



Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

M.L. 2024 Approved Work Plan

General Information

ID Number: 2024-017

Staff Lead: Tom Dietrich

Date this document submitted to LCCMR: June 10, 2024

Project Title: Connecting Communities to Voyageurs Classroom and Minnesota's National Park

Project Budget: \$994,000

Project Manager Information

Name: Breanna Trygg

Organization: Voyageurs Conservancy

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Project Reporting

Date Work Plan Approved by LCCMR: June 20, 2024

Reporting Schedule: June 1 / December 1 of each year.

Project Completion: June 30, 2027

Final Report Due Date: August 14, 2027

Legal Information

Legal Citation: M.L. 2024, Chp. 83, Sec. 2, Subd. 05b

Appropriation Language: \$994,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Voyageurs Conservancy to connect Minnesotans to the state's only national park through standards-aligned K-12 education, career-building fellowships, and enhanced programming that engages diverse audiences in the park's conservation.

Appropriation End Date: June 30, 2027

Narrative

Project Summary: Voyageurs Conservancy will connect 17,000 Minnesotans to the state's only national park through standards-aligned K-12 education, career-building fellowships, and enhanced programs that engage diverse audiences in the park's conservation.

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

This project will connect Minnesotans of all ages to their national park and build on a successful phase one ENRTF grant that established the foundation of a sustainable environmental education initiative at Voyageurs.

Voyageurs National Park is a world-class, natural classroom where science, culture, and history intersect to offer unparalleled learning and where the benefits of nature are realized. Yet, public programming has historically been limited and irrelevant to younger, more diverse audiences. Moreover, Voyageurs is remote and 40% water which creates barriers for many to experience it. Additionally, funding gaps and transportation barriers have led to a deficit in environmental education offerings and nature experiences for regional rural schools. Teachers across our state network are requesting year-round in-park and classroom-based opportunities for their students.

After a multi-year gap in youth programming at the park, Voyageurs Conservancy stepped in to develop a broad public-private partnership between the National Park Service, Voyageurs Conservancy, and many community organizations. With continued support from LCCMR, and as Voyageurs National Park prepares to celebrate its 50th anniversary, the opportunity ahead lies in leveraging federal, state and private funding to expand the Voyageurs Classroom's reach and improve its relevance to consistently connect with new communities.

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 funding opportunity comes at an opportune time to leverage Voyageurs Classroom's initial successes and the park's 50th anniversary to reach a new phase engaging all ages, new geographic regions, and underserved communities.

Voyageurs Conservancy will connect 17,000 Minnesotans to the unique cultural and ecological space of Voyageurs National Park through outdoor, classroom, and virtual learning opportunities. These statewide programs will ensure Minnesota's outdoor heritage is truly understood, valued, preserved, and shared. We will:

- Help fill the environmental education gap in northern Minnesota through multiple channels – grow our educator network and workshops; broaden our in-park experiences to schools within a two-hour drive; bridge science and culture in classroom lessons, and visit communities across Minnesota with our new mobile classroom.

- Deepen and widen partnerships to reach new audiences beyond one-time visitors and gateway communities.

- Enhance our multigenerational programs: Standards-aligned K-12 environmental education instills stewardship in younger audiences and sparks interest in outdoor recreation and environmental science; Teen Ambassador Program cultivates outdoor leaders and connection to Indigenous knowledge; Field Fellows program enriches professional development of young adults while preserving the park for generations; Love Your Park events connect families to their national park through recreation and hands-on stewardship activities.

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?

Voyageurs Classroom will expand reach and relevance to move the needle from "why visit" to "why help preserve" Voyageurs National Park. We will:

- Connect future environmental stewards to Voyageurs by reaching 12,000 K-12 youth through in-park and classroom-based standards-aligned programs.
- Support 500 National Park Teen Ambassadors on one-day and multi-day canoe trips that encourage connections to cultural stories, environmental stewardship, leadership, and conservation career pathways.
- Provide career experience for future environmental professionals by supporting 18 young adult Field Fellows.
- Engage a diverse audience of 5,000 Minnesotans through enhanced recreation and conservation experiences with Voyageurs.

