

LAND WATER CONSERVATION FUND PROGRAM GENERAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q. What is the Land and Water Conservation program (LWCF)?

A. The LWCF program is administered nationally by the National Park Service (NPS.) Funds for the program come from federal recreation fees, sales of federal surplus real property, federal motorboat fuel tax and the Outer Continental Shelf mineral receipts. The money allocated to the states may be used for statewide planning, and acquiring or developing outdoor recreation areas and facilities. Property acquired or developed by the program must be retained in perpetuity for outdoor recreation use.

Q. How do applicants apply?

A. Please use LWCF Grant Application Guide dated May 27, 2010 (DRAFT). Applicants must submit a completed LWCF grant application postmarked or hand delivered by the filing date to California Department of Parks and Recreation, Office of Grants and Local Services (DPR). Applicants are required to submit two unbound application packages, one original and one copy. An applicant may submit more than one application; however, each application shall involve only one project site.

Q. What can be used to match a LWCF grant?

A. The applicant may include cash, in-kind services, force account funds, state grant funds, federal Housing and Community Development block grant funds. No other federal funds may be used to match a LWCF grant. Donated real property used as all or part of the matching share must meet federal appraisal standards and be acquired during the project performance period. For those standards, access the website at: <http://www.usdoj.gov/enrd/land-ack>.

Q. What may LWCF funds be used for?

A. LWCF funds can be used for acquisition or development projects, no combination projects. Acquisition projects shall be for public outdoor recreation. Development projects shall include the construction of new and/or renovation of existing facilities for outdoor recreation. Associated support facilities (i.e. restrooms, utilities) are eligible. Indoor facilities which support outdoor recreation activities in the immediate vicinity are also eligible. Projects that involve new construction or renovation of facilities must provide access in accordance with all laws relating to accessibility.

Q. Must an applicant own the project site?

A. All lands acquired or developed with LWCF funds are protected in perpetuity for public outdoor recreation use. For development projects, the applicant must own or lease in perpetuity the site from a public agency at the time of application. Proposed development projects on federal lands must be under at least a 25-year lease from the

date of application. *If an applicant cannot fulfill the terms and conditions of land tenure, then an application should not be submitted.*

Q. If awarded a grant, when will LWCF funds be available?

A. Funds are committed to a project after a grant contract has been executed between the DPR and the Grantee. Grantees shall not commence work on a project even after notification of a successful application, without a fully executed contract.

For acquisition projects, the applicant, at its own expense, will be required to submit an appraisal meeting federal appraisal standards to the DPR for approval, and prior to executing a contract. Applicants may not take title to project lands, or begin construction, until contracts are fully executed. Any such action, prior to DPR and NPS approval of acquisition documents, is at the participant's own risk.