

# Trail Grants

## Recreational Trail Opportunities



**2010**

**California Trails and Greenways Conference**

# Workshop Presenters

**Richard Rendón**

Supervisor

Office of Grants and Local Services  
California State Parks

**Natalie Bee**

Project Officer

Office of Grants and Local Services  
California State Parks



# Annual Trail Grants



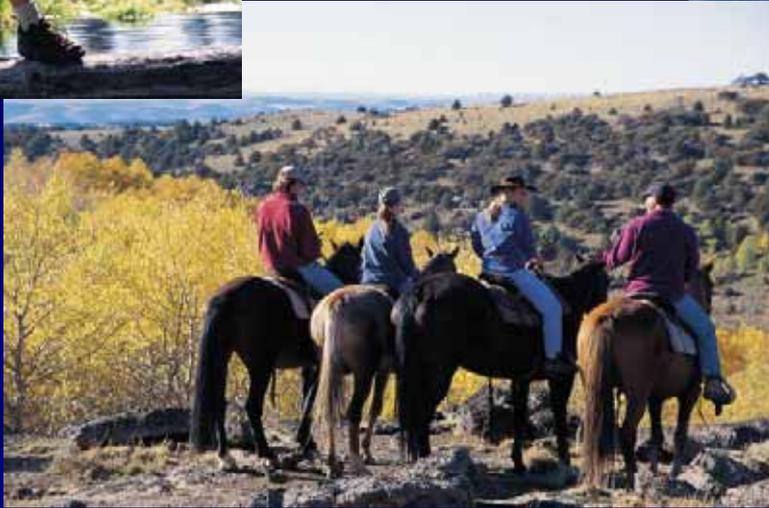
- Recreational Trails Program (RTP) – Federal Funds
- Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) – Federal Funds
- Habitat Conservation Fund (HCF) – State Funds

# What's the Difference?

- **RTP** – Provides funds for trails and trailside facilities. This is a “Trails Only” program.
- **LWCF** – Provides funds for outdoor recreation areas and facilities based on regional priorities of which trails may be a priority component.
- **HCF** – Provides funds for trail opportunities that bring urban residents into wildlife areas.

# The RTP's Purpose

To develop and maintain recreational trails and trail-related facilities for both non-motorized and motorized recreational trail uses.



Recreational Trails Program



# RTP Applicants



U.S. Dept. of Transportation

Federal Highway  
Administration (FHWA)

State of California

California State Parks

Federal  
Agencies

State  
Agencies

Cities,  
Counties,  
Districts

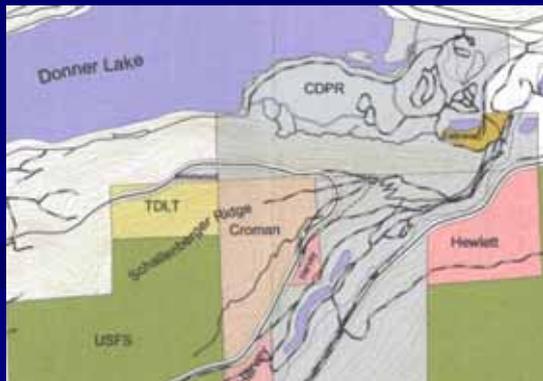
NPOs

**Non-Profit  
Organizations  
with Management  
Responsibility over  
Public Lands**

# RTP - Eligible Projects

## NON-MOTORIZED PROJECTS

- Acquisition.
- Development and rehabilitation of trails and trailhead facilities.
- Construction of new trails.



# RTP - Eligible Projects

## MOTORIZED PROJECTS

- Acquisition
- Development and rehabilitation of trails and trailhead facilities.
- Maintenance of existing trails.
- Purchase and lease of trail construction and trail maintenance equipment.
- Safety programs





# RTP Funds



**From the Federal Highway Trust Fund**

**Represent a portion of the motor fuel excise tax collected from non-highway recreational fuel use.**

**Fuel used for off-highway recreation by snowmobiles, all-terrain vehicles, off-highway motorcycles, and off-highway light trucks.**