Project Location

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

Statewide

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

Statewide

When will the work impact occur?

During the Project and In the Future

Activities and Milestones

Activity 1: Connect future environmental stewards to the land, water, and sky of Voyageurs National Park by engaging 12,000 K-12 students

Activity Budget: \$417,982

Activity Description:

Activity 1 will double the number of K-12 youth engaged with Voyageurs Classroom. With well-developed programming, strong partnerships, and the capability to engage youth through multiple formats (virtual, in-classroom, in-park), Voyageurs Classroom will progress to the next phase by expanding reach and relevance. Growth will occur across formats, enabling youth from the region and across the state to benefit from recurring outdoor experiences and standards-aligned environmental education in the classroom. We will:

In-Park – Build upon our local educator network to provide in-park field trips, engaging rural youth across all seasons including snowshoe hikes, animal adaptation programs, and floating classroom learning opportunities. These repeat experiences will inspire a conservation ethic and build lasting connections to the environment. Teacher workshops in-park will inspire educators with EE resources and lessons.

Classroom – Integrate Indigenous resources with existing curriculum; offer teachers professional development on utilizing Voyageurs as a resource for science, social studies, and more; and reach more underserved youth across Minnesota with our inaugural mobile classroom.

Virtual – Implement new technology and resources to fill the existing gap in Minnesota for night sky curriculum. We will elevate our STEM-based Dark Sky programming to bring this topic (addressing wildlife, light pollution, cultural storytelling) to more classrooms.

Activity Milestones:

| Description | Approximate Completion Date |
|--|-----------------------------|
| Engage 3,000 students in classroom and outdoor education programs. | June 30, 2025 |
| Engage 45 teachers through professional development, network-building, and outreach opportunities. | June 30, 2025 |
| Engage 4,000 students in classroom and outdoor education programs. | June 30, 2026 |
| Engage 45 teachers through professional development, network-building, and outreach opportunities. | June 30, 2026 |
| Engage 5,000 students in classroom and outdoor education programs. | June 30, 2027 |
| Engage 45 teachers through professional development, network-building, and outreach opportunities. | June 30, 2027 |

Activity 2: Cultivate 500 outdoor leaders through the National Park Teen Ambassador program, creating transformative nature relationships and centering Indigenous representation

Activity Budget: \$183,617

Activity Description:

The National Park Teen Ambassador program engages Minnesota high school students in one-day and multi-day canoe/camping trips in Voyageurs National Park. The program seeks to empower future environmental champions in diverse communities and engage youth as Ambassadors, sharing their own Voyageurs story with their community and peers. In addition to outdoor recreation, participants engage in activities teaching outdoor skills, leadership, environmental stewardship, and conservation career pathways. These programs are free for students and will serve 500 youth.

In its next phase, the program will increase engagement and reach with high school youth from communities within two hours of the park to experience one-day programs. We will also increase engagement with Native youth and Indigenous Knowledge Holders. New partnerships with Indigenous Knowledge Holders will allow the Voyageurs Conservancy to engage in authentic partnerships for program delivery and add new activities centering wellness, cultural stories, and science. We will help establish sustainable, inclusive pathways so the program can further benefit underrepresented students, educators, and Indigenous youth. Wilderness Inquiry and the National Park Service will remain integral program partners.

Activity Milestones:

| Description | Approximate Completion Date |
|---|-----------------------------|
| Support network of BIPOC educators to partner in program delivery. | October 31, 2025 |
| Provide 75 students transformative nature experiences and leadership development through Teen Ambassador overnight program. | June 30, 2027 |
| Connect 425 teens to one-day programs that cultivate recreation, career exploration and build conservation ethic. | June 30, 2027 |

Activity 3: Provide hands-on career experience for future environmental educators, scientists, and researchers by supporting 18 young adults as Field Fellows

Activity Budget: \$147,417

Activity Description:

Activity 3 focuses on building upon the recently established Field Fellows program. The Fellowship is designed for emerging conservation leaders to develop crucial fieldwork experience without taking on financial burden. With experience and learnings gained from the initial launch in 2021, Voyageurs Conservancy will refine the fellowship experience to expand professional development for Field Fellows and maximize benefit to Voyageurs’ park staff, visitors, neighbors, and supporters.

