

Chapter NR 50

ADMINISTRATION OF OUTDOOR RECREATION
PROGRAM GRANTS AND STATE AIDS

NR 50.01	Purpose (p. 539)	NR 50.14	County fish and wildlife aid (p. 562)
NR 50.02	Applicability (p. 539)	NR 50.15	Wildlife habitat development on county forests (p. 562)
NR 50.03	Definitions (p. 539)	NR 50.16	Aids for the acquisition and development of local parks (p. 563)
NR 50.05	General provisions (p. 541)	NR 50.17	Shooting range development (p. 563)
NR 50.06	LAWCON program (p. 542)	NR 50.18	Local park aid program (p. 565)
NR 50.09	County snowmobile aids (p. 546)	NR 50.19	Scenic urban waterways grant program (p. 568)
NR 50.10	Aids to cities, villages and towns for route signs (p. 556)	NR 50.20	Fish rearing pond grants (p. 570)
NR 50.11	Aids to snowmobile clubs (p. 558)		
NR 50.12	Law enforcement aids to counties (p. 559)		
NR 50.13	Law enforcement aids to municipalities (p. 560)		

Note: The following recreational aids programs are found elsewhere: Motorcycle Recreation Program, ch. NR 65 and Recreational Boating Facilities Program, ch. NR 7.

History: Chapter NR 50 as it existed on March 31, 1975 was repealed and a new chapter NR 50 was created, effective April 1, 1975.

NR 50.01 Purpose. The purpose of this chapter is to establish procedures for implementation of various recreational aids programs under ss. 20.370 (4) (bx), 23.09 (11), (12), (17m), (20), (25) (e) and (26), 23.30 (3) (h), 30.275 and 350.12 (4), Stats., and 16 U.S.C. ss. 460d, 460L-4, et seq.

History: Cr. Register, May, 1983, No. 329, eff. 6-1-83; am. Register, April, 1984, No. 340, eff. 5-1-84; am. Register, November, 1986, No. 371, eff. 12-1-86; am. Register, April, 1989, No. 400, eff. 5-1-89.

NR 50.02 Applicability. The provisions of this chapter are applicable to all sponsors of recreational aid programs under ss. 20.370 (4) (bx), 23.09 (11), (12), (17m), (20), (25) (e) and (26), 23.30 (3) (h), 30.275 and 350.12 (4), Stats., and 16 U.S.C. ss. 460d, 460L-4, et seq.

History: Cr. Register, March, 1975, No. 231, eff. 4-1-75; cr. (6), Register, March, 1977, No. 255, eff. 4-1-77; cr. (7) and (8), Register, June, 1980, No. 294, eff. 7-1-80; cr. (9), Register, September, 1980, No. 297, eff. 10-1-80; r. and recr. Register, May, 1983, No. 329, eff. 6-1-83; am. Register, April, 1984, No. 340, eff. 5-1-84; am. Register, November, 1986, No. 371, eff. 12-1-86; am. Register, April, 1989, No. 400, eff. 5-1-89.

NR 50.03 Definitions. (1) "Department" means department of natural resources.

(2) "Secretary" means secretary, department of natural resources.

(3) "Applicant" means unit of government applying for a grant.

(4) "LAWCON" means land and water conservation fund act of 1965.

(5) (a) "Acquisition project" includes the acquisition of land or rights thereto for a well defined outdoor recreation area or purpose.

(b) "Development project" includes the development of structures, utilities, facilities or landscaping necessary for outdoor recreation use of an area.

(6) "Approval" means the signing by the secretary or designee of a project agreement resulting in encumbering a specified amount of federal or state aid funds for a specific purpose.

(7) "Assistance" means funds made available by the department to a sponsor in support of a public outdoor recreation project.

(8) "Contingency fund" means that part of the LAWCON apportionment that is not immediately apportioned to counties or state agencies but held by the department to meet high priority, unforeseen, or emergency needs.

(9) "Project agreement" means a contract between the sponsor and department setting forth the mutual obligations with regard to a portion or all of a specific project.

(10) "Sponsor" means local unit of government, state agency, Indian tribe or snowmobile club receiving assistance.

(11) "Snowmobile trail" means a marked corridor on public property or on private lands subject to public easement or lease, designated for use by snowmobile operators by the governmental agency having jurisdiction, but excluding highways except those highways on which the roadway is not normally maintained for other vehicular traffic by the removal of snow.

(12) "District" means one of the 6 field administrative offices of the department of natural resources.

(13) "Project period" means the period of time specified in the agreement during which all work must be accomplished.