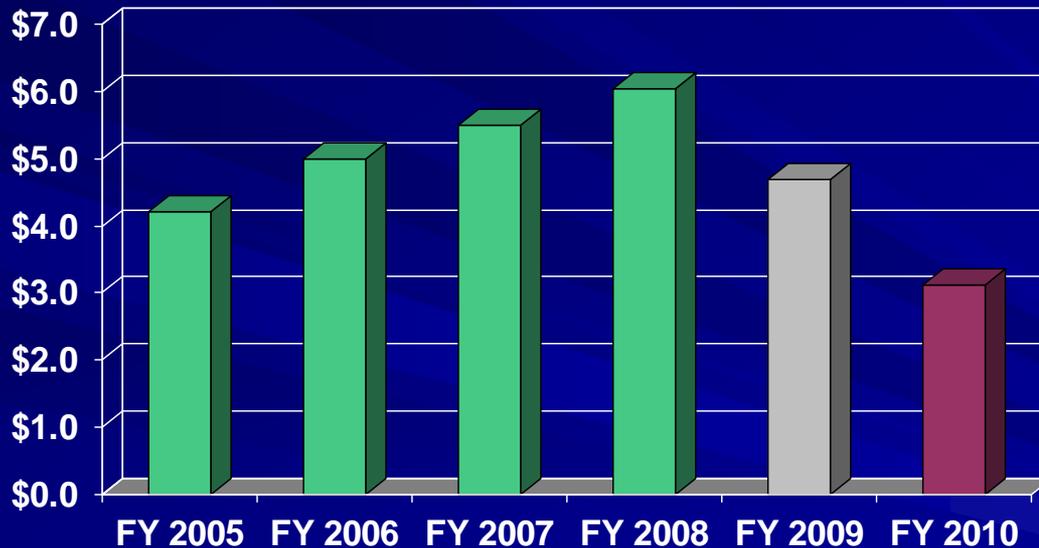
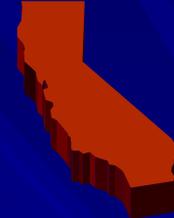


# RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM (RTP)

Statewide

## Allocations for CA

For Project Funding and Administrative Costs



-  = Non-Motorized Competitive Cycle Ceased due to lower than expected apportionment
-  = Projected total of all SAFETEA-LU apportionment extensions for FY 2010.