Field Fellows – We will center program activities on a cohort learning model so that fellows can learn from and with one another, a best practice of internship programs. We will formalize aspects of the program that initial Fellows have highlighted as valuable benefits of their fellowship to provide all Fellows a well-rounded experience: public speaking and presentations, gaining insight on government agencies and nonprofits, and more.

Science Communication – We will formalize how fellowship research and projects are shared broadly to benefit academia. We will establish platforms to consistently weave Fellows’ work into our ongoing educational and public programming. We will broaden partnerships in northern Minnesota, such as our emerging relationship with the Northeast Minnesota Office of Job Training, to build connections between young adults in rural communities and increase equitable environmental career pathways.

Activity Milestones:

| Description | Approximate Completion Date |
|--|-----------------------------|
| Host 6 Field Fellows with stipend-paid, career-experience positions at Voyageurs National Park. | June 30, 2025 |
| Host 6 Field Fellows with stipend-paid, career-experience positions at Voyageurs National Park. | June 30, 2026 |
| Establish network of colleges, career development agencies to link students to economic opportunity/environmental careers. | October 31, 2026 |
| Host 6 Field Fellows with stipend-paid, career-experience positions at Voyageurs National Park. | June 30, 2027 |

Activity 4: Engage families through enhanced year-round programs that build awareness of Voyageurs with new audiences and grow conservation and sustainable recreation

Activity Budget: \$244,984

Activity Description:

Activity 4 focuses on providing park experiences for everyone, a leading goal of Voyageurs Conservancy. We will expand outreach and year-round 'Love Your Park' community programming for adults and families in partnership with the National Park Service and community organizations. Engaging a more diverse group of Minnesotans through public events that make science come alive, we will build awareness of Voyageurs, enjoyment of the outdoors, and support for conservation efforts that preserve the park for future generations.

Dark Sky – We will expand Dark Sky programming to meet demand (Voyageurs recently became an International Dark Sky Park) and bring Minnesotans to Voyageurs in all seasons. Offering telescope tours and leveraging our mobile classroom will reduce barriers and fill a gap for families who cannot embrace the region's dark skies due to limited programming and lack of equipment.

50th Anniversary – We will implement programs that celebrate the state's national park at Voyageurs and around the state. We will connect with existing audiences to understand what Voyageurs means to them and share these stories widely to raise the park's visibility. We will work with cultural partners to enhance diverse engagement and bridge relationships with Indigenous communities connected to the park.

Activity Milestones:

| Description | Approximate Completion Date |
|--|-----------------------------|
| Reach 1,000 individuals with direct programming. | June 30, 2025 |
| Reach 1,500 individuals with direct programming. | June 30, 2026 |
| Reach 2,500 individuals with direct programming. | June 30, 2027 |