(14) "Basic facilities" means the minimum improvements necessary to enable people to make use of recreation sites with minimum maintenance.

(15) "State outdoor recreation plan" means the comprehensive statewide outdoor recreation plan required by the land and water conservation fund act.

(16) "Enforcement" means the detection and prevention of crimes and civil violations, and the arrest of those persons who violate such laws. To qualify for state aids under ss. 30.79 and 350.12, Stats., and ss. NR 50.12 and 50.13, officers involved in the "enforcement" of ss. 30.50 to 30.80 or ch. 350, Stats., must have the authority to make arrests for the violations of the laws they are employed to enforce.

(17) "Force account" means the performance of a development or maintenance project with the forces and resources of the sponsor, including personal services, equipment and materials.

(18) "Conservancy zone" is the designation a unit of government may give to a natural area held for the preservation of open space and supporting environmental education, nature interpretation and research activities.

(19) "Qualified naturalist" means a person who has had academic training and/or experience in ecology and outdoor education.

(20) "Fringe benefits" are employers' contributions or expenses for social security, employee's life and health insurance plans, unemployment insurance coverage, worker's compensation insurance, pension retirement plans, and employee benefits in the form of regular compensation

sick, court or military leave). These contributions and expenses must be equitably distributed to all employees for activities.

(21) "Indirect costs" are those costs not directly assignable to a grant, program or project. Such costs are generally administrative in nature, are incurred for a common or joint purpose, or are not readily assignable to a project or program.

Note: Examples of indirect costs include central office heat, light, utilities, administrative salaries, secretarial services, postage, etc., which are not supported by time reports or other documentation which identifies the expenditure to a particular project or program.

History: Cr. Register, March, 1975, No. 231, eff. 4-1-75; am. (8), Register, March, 1976, No. 243, eff. 4-1-76; am. (8), Register, October, 1978, No. 274, eff. 11-1-78; cr. (16), Register, May, 1979, No. 281, eff. 6-1-79; cr. (17), Register, June, 1980, No. 294, eff. 7-1-80; cr. (18) and (19), Register, September, 1980, No. 297, eff. 10-1-80; renum. from NR 50.01 and am. (4), (6), (9), (10), (11) and (17), cr. (20) and (21), Register, May, 1983, No. 329, eff. 6-1-83; am. (5), Register, April, 1984, No. 340, eff. 5-1-84.

NR 50.04 Severability. History: Cr. Register, March, 1975, No. 231, eff. 4-1-75; r. (4) (e), renum. (4) (f) to be (4) (e), Register, March, 1976, No. 243, eff. 4-1-76; am. (4)(e), Register, October, 1978, No. 274, eff. 11-1-78; am. (4) (e), Register, June, 1980, No. 294, eff. 7-1-80; r. and recr. Register, May, 1983, No. 329, eff. 6-1-83; deleted under s. 13.93 (2m) (b) 16, Stats.; Register, January, 1989, No. 397.

NR 50.05 General provisions. (1) This section applies to all grant programs governed by this chapter.

(2) Environmental quality is essential and shall be preserved and enhanced.

(3) Local governments shall agree to operate and provide adequate maintenance of recreational areas or facilities purchased or developed with state or federal aids.

(4) Recreational lands purchased or facilities developed under this chapter may not be converted to other uses or to other outdoor recreation uses without approval of the department for all programs and the secretary of the interior for LAWCON projects.

(5) Income accruing to an area receiving assistance during the project period from a source other than the intended recreational use shall be used to reduce the total costs of the project.

(6) Income from the sale of structures must be reimbursed to the appropriate aid program.

(7) Reasonable entrance, service or user fees may be charged to pay for operation and maintenance costs and are subject to department review.

(8) Acquisition of real property shall be in accordance with state and federal guidelines for preparation of appraisals and relocation assistance.

(9) Before development of certain public facilities begins, formal approval may be required from state or federal agencies concerning health, safety or sanitation requirements.

(10) Sponsors shall comply with applicable state or federal regulations concerning bidding and awarding contracts, wage and labor rates, access for the physically handicapped, flood disaster protection, environmental quality and historical preservation.

(11) Sponsors shall comply with Title VI of the civil rights act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. s. 2000d, et seq. and with the regulations promulgated under such act by the secretary of the interior.

(12) Assistance may be given to develop leased real property provided control and tenure of such property is commensurate with the proposed development.

(13) Project expenditures must be within the project period, project scope and project amount as shown on the project agreement.

(14) Billings may be submitted for partial payment or upon completion of the project.