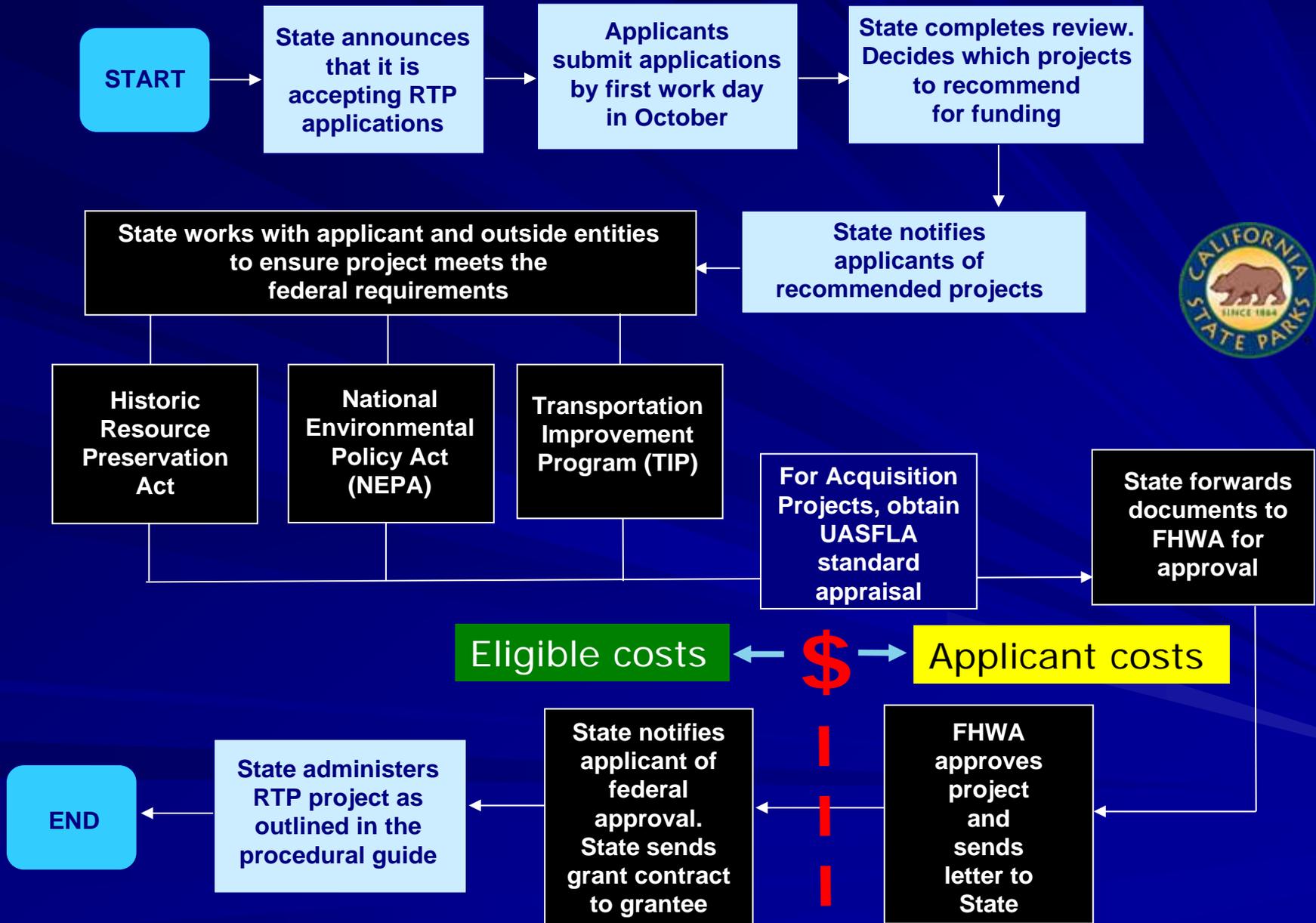




# The RTP in a Nutshell



# RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM (RTP)



# Application Due Date

RTP

This is an annual program with applications due on the



**1st workday  
in October**





# Planning Time Line

**Project Development**  
**Design & Layout**  
**Compliance**  
**Public Input**

**Environmental Compliance Documents**

**Develop Proposal Components**  
•Budget  
•Photos

**Proposal Written**

**October Proposal Due**



December January February March April May June July August September October

# RTP Procedural Guide

Procedural Guide  
for the federal

## Recreational Trails Program

FINAL

June 4, 2007



## Current Guide

Use June 4, 2007  
version



**Partial  
List**

# Application Package

*Tips about these key Items*



- **Application Form**
- **Summary and Proposal**
- **Environmental Compliance**
- **Cost Estimate**
- **Site Plan, Project Location Map, Topographic Map, Photos**
- **Land Ownership**



# Application Package



## APPLICATION FORM

- Limit information to what is requested.
- Provide concise Grant Scope =  
“What is the project?”
- Must be consistent with Environmental Documents, Cost Estimate & Site Plan.





# Application Package

## Project Summary and Project Proposal

- **Project Summary:**

Provide brief, one-page overview of applicant's intentions regarding the project.

- **Proposal (response to criteria):**

Respond fully to each criteria question or statement. If portions are not applicable, state N/A along with a brief explanation.

***15-page, double-spaced limit for proposal.  
Attachments are separate.***



# Application Package

## Environmental Compliance

### CEQA California Environmental Quality Act

- Non-federal applicants and projects on non-federal land – must be complete at time of application.

### NEPA National Environmental Policy Act

- Federal applicants and projects on federal land – must be complete at the time of application.



# Application Package

## Cost Estimate



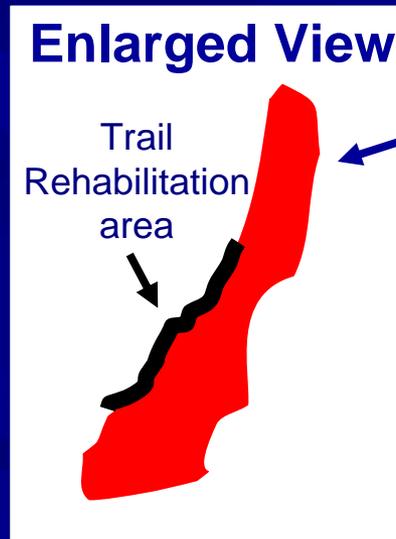
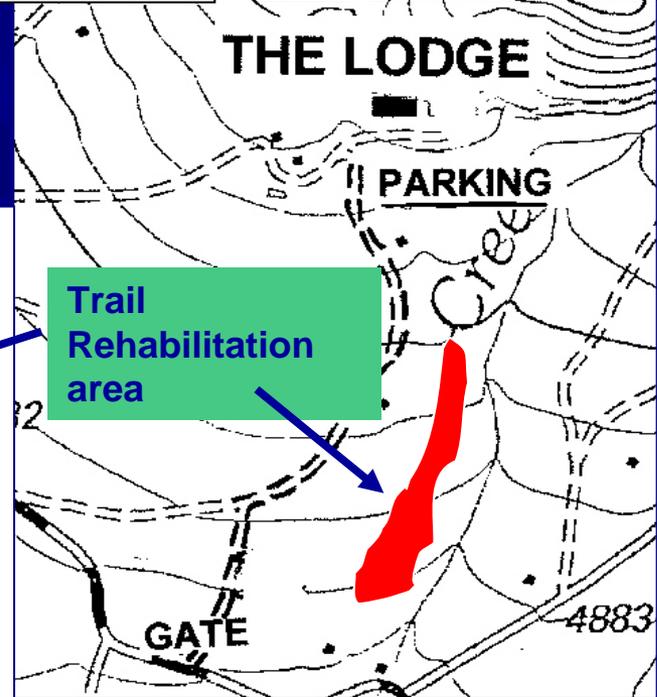
- List all “project components.”
- Line Items for Contingency are not allowed.
- Show total amount of “Required Match” and its funding source(s).
  - Match amount is 12% under SAFETEA-LU.
- There is no minimum or maximum grant request amount.