Project Partners and Collaborators

| Name | Organization | Role | Receiving Funds |
|--------------------|--|---|-----------------|
| Bob DeGross | National Park Service | Bob DeGross, Superintendent of Voyageurs National Park, will oversee and advise on the growth and development of the Voyageurs Classroom and help support outreach to partners and communities. | No |
| Tawnya Schoewe | National Park Service | Tawnya Schoewe is head of Interpretation at Voyageurs National Park. She serves as the lead National Park Service liaison on all joint education program planning. She oversees federal resources including staff and boat equipment leveraged for Voyageurs Classroom programs. | No |
| Julie Athman Ernst | Center for Environmental Education, Department of Applied Human Sciences, University of Minnesota - Duluth | Julie Athman Ernst, Ph.D., Director of Master of Environmental Education Program, will advise on education program development and support student recruitment for the Field Fellows program, especially the Environmental Education Graduate Assistantship. | No |
| Jaylen Strong | Bois Forte Heritage Center & Cultural Museum | Jaylen serves as director of the heritage center and the tribal historic preservation officer for the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa. Jaylen is active in his community and is working with the Conservancy to bring youth to Voyageurs National Park and advises on cultural improvements to the education program. | Yes |
| Brian Harmon | National Park Service | Brian C. Harmon, Head of Cultural and Natural Resource Management at Voyageurs National Park, will help oversee internship program advancement for the Field Fellows program, including project identification and career mentoring. | No |
| Joseph K. Bump | Conservation Sciences Graduate Program, University of Minnesota, Institute on the Environment | Joseph K. Bump, Ph.D. will advise on program development and support student recruitment for the Field Fellows program. | No |
| Shelby Swan | Wilderness Inquiry | Shelby Swan serves as our Wilderness Inquiry lead on trip coordination for multi-day and one-day modules of the National Park Teen Ambassador program. | Yes |
| Sam Zimmerman | Crane Superior Studio | Sam Zimmerman, Voyageurs Conservancy's inaugural artist educator in residence, advises on the Voyageurs Classroom with experience as a teacher and school administrator, Ojibwe education specialist, and artist. | No |
| Tim Everson | Falls High School | Tim Everson is the principal of Falls High School (grades 6-12) in International Falls, and will provide teacher/student feedback and support field experiences for his students and at Voyageurs National Park throughout the year. | No |
| Larissa Juip | Michigan Technological University (PhD Candidate) | Larissa Juip is an Onondaga scholar. Larissa's experience with interpretive programs and creating educational lessons with Indigenous perspectives and knowledge allows our programs to be more culturally responsive and relevant for all Minnesota students, especially Indigenous students. | No |
| Dacia Jones | Expeditions in Education | Expeditions in Education will help host 'STEAM in the Park' teacher workshops, partner on mobile classroom implementation, and build teacher networks. Their experience in connecting teachers to National Parks around the country is invaluable to understanding how to build strong classroom experiences for students in Minnesota. | Yes |

| | | | |
|--------------------|--|---|----|
| Alysa Hackenmuller | Northeast Minnesota Office of Job Training | Alysa Hackenmuller works with young people in Northeast Minnesota to connect them to career opportunities through internships, coaching, and career development support. She will develop connections and promote Field Fellows and other possible career pathways in National Parks and environmental science. | No |
| Ryan Hueffmeier | Boulder Lake Environmental Learning Center | Ryan Hueffmeier and his team at this Duluth-area Environmental Learning Center provide a regional space to host and partner on teacher workshops and connect Voyageurs Classroom concepts to hands-on learning opportunities. | No |
| Alison Nyenhuis | Friends of the Boundary Waters | Alison Nyenhuis at Friends of the Boundary Waters will partner with Voyageurs Conservancy to support the Boreal Stargazing Week, a winter educational and community outreach week to connect Minnesotans to the night skies through K-12 programs and community events. | No |
| Nia Navarro | Bell Museum | Nia Navarro is the director of the Bell Museum Statewide Star Party, and will partner with Voyageurs Conservancy on education programs and outreach events related to our 50th Anniversary, Love Your Park, and Dark Sky Classroom programs. | 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.

Voyageurs Conservancy will share Voyageurs Classroom resources with teachers, students, and partner organizations throughout Minnesota with a particular focus on St. Louis and Koochiching Counties as well as the Twin Cities metro area. Each year, the Education Director, in conjunction with program staff, will collect quantitative and qualitative data, including the number of program participants, location and demographic data for participating schools and students, and evaluation forms submitted by educators, students and volunteers.

In addition to LCCMR reporting, information and updates regarding the Voyageurs Classroom project will be made available the Voyageurs Conservancy's website (www.voyageurs.org), e- newsletter, print newsletter, social media, and press releases to local media and public presentations at relevant community events.

The Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) will be acknowledged through use of the trust fund logo or attribution language on project print and electronic media, publications, signage, and other communications per the ENRTF Acknowledgement Guidelines.

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?

Voyageurs Classroom has become an integral part of Voyageurs Conservancy achieving our goal to connect younger, more diverse audiences to Voyageurs National Park through recreation and education opportunities that build an enduring base of conservationists to protect the park for generations to come. This featured program appeals to a wide array of funders.

Voyageurs Conservancy is entirely sustained through philanthropy and is well-positioned with a broad base of funders - individual contributors, corporate/family foundations, National Park Service support, and businesses neighboring the park. We will leverage this LCCMR grant to attract additional private donations for this environmental education program.

Other ENRTF Appropriations Awarded in the Last Six Years

| Name | Appropriation | Amount Awarded |
|------------------------------------|---|-----------------------|
| The Voyageurs Classroom Initiative | M.L. 2021, First Special Session, Chp. 6, Art. 6, Sec. 2, Subd. 05e | \$348,000 |

Budget Summary

| Category / Name | Subcategory or Type | Description | Purpose | Gen. Ineligible | % Benefits | # FTE | Classified Staff? | \$ Amount |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|--|---------|-----------------|------------|-------|-------------------|------------------|
| Personnel | | | | | | | | |
| Education & Outreach Director | | Project Manager: 85% (.8 FTE) \$72,000 + 25% Benefits = \$90,000 x 3 years + a 5% pay raise years 2 and 3 | | | 25% | 2.4 | | \$226,980 |
| Education Specialist | | Implements EE Programs: FTE = \$44,000 + 25% Benefits = \$55,000 x 3 years + a 5% pay raise years 2 and 3 " | | | 25% | 3 | | \$173,387 |
| Education Specialist | | Implements EE Programs: FTE = \$44,000 + 25% Benefits = \$55,000 x 2 years + a 5% pay raise year 3 | | | 25% | 2 | | \$112,750 |
| Public Engagement Coordinator | | Coordinates community outreach and special education events: 75% (FTE) = \$52,000 + 25% Benefits x 3 years + a 5% pay raise years 2 and 3 | | | 25% | 3 | | \$153,684 |
| Education Intern | | Support community and education programs: \$17/hour x 18 hours/week x 30 weeks = \$9,796 x 1 years | | | 0% | 0.4 | | \$9,796 |
| | | | | | | | Sub Total | \$676,597 |
| Contracts and Services | | | | | | | | |
| Wilderness Inquiry | Sub award | Teen Ambassador program partnership: Four 1-day programs (\$3,000 each) x 3 years = \$36,000; Overnight summer trips x 37 students/educators x 3 years x \$400/supported student rate = \$44,400. Wilderness Inquiry provides trained guides, equipment, food, transportation. | | | | 0 | | \$80,400 |
| Expeditions in Education | Sub award | Supports six programs connecting Minnesota classrooms with others students around the country; Two on-location livestream programs from Voyageurs National Park; Organizing two STEAM in the PARK Summer Adventure workshops for MN teachers and other US educators (LCCMR funds used for MN teachers) | | | | 0 | | \$32,500 |
| Bois Forte Heritage Center | Sub award | Teen Ambassador program partnership, stipends for chaperone educators to implement Indigenous-designed co-learning experiences, community leader and recruitment support, trainings over three years. | | | | 0 | | \$64,000 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|---|--|--|--|--|------------------|------------------|
| | | | | | | | Sub Total | \$176,900 |
| Equipment, Tools, and Supplies | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | Sub Total | - |
| Capital Expenditures | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | Sub Total | - |
| Acquisitions and Stewardship | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | Sub Total | - |
| Travel In Minnesota | | | | | | | | |
| | Miles/ Meals/ Lodging | Year 1: 12 overnights @ \$195: \$2,340; Year 2 & 3: 16 overnights @ \$195: \$3,120/year Mileage/Fuel Year 1: Avg. 200 mi/trip x .655/mile x 12 = \$1,512; Mileage/Fuel Year 2 & 3: Avg. 200 mi/trip x .655/mile x 16 = \$2,096/year | Travel costs associated with mobile classroom program delivery - visiting schools throughout MN | | | | | \$15,181 |
| | Miles/ Meals/ Lodging | Mileage/fuel for travel for program delivery in different park regions and neighboring communities: (Int'l Falls to Kabetogama 60 miles RT x 24 programs (summer season) x .655/mile x 3 years) = \$2,595 (Int'l Falls to Crane Lake 160 miles RT x 4 programs x 3 years) = \$1,258 Overnight travel for events and programs @\$195/night: 10 x \$195 x 2 years + 15 x \$195 x 1 year = \$6,825 Mileage avg. 200 mi/trip x 16 trips x .655/mile = \$2,096 | Travel costs associated with delivering Love Your Park education and stewardship programs and events | | | | | \$12,774 |
| | Miles/ Meals/ Lodging | (1 overnight @ \$195 x 4/year x 3 years = \$2340) + (Mileage avg 300 mi/trip x 12 trips x .655/mile = \$2,358) | Travel costs associated with teacher network building and hosting teacher workshops | | | | | \$4,698 |
| | Other | Bus transportation assistance for schools to come to Voyageurs National Park (\$300 x 4 x 3 years) | Bus transportation assistance for schools to experience in-park outdoor programs | | | | | \$4,500 |
| | | | | | | | Sub Total | \$37,153 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--------------------|------------------|
| Travel Outside Minnesota | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | Sub Total | - |
| Printing and Publication | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | Sub Total | - |
| Other Expenses | | | | | | | | |
| | | Environmental Education Graduate Assistantship (\$8,000 x 3 years) | To support the adaption and expansion of current curriculum for classroom and virtual learning and improve relevancy for diverse audiences | | | | | \$24,000 |
| | | Field Fellowship stipends (\$1200/month x 3 months x 12 fellowships) \$43,200 + (\$1200/month x 4 months x 6 fellowships) \$28,800 | To remove financial barriers for students to be able to engage in hands-on environmental career experience | | | | | \$72,000 |
| | | Volunteer/teacher stipends (\$150 x 5 x 3 years) | To support travel and time associate with program support | | | | | \$2,250 |
| | | Program speaker honorariums (\$100 x 6) + (\$500 traveling speakers x 6) | To host special partners and diverse, relevant voices in environmental education | | | | | \$3,600 |
| | | Facility rental fees (\$500 x 3 years) | To host teacher workshops in various regions of the state | | | | | \$1,500 |
| | | | | | | | Sub Total | \$103,350 |
| | | | | | | | Grand Total | \$994,000 |