(15) Donated labor, materials, land, or other activities which do not result in an actual expenditure by the sponsor and indirect costs are not allowable in the claim.

(16) Direct costs which are supported by time sheets, vouchers or similar documentation reflecting specific assignment to a project are eligible project costs.

(17) Actual cost of force account labor and equipment is allowable. Equipment rental rates may not exceed the county machinery rates established annually by the department of transportation.

(18) Actual fringe benefits not exceeding 20% of the direct labor costs claimed are eligible project costs.

(19) Claims for payment must be submitted within one year of the project termination date.

(20) A request for a project extension must be submitted prior to the project termination date.

(21) All payments are contingent upon final audit. Financial records including all documentation to support entries in the accounting records to substantiate charges for each project must be kept available for review by state or federal officials for a period of 3 years after final payment.

History: Cr. Register, March, 1975, No. 231, eff. 4-1-75; am. (4)(a) 4. and 6., (7)(b) 7, 13, 14 and 17, (7)(c) 1 and 12, (7)(e) and (9), Register, March, 1976, No. 243, eff. 4-1-76; r. and recr. Register, October, 1978, No. 274, eff. 11-1-78; am. (11) and (14) (m), Register, June, 1980, No. 294, eff. 7-1-80; r. and recr. Register, May, 1983, No. 329, eff. 6-1-83.

NR 50.06 Lawcon program. (1) **PURPOSE.** The purpose of this section is to establish standards for the administration of the land and water conservation fund act of 1965 (LAWCON) under ss. 20.370 (4) (bx) and 23.30 (3) (h), Stats.

(2) **APPLICABILITY.** The provisions of this section are applicable to all towns, counties, villages, cities, Indian tribes, school districts, soil and water conservation districts and state agencies participating in the LAWCON aid program.

(3) **ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.** (a) LAWCON funds apportioned to Wisconsin each fiscal year shall be allocated as follows:

1. 40% to local governments;
2. 40% to state agencies; and

4. Camping facilities, including tent and trailer sites, tables and fireplaces;
5. Swimming, bathing and water sports facilities, including beaches, swimming areas and swimming pools, guard towers and bathhouses;
6. Fishing and hunting facilities, such as trails and fishing piers;
7. Winter sports facilities, such as slopes and trails for sledding and tobogganing, cross-country ski trails, facilities for skating and snowmobiling;
8. Urban recreation areas, such as neighborhood playgrounds, bicycling paths, walking or riding trails and participant sports facilities, including playing fields and tennis courts;
9. Supporting facilities, including entrance and circulation roads, utility and sanitation systems, erosion control work, parking areas, toilet buildings and interpretive facilities where there is a permanent professional naturalist staff and the facilities are on the land being used for nature interpretation;
10. Renovation or redevelopment of existing facilities or areas when the facilities or areas have received adequate and regular maintenance, yet have deteriorated to the point where their usefulness is impaired, or have become outmoded. Renovation or redevelopment may be undertaken to rebuild the facilities or areas into more useful forms;
11. Beautification of areas may be undertaken provided that the beautification is not regular maintenance and that the site's condition is not due to inadequate maintenance. Beautification may include landscaping to provide a more attractive environment, cleaning and restoration of areas which have been exploited, polluted, littered, etc., and screening, removal, relocation or burial of overhead wires;
12. Playgrounds and recreation areas on public school grounds, provided that such recreation grounds and facilities being developed are in excess of those normally provided to meet minimum education requirements. In determining the eligibility of a project, a statement or schedule of the time the facility will be available to the public is required;
13. Open shelters and multipurpose shelter buildings which support an outdoor recreation activity. Buildings devoted primarily to concession or control activities are ineligible;
14. Fences for the protection of park users, tennis court fences and ballfield fencing;
15. Dams where the entire shoreline is public and there is sufficient public backup land to insure a good recreation facility;
16. Lighting for tennis courts, hockey rinks, games courts, ball fields, sports fields, multipurpose courts and safety lighting; and
17. Outdoor swimming and wading pools.

(f) Development, acquisition or acquisition and development projects which generally will not be assisted include;

1. Acquisition, restoration or preservation of historic structures;

2. Development of areas and facilities to be used primarily for semiprofessional and professional arts and athletics;

3. Acquisition of areas for and development of amusement facilities such as merry-go-rounds, ferris wheels, children's railroads, exhibit type developments, convention facilities and commemorative exhibits, or the construction of facilities, including their furnishings, that are only marginally related to outdoor recreation such as professional type outdoor theaters;

4. Construction of, and furnishings for, employe residences;

5. Development of areas and facilities to be used solely for game refuges or fish production purposes unless they are open to the public for general compatible recreation use, or if they directly serve priority public outdoor recreation needs identified in the state plan;

6. Construction of lodges, motels, luxury cabins, or similar elaborate facilities;

7. Development projects in new or previously undeveloped recreation areas which consist solely of support facilities, unless it is clearly indicated that such facilities are required for proper and safe recreational use of the area; and

8. Buildings primarily devoted to operation and maintenance.

(5) In addition to conditions listed in sub. (4), the general provisions of s. NR 50.05 also apply.