# Application Package

## Site Plan

- Can be either a drawing or depiction of project.
- Show major scope items.
- Access points



# Application Package Project Location Maps

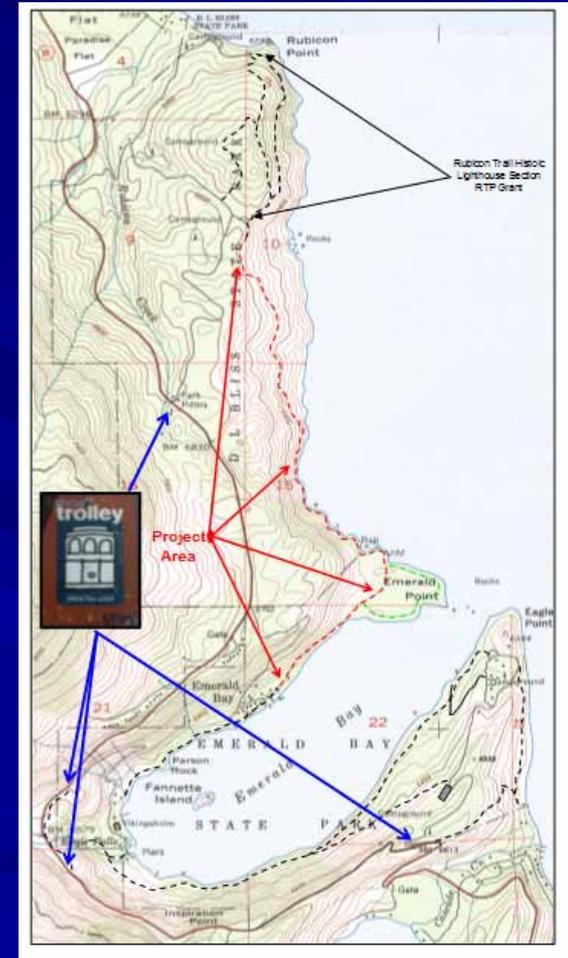
- Give good regional location
- Identify the project location on the map
- Give cross streets if no address
- Simple “off the shelf” or on-line programs



# Application Package

## Connectivity and Linkages

- Regional Connectivity to Trail Systems
- Gap Closures
- Show the Importance of Your Project's Connection
- Show How Users are Linked to the Project