Classified Staff or Generally Ineligible Expenses

| Category/Name | Subcategory or Type | Description | Justification Ineligible Expense or Classified Staff Request |
|---------------|---------------------|-------------|--|
|---------------|---------------------|-------------|--|

Non ENRTF Funds

| Category | Specific Source | Use | Status | \$ Amount |
|------------------|----------------------------|--|----------------------------|------------------|
| State | | | | |
| | | | State Sub Total | - |
| Non-State | | | | |
| Cash | National Park Service | Funding from the National Park Service will support travel, salaries, and program implementation. | Secured | \$30,000 |
| Cash | Donations from Individuals | Secured from private fundraising for additional staff support: Executive Director (6%), Operations Coordinator (15%), and Communications Manager (10%) \$16,900 x 3 years = \$50,700 | Secured | \$50,700 |
| In-Kind | National Park Service | InKind support from the National Park Service includes: \$45,429 staff + \$18,400 boat transportation + \$1800 housing = \$65,629 x 3 years = \$196,887 | Secured | \$196,887 |
| In-Kind | Wilderness Inquiry | Our partner is providing a discounted per student rate for the Teen Ambassador program partnership. | Secured | \$60,000 |
| Cash | National Park Foundation | Funding request for additional staff support and equipment for education program. | Potential | \$57,800 |
| | | | Non State Sub Total | \$395,387 |
| | | | Funds Total | \$395,387 |

Attachments

Required Attachments

Visual Component

File: [e6efb75d-c91.pdf](#)

Alternate Text for Visual Component

Colorful photos of students enjoying outdoor experiences including canoeing and using a telescope to stargaze with text description of Voyageurs Conservancy's four main environmental education programs: Voyageurs Classroom K12 education, Teen Ambassadors, Voyageurs Field Fellows, and Love Your Park community events and family programs....