(6) APPLICATION PROCEDURE. (a) Applicants for local or state LAW-CON monies shall submit applications on the prescribed department form to the appropriate district office by January 1 of each year.

(b) Applicants for contingency funds shall submit preapplications on the prescribed department form to the bureau of aid programs, department of natural resources. Contingency fund preapplications shall be considered by the department in 3 time periods, ending February 1, June 1 and October 1 of each year.

(c) The department will evaluate completed preapplications utilizing a project rating sheet to determine which preapplications will be approved.

(d) Once the preapplication is approved, applicants shall submit formal applications on the prescribed department forms to the appropriate district office, along with resolutions adopted by the appropriate units of government.

Note: NR 50.06 requires 2 new forms: a preapplication and a project rating sheet.

History: Cr. Register, March, 1975, No. 231, eff. 4-1-75; am. (2), cr. (6)(e), Register, March, 1976, No. 243, eff. 4-1-76; r. and recr. Register, October, 1978, No. 274, eff. 11-1-78; r. and recr. Register, May, 1983, No. 329, eff. 6-1-83; am. (1), (2), (3) (a) 2., (4) (a), (d), (e) and (f), r. and recr. (3) (b) and (c), (4) (b) and (6), Register, April, 1984, No. 340, eff. 5-1-84; am. (6) (a), Register, April, 1989, No. 400, eff. 5-1-89.

NR 50.09 County snowmobile aids. (1) PURPOSE. The purpose of this section is to establish standards for the implementation of the snowmobile aids program under ss. 23.09 (11) and (26) and 350.12 (4), Stats.

Register, April, 1989, No. 400

2. A map of the trail.

History: Cr. Register, March, 1975, No. 231, eff. 4-1-75; am. Register, March, 1976, No. 243, eff. 4-1-76; r. and recr., Register, June, 1980, No. 294, eff. 7-1-80; r. and recr. (1), renum. (2) and (3) to be (3) and (4), cr. (2), am. (3) (a), Register, May, 1983, No. 329, eff. 6-1-83.

NR 50.12 Law enforcement aids to counties (ch. 350, Stats.). (1) Counties may receive up to 100% reimbursement of monies spent on the enforcement of ch. 350, Stats.

(2) Claim forms shall be filed with the bureau of law enforcement, department of natural resources, on or before June 1 of the year following the 12-month period for which the claim is made. Claims shall be made for the May 1 to April 30 period immediately preceding the filing date.

(3) The following forms will be used in the snowmobile enforcement aid program:

(a) Form 8700-59 — Notice of intent to patrol. In order to be eligible for the state aids, a snowmobile patrol must function as an enforcement unit and file an intent to patrol form with the department of natural resources listing the authority under which the snowmobile patrol will operate. On or before July 1 of each year a county must file an intent to patrol form with the department, sent to the attention of the Office of the Coordinator of Snowmobile Safety, P.O. Box 7921, Madison, Wisconsin.

(b) Form 8700-89 — Daily log. This form is to be used in compiling a summary of the snowmobile patrol's daily activities and expenses. It is not to be filed with the department, but is to be used for assembling information necessary to complete form 8700-90. This form must be kept on file by the snowmobile patrol to augment its records and must be available in chronological order for periodic checks by representatives of the department during normal business hours and at the time of the annual audit.

(c) Form 8700-90 — Monthly report. This form is to be completed and filed with the department no later than the tenth day following the month covered. The information shown on this form will be a computation of the information taken from the daily logs (form 8700-89).

(d) On or about April 1 of each year, 3 sets of the following forms will be sent by the department to each county which has an intent to patrol form on file. The appropriate official fills out all of the forms, retains one set for the county's records, and files 2 sets with the bureau of law enforcement on or before June 1, covering the patrol expense for the preceding 12-month period of May 1 to April 30. Claims which are received by the department after this date will not be processed for payment.

1. Form 8700-60 — Application for state aid. This form is to be completed by the appropriate county official, who shall list the total net cost of the snowmobile patrol claimed by the county.