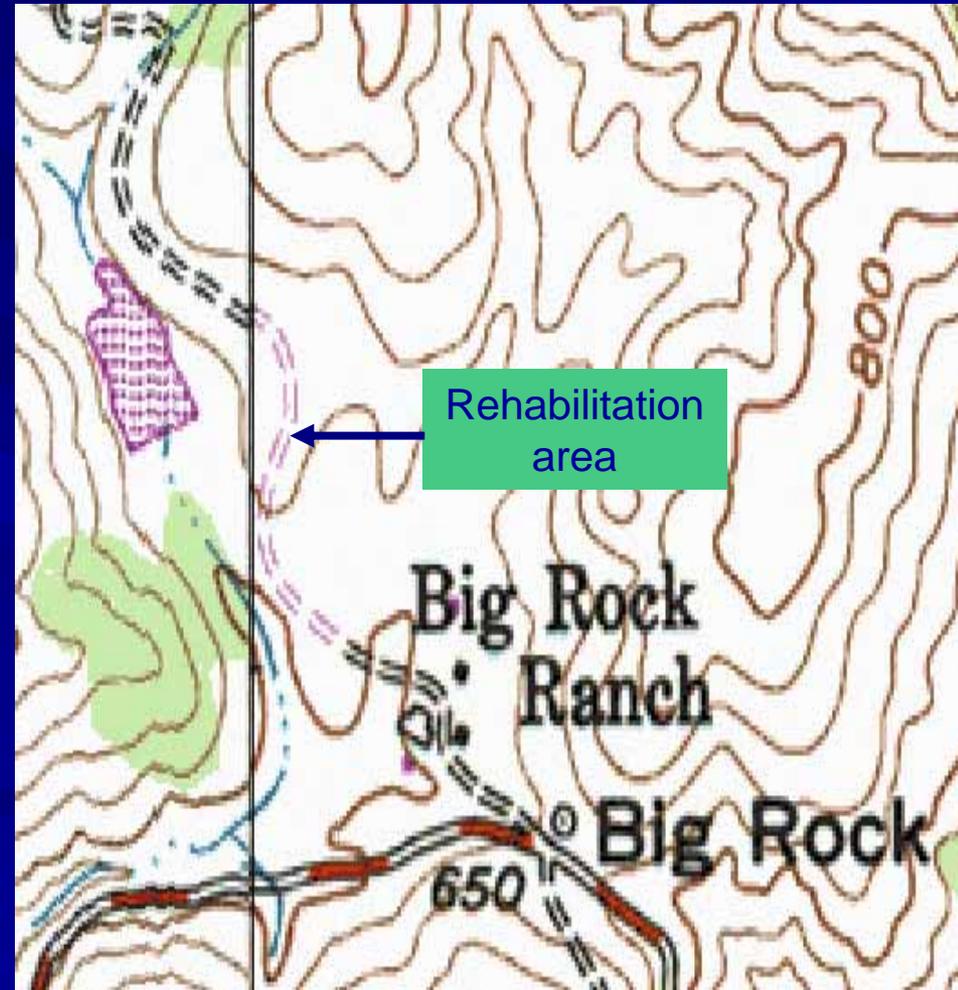


# Application Package

## Topographic Maps



- The maps must be detailed enough to identify the project elements.
- For paved trails, a USGS map may be submitted in lieu of a topographic map.





# How to Find a Topographic Map

- Local Agency (Planning, Public Works Departments)
- Free download from U.S. Geologic Survey  
<http://store.usgs.gov> and follow links to “Map,” then “Map Locator”
- Other on-line topographic sites
- Topographic software from hiking/sporting goods stores



# Application Package

## Project Photos

### Tie photos to other project elements

- Assist reviewer in recognizing area deficiencies
- Caption photos for reference



Park Hdrars

BM 6830

Sierra District  
D.L. Bliss State  
Park

Rubicon Trail-  
Whisky Cove  
Section

RTP Project

Bail  
No. 232

Emerald  
Point

Gate

Emerald  
Bay

6400

E M E

Poor Tread Condition and Tripping Hazards

Trail Erosion Going into Lake Tahoe



# Application Package

## Land Ownership



### Acquisition Projects

- Acquisition Schedule, Parcel Map and Willing Seller Letter

### Development Projects

- Ownership in fee simple, leases, or other agreements tenable to DPR



# Trail Management Process

Trail Projects  
can include  
5 Basic Elements



# Trail Management Process

Laws and Legal

*Is My Trail Project Compliant?*

## Archaeology

Threatened and Endangered Species

CEQA

## Accessibility

## Water Quality



# Trail Management Process

## Planning

Answer Questions & Concerns -  
Facilitate Trail Project Completion



# Trail Management Process

## Design and Layout

### Design and Layout Criteria Must

- Meet Users Expectations
- Mitigate Typical User Impacts



# Trail Management Process

## Construction and Maintenance

### Proper Construction and Maintenance:

- Protects Resources
- Enhances  
Visitor Experiences
- Minimizes Costs



# Trail Management Process

## Monitoring

Is the Project Working?

What Changes Need to be Considered or Implemented?



# Sample RTP Projects



**Before**



**After**



County of San Diego

Lake Morena Pacific Crest Trail Stage Area Development

Grant Award: \$164,000

Total Project Cost: \$205,000

# Sample RTP Projects



**Before**



**After**



California State Parks  
Skyline to Sea Trail  
Grant Award: \$96,689

Total Project Cost: \$120,859

# Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)



It is anticipated that the next application deadline will be fall 2010.



# LWCF Purpose



The intent of the LWCF is for Applicants to acquire, develop, and maintain outstanding properties in perpetuity for outdoor recreation purposes.



# LWCF Flowchart



U.S. Dept. of Interior

National Park Service (NPS)