Financial Capacity

File: [01acb37f-fe7.pdf](#)

Board Resolution or Letter

| Title | File |
|--|----------------------------------|
| Resolution from Voyageurs Conservancy Board of Directors | 0a121e3f-d65.pdf |

Supplemental Attachments

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

| Title | File |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| Letter of Support from National Park Service | 72aaf7e9-8fb.pdf |
| Letter of Support from Rainy Lake, International Falls CVB | 36c51bf5-462.pdf |
| Letter of Support from Voyageurs Wolf Project | 03f4f017-b91.pdf |
| Letter of Support from Expeditions in Education | dd840fa5-4cc.pdf |
| Letter of Support from Falls High School | ca6c43e3-0c9.pdf |
| Letter of Support from Littlefork-Big Falls 5th grade teacher | cce3ad10-b6e.docx |
| Letter of Support from Voyageurs Guide Service (Northern MN Business Owner) | 20918382-e6c.pdf |
| Letter of Support from Bob King (Astronomer/Educator) | 4d803674-656.pdf |
| Letter of Support from Jamie Madson (5/6 Environmental Studies Teacher) | f603b0fd-6fb.docx |
| Letter of Support from Bell Museum | e0b32e37-7f0.pdf |

Difference between Proposal and Work Plan

Describe changes from Proposal to Work Plan Stage

Voyageurs Conservancy amended Activity 3 to reflect number of youth served through Teen Ambassador program: 425 one-day programs and 75 overnight programs (still 500 total). We also amended the budget to reflect \$17,000 moved from program contracts to program personnel. Voyageurs Conservancy amended a sub-award partner: removed Native Skywatchers and added partner Bois Forte Heritage Center because they are directly serving the Tribal community we are partnering with.

Comment 17: Removed zoom as an ineligible expense and added funds to mobile classroom travel budget line.

Comment 18: Yes - classroom and professional development opportunities are related. We have updated the narrative to reflect the professional development that encourages teachers to connect their students to the experiences in Voyageurs, and build upon the experience once back in their classroom.

The style of our teacher workshops and the in-park experiences we provide them (boat/campsite limitations), paired with the number of staff for program delivery, mean we can only serve a limited number of teachers each year (approx. 45), the goal will be to expand to new teachers and teacher teams over time so our teacher network continues to grow over the three years.

Comment 19: Six Field Fellows each year for 18 total in the entire grant timeline.

Comment 20: 'Love Your Park' programming refers to Activity #4. We have clarified that in the narrative of Activity \$4. Expeditions in Education is a program partner for Activity #1.

Comment 21: Summer teacher workshops are open to teachers from across the U.S. but LCCMR funds will be designated for MN teachers, and we will host Minnesota-only experiences with Expeditions in Education as well.

Additional Acknowledgements and Conditions:

The following are acknowledgements and conditions beyond those already included in the above workplan:

Do you understand and acknowledge the ENRTF repayment requirements if the use of capital equipment changes?

N/A

Do you agree travel expenses must follow the "Commissioner's Plan" promulgated by the Commissioner of Management of Budget or, for University of Minnesota projects, the University of Minnesota plan?

Yes, I agree to the Commissioner's Plan.

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?

No

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")?

Yes

Do you certify that background checks are performed for background check crimes, as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 299C.61, Subd. 2, on all employees, contractors, and volunteers who have or may have access to a child to whom children's services are provided by your organization?

Yes