2. Form 8700-61 — Salary schedule. This form is to be completed by the appropriate county official who shall list the names and salaries of persons engaged in the enforcement of ch. 350, Stats. Salary rate is restricted to no more than the regular straight time rate which the officer normally receives. Fringe benefits cannot exceed 20% of the gross salary.

3. Form 8700-62 — Travel, materials and supplies schedule. This form is to be completed by the appropriate county official, who shall list all reimbursable expenditures other than salaries and depreciable items.

4. Form 8700-63 — Depreciation schedule - straight line method. This form is to be completed by the appropriate county official, who shall list all capital outlay equipment and the resulting depreciation. Depreciation shall be calculated at the rate of 12½% annually on all equipment (over \$100.00) except snowmobiles, which shall be figured at the rate of 20% annually.

5. Form 8700-64 — Record of court cases for violations of ch. 350, Stats. This form is to be completed by the appropriate county official, who shall list all violations and court actions for the calendar year.

(e) Each claim shall be audited by the department as soon as possible after the claim has been received. Payment of claims shall be made no later than October 1. Reimbursement of the actual cost and maintenance of snowmobile enforcement patrols is authorized. Travel expenses and salaries for training purposes are authorized only for attendance at snowmobile enforcement training sessions conducted by the department. The person in charge of the patrol, or designee, is required to attend all designated department snowmobile enforcement patrol training sessions as a condition of receiving aids under this section and s. 350.12 (4) (a) 4., Stats.

History: Cr. Register, March, 1977, No. 255, eff. 4-1-77; am. (2), (3) (a), (d) (intro.), 4. and (e), Register, May, 1983, No. 329, eff. 6-1-83.

NR 50.13 Law enforcement aids to municipalities. (s. 30.79, Stats.). (1) Municipalities may receive law enforcement aids for up to 75% of the net costs (determined by deducting all fines and forfeitures imposed upon persons convicted of violations of ordinances enacted pursuant to s. 30.77, Stats.) which are directly attributable to the operation and maintenance of the water safety patrol unit. State aid is available only for those activities associated with the local enforcement of ss. 30.50 to 30.80, Stats., and any administrative rules and ordinances enacted pursuant thereto. No municipality shall receive state aid in excess of 20% of the funds available.

(2) Search and rescue guidelines. For the purpose of administering the aids to municipalities provided in s. 30.79, Stats., search and rescue is defined as the activity of looking for a person or persons who are, or who are believed to be alive, in distress and have a need for assistance.

(a) Search and rescue aids may be provided to authorized municipal water safety patrol units operating under the following circumstances:

1. Enforcing the provisions of ss. 30.50 to 30.80, Stats.;

2. Requesting outside assistance when circumstances exist which justify employing such assistance, on a case-by-case basis. The basis for requesting outside assistance must be justifiable from a cost and effectiveness standpoint.

(3) Claim forms shall be filed with the appropriate district office of the department of natural resources, as specified in s. 30.79, Stats. Claims are to be made for the calendar year immediately preceding the filing date.

Register, January, 1989, No. 397

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(4) The following forms shall be used by each water safety patrol unit to qualify it for state aid:

(a) Form 8700-59 — Notice of intent to patrol. In order to be eligible for state aids, a water safety patrol must function as a law enforcement unit and file an intent to patrol form with the department, listing the authority under which the water safety patrol will operate. On or before March 1 of each year the municipality shall file an intent to patrol form with the department, sent to the attention of the coordinator of boating safety, Madison, Wisconsin.

(b) Form 8700-89 — Daily log. This form is to be used in compiling a summary of the water safety patrol's daily activities and expenses. It is not to be filed with the department, but is to be used for assembling information necessary to complete form 8700-90. The form must be kept on file by the water safety patrol to augment its records and must be available in chronological order for periodic checks by representatives of the department during normal business hours and at the time of the annual audit.

(c) Form 8700-90 — Monthly report. This form is to be completed and filed with the appropriate district office no later than the tenth day following the month covered. The information shown on this form will be a computation of the information taken from the daily logs (form 8700-89).

(d) On or about September 1 of each year, 3 sets of the following forms will be sent by the department to each municipality which has an active intent to patrol form on file. The appropriate official fills out all of the forms, retains one set for the municipality's records, and files 2 sets with the appropriate district office as specified in s. 30.79, Stats., covering the patrol expense for the preceding calendar year. Claims which are received by the department after this date cannot and will not be processed for payment.

1. Form 8700-60 — Application for state aid. This form is to be completed by the appropriate municipal official, who shall list the total net cost of the water safety patrol claimed by the municipality.