State of California

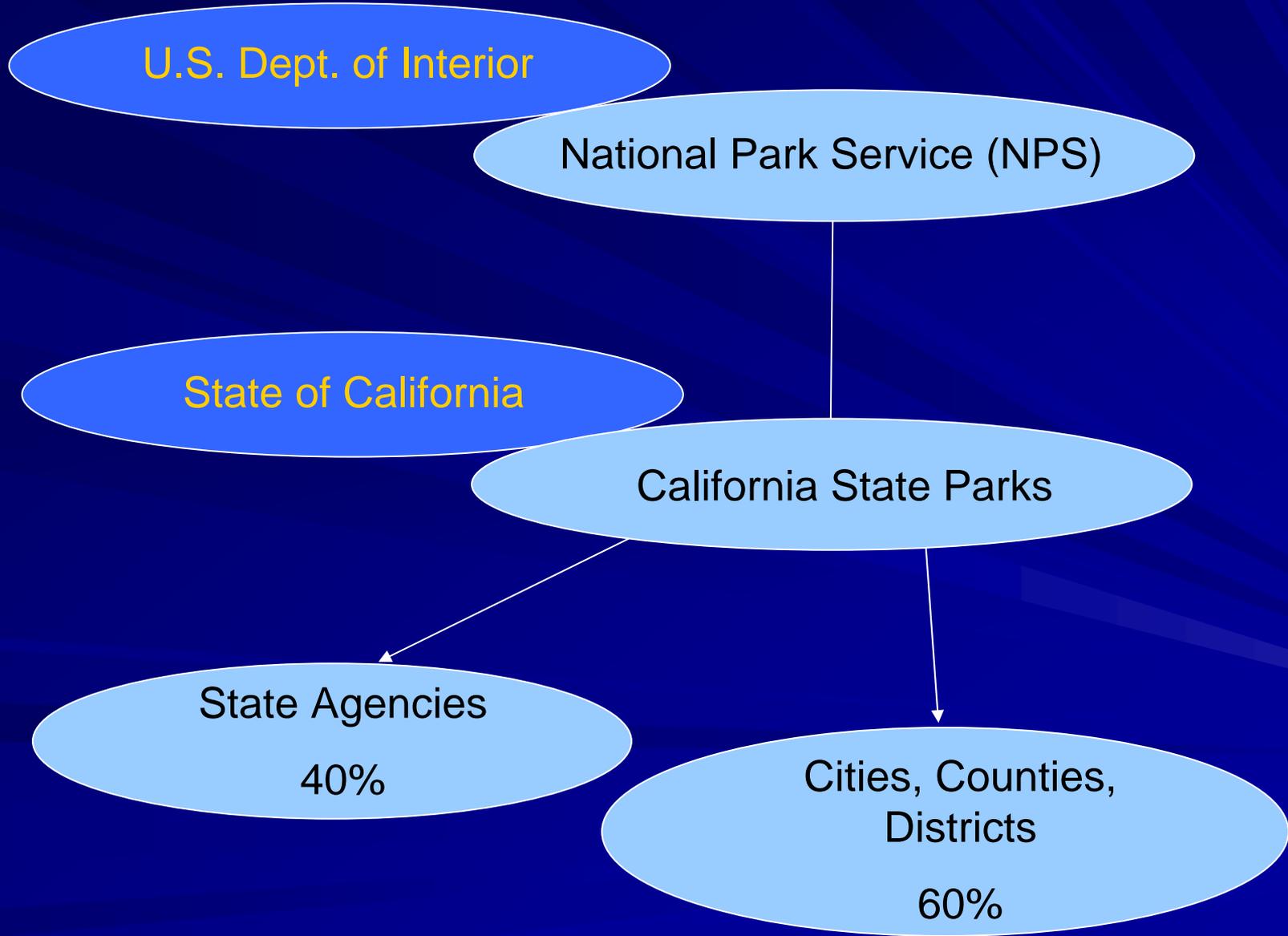
California State Parks

State Agencies

40%

Cities, Counties,  
Districts

60%

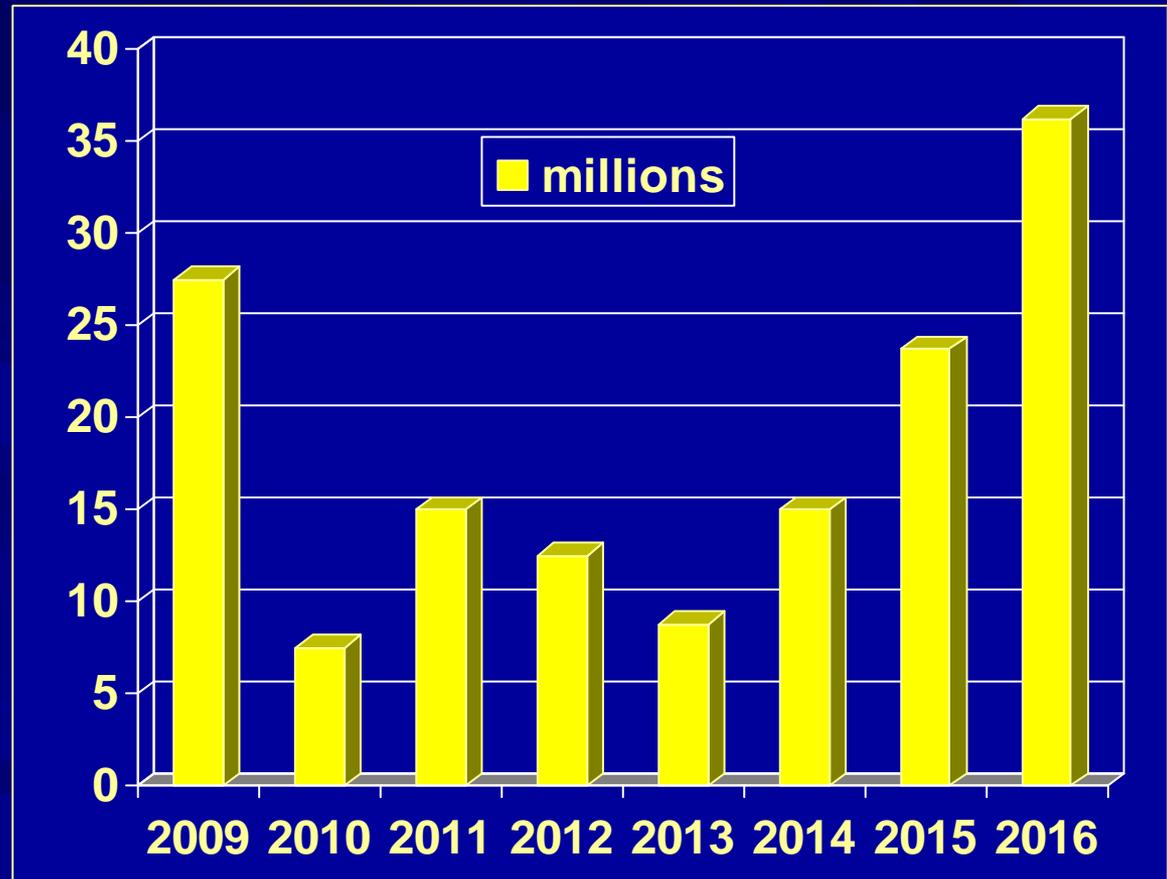


# LWCF Funding Nationwide

## Offshore Oil and Gas Royalties

Supplemental  
to LWCF  
appropriations

12.5% of royalties  
from new drilling  
near Florida and  
Gulf of Mexico



# Eligible Applicants and Projects

## Eligible Applicants:

- Cities
- Counties
