regional Trail- Cabbage Hill Segment Construction project. Kevin is currently the Parks and Trails Director and oversees a dedicated staff of maintenance personnel who maintain the County Parks and Trails. Over the last couple of years, the County Parks and Trails Dept has implemented

and managed several large county-wide trail construction projects along with several building rehabilitation projects at Phelps Mill County Park. Last year Otter Tail County completed the 32-mile Heart of the Lakes Regional Trail from Perham to Pelican Rapids with segments of that trail receiving funding from LCCMR. The Parks Dept. is well versed in all facets of project planning, development, construction, and operation. This year Otter Tail County will begin construction on the Maplewood Segment (2.5 miles) of the Glacial Edge Regional Trail through Maplewood State Park to connect up to the Heart of the Lakes Regional Trail.

Organization: Otter Tail County

Organization Description:

Otter Tail is a county located in West Central Minnesota. It has over 10% of Minnesota's beautiful lakes and boasts many miles of scenic highways, rolling hills, and is home to two Minnesota State Parks (Glendalough and Maplewood) as well as historic Phelps Mill County Park. Otter Tail County's mission is to enrich lives, innovate services and enhance resources so people can live their best life here.

Otter Tail County is dedicated to developing a robust park and trail network to expand outdoor recreational opportunities and enhance the quality of life as well as economic opportunities. County-wide Park and Trail Master Plans have been adopted by the County Board and the Parks and Trails Dept is working towards completing the projects within the Master Plans. During the summer of 2025 we utilized LCCMR funding to add 7+ miles of trail to add direct city connections to the Heart of the Lakes Regional Trail from the cities of Vergas and Dent. In 2026 we will be finalizing a Prairie Restoration Project and Boardwalk Construction in Historic Phelps Mill Park utilizing funding from LCCMR and GMRPTC.

Budget Summary

Category / Name	Subcategory or Type	Description	Purpose	Gen. Ineligible	% Benefits	# FTE	Classified Staff?	\$ Amount
Personnel								
							Sub Total	-
Contracts and Services								
Contractor selected through Competitive Bid Process	Service Contract	Funds will be used to construct 5 miles of 10 ft wide multi-use trail, construction of a trail head parking area to include trail amenities as bike rack, trash bins, benches, wayfinding kiosk and vault toilet.				0		\$1,838,000
							Sub Total	\$1,838,000
Equipment, Tools, and Supplies								
							Sub Total	-
Capital Equipment								
							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	\$1,838,000

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	County Parks and Trails	Feasibility and Community Engagement- Master Plan	Secured	\$29,800
Cash	County Parks and Trails	Pre-design and design for engineering and all environmental review and permitting	Potential	\$200,000
Cash	County Parks and Trails	Construction Engineering, materials testing, project administration and management	Potential	\$100,000
Cash	County Parks and Trails	Construction Costs	Potential	\$400,000
Cash	County Parks and Trails	Project Close Out, Project Construction Restoration, Contingency	Potential	\$81,250
Cash	County Parks and Trails	Inflation Factor Calculation- Construction Costs	Potential	\$186,200
Cash	County Parks and Trails	Acquisition Costs- Construction Easements- Wetland Credits	Potential	\$50,000
			Non State Sub Total	\$1,047,250
			Funds Total	\$1,047,250

Total Project Cost: \$2,885,250

This amount accurately reflects total project cost?

Yes

Attachments

Required Attachments

Visual Component

File: [3e80531e-43f.pdf](#)

Alternate Text for Visual Component

Three trail maps are attached to highlight the following, the overall full regional trail corridor as laid out in the Masterplan, the segment specific map that grant funding will be applied to, and a full regional trail corridor laying out current and future work on the trail system....

Financial Capacity

Title	File
Otter Tail County Financial Capacity Doc	012a87bd-a06.pdf

Board Resolution or Letter

Title	File
Otter Tail County Board Resolution	d0f5b032-396.pdf

Supplemental Attachments

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

Title	File
Budget Addendum Worksheet	583c96d7-76f.xlsx
Capital Construction Questionnaire	eae9b231-8cc.pdf
Glacial Edge Trail Masterplan	fafa941e-6b0.pdf

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?

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?

No

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:

Nick Leonard- Otter Tail County Deputy Administrator

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

Yes, I understand