2. Form 8700-61 — Salary schedule. This form is to be completed by the appropriate municipal official, who shall list the names and salaries of persons engaged in the local enforcement of ss. 30.50 to 30.80, Stats., and any administrative rules and ordinances enacted pursuant thereto. Salary rate is restricted to no more than the regular straight time rate which the officer normally receives. Fringe benefits cannot exceed 20% of the gross salary.

3. Form 8700-62 — Travel, materials and supplies schedule. This form is to be completed by the appropriate municipal official, who shall list all reimbursable expenditures other than salaries and depreciable items.

4. Form 8700-63 — Depreciation schedule - straight line method. This form is to be completed by the appropriate municipal official, who shall list all capital outlay equipment and the resulting depreciation. Depreciation shall be calculated at the rate of 12½% annually on all capital equipment (over \$100.00).

5. Form 8700-64 — Record of court cases for violations of ss. 30.50 to 30.80, Stats., and any administrative rules and ordinances enacted pur-

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suant thereto. This form is to be completed by the appropriate municipal official, who shall list all violations and court actions for the calendar year.

(5) Travel expenses and salaries for training purposes are authorized only for attendance at boating safety enforcement training sessions conducted by the department. The person in charge of the patrol, or his/her designee, is required to attend all designated department boating safety enforcement patrol training sessions as a condition of receiving aids under this rule and s. 30.79, Stats.

History: Cr. Register, October, 1977, No. 262, eff. 11-1-77; renun. (2) to (4) to be (3) to (5), cr. (2), Register, May, 1979, No. 281, eff. 6-1-79.

NR 50.14 County fish and wildlife aid. (1) **PURPOSE.** The purpose of this section is to establish standards for the implementation of a grant-in-aid program for county fish and wildlife projects under s. 23.09 (12), Stats.

(2) **APPLICABILITY.** Provisions of this section are applicable to counties and tribal governing bodies participating in the county fish and wildlife program.

(3) **ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.** (a) County fish and wildlife aids will be allocated for use as soon after July 1 of each year as they become available.

(b) Funds will be allocated to each county and Indian tribe until October 1. Unused county and tribal funds revert to 6 district funds on October 1. These district funds are available to counties and tribes within district boundaries. Unused district funds revert to a statewide fund on May 1 of each year. These statewide funds are available to counties and tribes anywhere in the state.

(c) State aid allocated to any county or tribe for the enhancement of fish and wildlife habitat shall be based on the ratio of the area of the county (less reservation lands) or reservation to the total area of the state (excluding outlying waters and interstate boundary waters of the Mississippi river and Lake Pepin).

(2) **ALLOWABLE COSTS, BILLING AND AUDITS.** (a) The state share may not exceed one-half of the actual project cost.

(b) Except for specialized equipment useful solely for fish or wildlife management purposes, aids under this program may not be used to purchase equipment.

(5) In addition to conditions listed in sub. (4), the general provisions of s. NR 50.05 also apply.

History: Cr. Register, June, 1980, No. 294, eff. 7-1-80; emerg. cr. (1) (b), eff. 10-15-80; r. and recr. Register, May, 1983, No. 329, eff. 6-1-83.

NR 50.15 Wildlife habitat development on county forests. (1) **PURPOSE.** The purpose of this section is to establish standards for the implementation of a grant-in-aid program for forest wildlife habitat improvement on county forest lands entered under s. 28.11, Stats., pursuant to s. 23.09 (17m), Stats.

(2) **APPLICABILITY.** Provisions of this section are applicable only to counties having county lands entered under s. 28.11, Stats.

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(3) **ELIGIBLE PROJECTS.** (a) Counties may receive aids on a priority basis for:

1. Maintenance of intolerant forest types in danger of being replaced through natural conversion to forest types of lower value to wildlife; maintenance of existing forest openings.

2. Deer yard improvement; creation of forest openings.

3. Trail seeding and maintenance road and trail construction.

(4) **ALLOWABLE COSTS, BILLINGS AND AUDITS.** (a) One hundred percent of approved eligible project costs will be funded.

(b) Fifty percent advance payments may be made at the time of project approval if requested by sponsor.

(5) In addition to conditions listed in sub. (4), the general provisions of s. NR 50.05 also apply.