- Districts - authorized to acquire, develop, operate and maintain park and recreation areas.



## Eligible Projects:

- Acquisition or development of outdoor recreation areas and facilities for recreational use in perpetuity.
  - Trails and trailhead facilities are eligible based on regional priorities

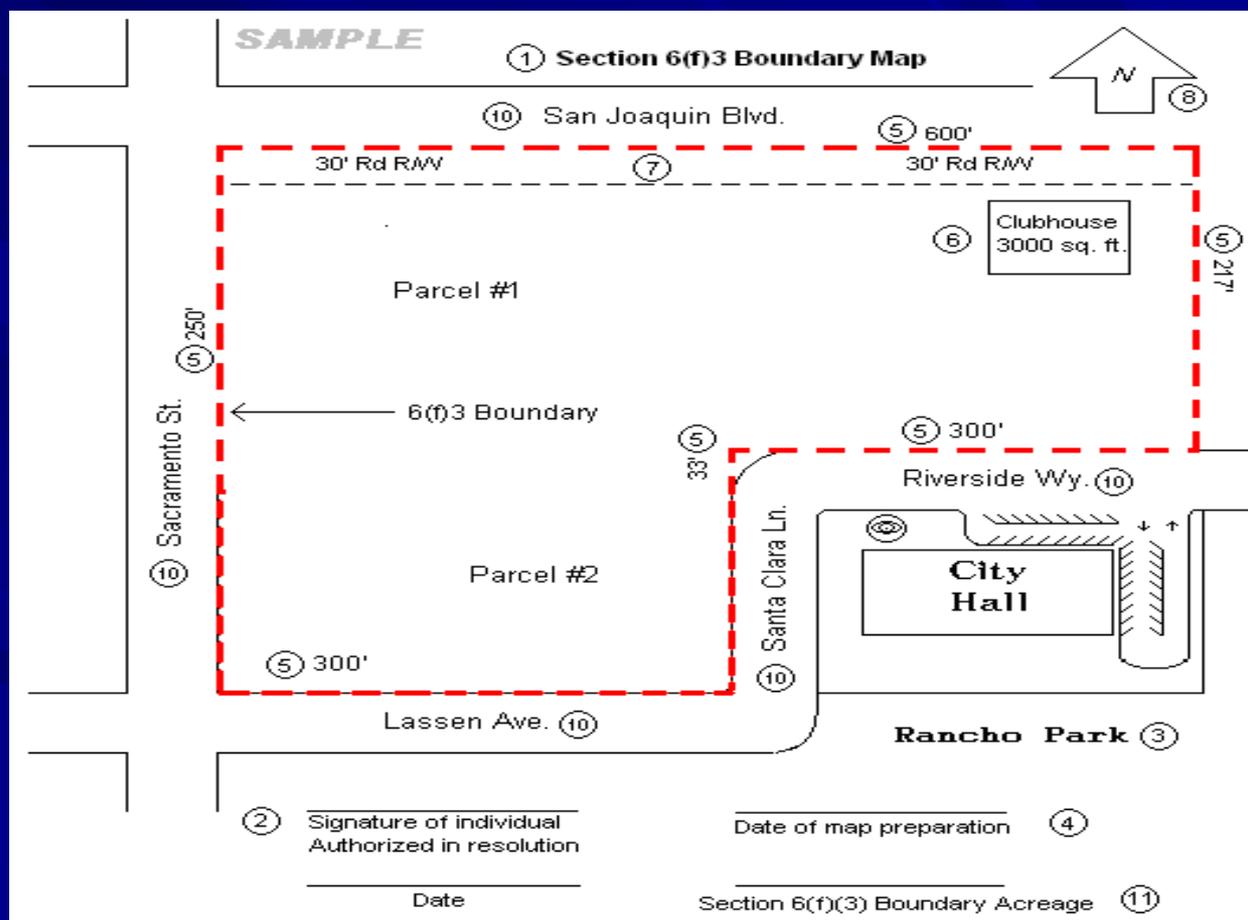




# 6(f)(3) Boundary Map

- Property acquired or developed under the LWCF program must be retained in perpetuity for public outdoor recreation use.