(6) **USEFUL LIFE.** (a) The maximum useful life of habitat development activities on lands withdrawn from s. 28.11, Stats., and the title to which is transferred by the county to other than a public agency, may not exceed the following guidelines:

ACTIVITY	MAXIMUM USEFUL LIFE IN YEARS
All weather roads	20
Openings	10
Hunter access trail construction	10
Aspen regeneration	10
Tree planting	10

(b) In the event a reimbursement is due the department, the calculation of such amount shall be based on a straight line depreciation of the original value of the development over its maximum useful life as specified in par. (a).

History: Cr. Register, June, 1980, No. 294, eff. 7-1-80; r. and recr. Register, May, 1983, No. 329, eff. 6-1-83.

NR 50.16 Aids for the acquisition and development of local parks. (1) **PURPOSE.** The purpose of this section is to establish standards and procedures for the implementation of a grant program for local units of government to acquire and develop local parks under s. 23.09 (20), Stats.

(2) **APPLICABILITY.** This section is applicable to towns, villages, cities, counties and Indian tribes applying for grants for the acquisition and development of local parks under s. 23.09 (20), Stats.

(3) **DEFINITIONS.** As used in this section: "Aids for the acquisition and development of local parks" means the program created under s. 23.09 (20), Stats., with funds appropriated under s. 20.866 (20) (tq), Stats.

(4) **APPLICATION AND GRANT AWARD PROCEDURES.** (a) Applicants for local park aid monies shall submit applications on Form 8700-191 to the appropriate district office by January 1 of each year.

Note: Application forms are available from department district offices.

(b) The department shall evaluate completed applications to determine which applicants will receive grants according to the standards in this section.

(c) Successful applicants shall be notified by the department and sent a project agreement. Development work under the project agreement may not proceed until the agreement is signed by the department and the applicant. Acquisition costs may be retroactive upon approval of the department.

(5) GENERAL PROVISIONS. (a) Eligible sponsors may receive a state grant of up to 50% of the total project costs for the acquisition or development of a local park.

(b) A local comprehensive outdoor recreational plan is required to be submitted to and approved by the department in order to be eligible for aids for the acquisition or development of local parks. Such plans shall be consistent with the outdoor recreation program under s. 23.30, Stats.

(c) Funds will be apportioned on a department district allocation system, with 70% of the fund distributed on the basis of each county's proportionate share of the state population and 30% distributed equally to each county. Unencumbered district funds shall revert to a statewide fund on May 1 of each year and will be assigned to the highest priority projects on a statewide basis.

(d) Cost overruns beyond the original grant award may not be allowed.

(e) Costs associated with operation and maintenance of parks and other outdoor recreation facilities are not eligible for grant funds.

(f) Administrative costs of acquiring lands or land rights, such as legal fees and surveying costs, are not eligible for grant funds.

(g) Title to lands or rights in lands acquired under this section shall vest in the local unit of government, but the lands may not be converted to uses inconsistent with this section without prior approval of the department. Proceeds from the sale or other disposal of the lands shall be used to promote the objectives of this section.

(h) Financial assistance may be given to develop leased real property provided control and tenure of the property is commensurate with the proposed development.

(6) LAND DEVELOPMENT—ELIGIBLE TYPES OF PROJECTS. Projects eligible for grant funds include:

(a) Swimming, bathing and water sports facilities, including beaches, swimming areas, swimming pools and bathhouses.

(b) Fishing and hunting facilities, such as trails and fishing piers.

(c) Boating facilities, such as launching ramps and docks.

(d) Observation and sightseeing facilities such as overlooks, turnouts and trails.

(e) Picnic facilities, including tables, fireplaces, shelters and paths.

(f) Camping facilities, including tent and trailer sites, tables and fireplaces.

(g) Winter sports facilities, such as slopes and trails for sledding and tobogganing, cross-country ski trails, facilities for skating and snowmobiling.

(h) Urban recreation areas, such as neighborhood playgrounds, bicycling paths, walking or riding trails and participant sport facilities, including playing fields and tennis courts.

(i) Supporting facilities, including entrance and circulation roads, utility and sanitation systems, erosion control work, parking areas, toilet buildings and educational facilities where there is a permanent professional naturalist staff and the facilities are for nature interpretation.

(j) Renovation or redevelopment of existing facilities or areas which have received adequate and regular maintenance but are impaired, or have become outmoded.

(k) Beautification projects such as landscaping, cleaning and restoration of exploited, polluted and littered areas, and screening, removal, relocation or burial of overhead wires.

(l) Open shelters and multipurpose shelter buildings which support an outdoor recreation activity.

(m) Fences for tennis courts, ballfields and the protection of park users.

(n) Dams where the entire shoreline is public and there is adjoining public land for a recreation facility.

(o) Lighting for tennis courts, hockey rinks, game courts, ballfields, sports fields, multipurpose courts and public safety.

(p) Park signs.

(7) LAND ACQUISITION—ELIGIBLE TYPES OF PROJECTS. Land acquisition projects which are eligible for grant funds include:

(a) Areas with frontage on rivers, streams, lakes, estuaries and reservoirs that will provide water-based public recreation opportunities.

(b) Land for creating water impoundments to provide water-based public outdoor recreation.

(c) Areas that provide special recreation opportunities, such as floodplains, wetlands and areas adjacent to scenic highways.

(d) Natural areas and preserves and outstanding scenic areas where the objective is to preserve the scenic or natural values, including areas of physical or biological importance and wildlife areas. These areas shall be open to the general public for outdoor recreation use to the extent that the natural attributes of the areas will not be seriously impaired or lost.

(e) Land within urban areas for day-use picnic areas, neighborhood playgrounds and tot lots, areas adjacent to school playgrounds and competitive nonprofessional sports facilities.

(f) Land for recreation trails.

(g) Land for golf courses.

(8) **INELIGIBLE TYPES OF PROJECTS.** Ineligible acquisition or development projects include:

- (a) Restoration or preservation of historic structures.
- (b) Development of areas and facilities to be used for professional athletics.
- (c) Development of amusement facilities, waterslides, or the construction of facilities that are only marginally related to public outdoor recreation.
- (d) Construction of park employe residences.
- (e) Development of areas and facilities to be used solely for game refuges or fish production purposes unless they are open to the public for general compatible recreation use, or if they directly serve priority public outdoor recreation needs identified in the state plan.
- (f) Construction of lodges, motels, luxury cabins, or similar elaborate facilities.
- (g) Development projects in previously undeveloped recreation areas which consist solely of support facilities, unless it is clearly indicated that such facilities are required for proper and safe recreational use of the area; and
- (h) Buildings primarily devoted to operation, maintenance or indoor recreation.

(i) Development of golf courses.

(9) **PRIORITIES.** Priorities in ranking are given to the following types of projects. The department shall select projects for financial assistance in accordance with the following project priorities, which are not listed in order of preference:

(a) Projects which provide activities for the general public have higher priority than those that provide activities for a limited group.

(b) Projects which provide basic facilities such as picnic and play areas have priority over projects which provide elaborate facilities such as covered ice rinks and indoor swimming pools.

(c) Projects which provide participant facilities have priority over projects which provide spectator facilities.

(d) Projects which may enhance or preserve natural beauty.

(e) Projects which provide for completion of a project already started where the sponsor has shown the ability to provide quality outdoor recreation facilities for its citizens without grant assistance.

(f) Projects to develop areas previously acquired.

(g) Projects to renovate existing facilities which are in danger of being lost for public use.

(h) Projects where the applicants have good performance records on prior LAWCON, ORAP-LPA or other recreational projects.

(i) Projects where the applicants are financially able to adequately maintain and operate the area or facility.

(j) Projects which offer safe, rapid and convenient access by all types of transportation modes appropriate for that type of facility.

(k) Projects which, in relation to their costs, provide access for the greatest number of potential users and provide the greatest opportunities for public outdoor recreation.

(l) Projects which meet needs and deficiencies identified in the statewide comprehensive outdoor recreation plan, or the comprehensive outdoor recreation plans of other units of government.

(m) Projects which provide multiple season, multiple activity use.

(n) Projects which are designed to serve the recreation needs of elderly persons, minorities and handicapped persons.

(o) Projects which are regional or statewide in nature and this use can be documented; and

(p) Projects which are ready to be implemented (can be completed in 2 construction seasons or less).

History: Cr. Register, September, 1980, No. 297, eff. 10-1-80; r. and recr. Register, April, 1989, No. 400, eff. 5-1-89.

NR 50.17 Shooting range development. (1) **PURPOSE.** The purpose of this section is to establish standards for the implementation of a grant-in-aid program for development of shooting ranges under 16 U.S.C. s. 669, *et seq.*

(2) **APPLICABILITY.** The provisions of this section are applicable to counties, cities, villages, townships, other governmental agencies or units, clubs or organizations, businesses or corporations and educational institutions.

(3) **ALLOWABLE COSTS.** Fifty percent of approved eligible project costs shall be funded.

(4) **GENERAL PROVISIONS.** (a) The following projects are eligible:

1. Outdoor range construction, including: backstops and berms, target holders, shooting benches, baffles, protective fencing, signs, trenches, gun racks, platforms, restrooms and other items considered essential for the project by the department.

Next page is numbered 565