- The area to be retained is identified on the Section 6(f)(3) boundary map submitted by the applicant.



# Match Requirement



## Match Component:

- One applicant dollar to one federal dollar
- No other federal funds may be used as match *except*:
  - Federal Housing and Community Development Block Grants
  - SAFETEA-LU



## LWCF Proposal Description and Environmental Screening Form

The purpose of this Proposal Description and Environmental Screening Form (PD/ESF) is to provide descriptive and environmental information about Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) proposals for National Park Service (NPS) review and decision, and to serve as part of the administrative record for the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis of LWCF proposals. States and/or project sponsors should use this PD/ESF early in the planning process for proposals that will be submitted to NPS. The ESF portion is designed for use by the project sponsor during the proposal's development to identify potential environmental impacts and issues for consideration when choosing an appropriate pathway to document the NEPA analysis: a categorical exclusion (CE), an Environmental Assessment (EA) or an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The ESF can also be used to document previously conducted and still viable environmental analysis.

Except for the proposals listed below, the completed PD/ESF must be completed and signed by the State and accompany each new federal application for LWCF assistance (Standard Form 424), and amendments for scope changes, either of facilities and/or acres, including proposals for conversions, public facility exceptions, and other facilities, and changing the original intended use of an area from that which was approved in an earlier LWCF agreement. Consult the LWCF Grants Manual ([www.nps.gov/lwcf](http://www.nps.gov/lwcf)) for detailed guidance on additional information required for your type of proposal and for further guidance on how to comply with NEPA.

For the following types of proposals, only this cover page is required because these proposals are categorically excluded from further NEPA environmental analysis. NPS will complete the NEPA Categorical Exclusion Form for you. Simply check the applicable box below, and complete and submit the Cover Page to NPS along with the other items required for your type of proposal as explained in the LWCF Grants Manual.

- SCOP planning proposal
- Some restoration with no change in project scope or with a reduction in project scope
- To delete work and no other work is added back into the project scope
- To change project cost with no change in project scope or with a reduction in project scope

Name of LWCF Proposal:

Date Submitted to NPS:

Prior LWCF Project Number(s) *List all prior LWCF project numbers and other park names associated with site(s):*

Local or State Sponsoring Agency:

Local or State Sponsor Contact:

Name/Title:

Office/Address:

Phone/Fax:

Email:

Cover Page

Environmental Clearance



# Sample LWCF Projects



City of Diamond Bar

Sycamore Canyon Park Trail Development

Grant Award: \$118,903

Total Project Cost: \$312,821

# Sample LWCF Projects



City of Riverbank  
Jacob Meyers Development

Grant Award: \$51,000

Total Project Cost: \$159,210

# Habitat Conservation Fund (HCF)



- Approximately \$2 million per year
- Cities, Counties, and Districts
- 7 Funding Categories
  - **Trails** – Acquisition or Development of Trails which provide opportunity for urban residents to experience Wildlife Areas
- Match is one applicant dollar to one state dollar
- Application deadline is October 1, 2010



# Sample HCF Project



City of Los Angeles, Parks and Recreation  
White Point Nature Preserve

Grant Award: \$96,000

Total Project Cost: \$194,509



# HCF Workshops

- Technical Assistance Workshops for potential applicants will be held in May 2010.
- For more information, go to OGALS website at [www.parks.ca.gov/grants](http://www.parks.ca.gov/grants)
  - Follow links to Annual and Specified Programs, then Habitat Conservation Fund.



# Application Development

- Remember Who is Reviewing Your Grant Application Package
- The Grant Reviewer has Never Been to Your Site
  - Make it easy and understandable
  - Do not make the grant reviewer look for information



# Application “To Do List”

- Ensure all checklist items are included.
- Double-space project proposal.
- Include recordation numbers on application form (if applicable to the project).
- Ensure all forms are signed by the authorized representative.



# Suggested Next Steps



- Read Procedural Guide thoroughly.
- Begin planning steps as soon as possible.
- Contact California State Parks if you have questions:
  - Your Project Officer:  
Office of Grants and Local Services (OGALS)
  - OGALS website: [www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov), click on “Park Management” and then “Grants & Bonds” then “Annual and Specified Programs”
  - For Motorized Projects, contact OHV, Dan Canfield (916) 324-1574 or [dcanfield@parks.ca.gov](mailto:dcanfield@parks.ca.gov)



# Happy Trails

