About

The Recreational Trails Program is a Federal Highway Administration trails assistance program administered by Nevada Division of State Parks. The program provides funding for motorized, non-motorized, and diversified (shared-use) recreational trail projects that are open to the public.

The Recreational Trails Program is part of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), Public Law 109-59. The funding is a portion of motor fuel excise tax paid by users of off-road recreational vehicles such as snowmobiles, off-road motorcycles, light trucks, and ATVs.

Since 1993 the Recreational Trails Program has funded hiking and equestrian trails, trail brochures, trailheads, interpretive trails, OHV/ATV trails, urban pedestrian/bicycle paths, and trail education.

Information

Nevada Division of State Parks
Attn: RecTrails Program Manager
901 S. Stewart Street, Suite 5005
Carson City, NV 89701–5248
(775) 684–2770
Fax: (775) 684–2777
parks.nv.gov/trails.htm

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NEVADA’S RECREATIONAL TRAILS
Grant Program

APPLY

Application packets and the grant manual are available on the Recreational Trails website (www.parks.nv.gov/trails.htm). Contact the Recreational Trails Program Manager to request an application package by mail.

All applicants will be invited to make a brief presentation of their projects before the Nevada Ad Hoc State Recreational Trails Advisory Committee prior to project selection. Meetings will be held in Reno and Las Vegas.

Potential grant sponsors are encouraged to contact the RecTrails Program Manager for advice on completing the application. Grant writing workshops are available upon request. See the Web site for application deadlines.

Applications are to be sent to:

Nevada Division of State Parks
Attn: RecTrails Program Manager
901 S. Stewart Street, Suite 5005
Carson City, NV 89701–5248

No email applications are accepted.

AVAILABLE FUNDS

Minimum grant awards are $4,000. Maximum grant awards are variable. Total available funds exceed 1 million each year.

ELIGIBILITY

Private individuals, non-profit organizations, city, county, state, and federal governments are eligible.

PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

Motorized, non-motorized, and diversified (shared use) trail projects are eligible. Projects must include on-the-ground trail development, maintenance, or rehabilitation, development of trail-related facilities—such as trailheads, kiosks, interpretive displays, restrooms and trails maps/brochures—and trail education.

All projects have to be approved by the individual or agency that owns or administers the property. For example, a volunteer group who wishes to build a trail on National Forest land must have approval from the U.S. Forest Service to build the trail. NEPA (the National Environmental Policy Act) must be completed on all projects prior to submitting an application.

RecTrails Program funds cannot be used for:

- Property condemnation
- NEPA
- Facilitating motorized access on otherwise non-motorized trails, or for
- Stand-alone planning projects.

SELECTION

Projects are determined to be eligible or ineligible by the RecTrails Program Manager.

Eligible projects are presented to the Nevada Ad Hoc State Recreational Trails Advisory Committee for scoring. The Trails Committee is comprised of public land managers and representatives of trail user groups from around the state.

The Trails Committee awards project scores based on scoring criteria published in the State Grants Application Packet. Project sponsors are strongly encouraged to objectively score their own project so they will understand the scoring criteria.

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

Nevada’s Recreational Trails Program is an 80/20 matching program. The federal grant share will pay up to 80% of eligible project costs, and the project sponsor shall pay the remaining 20%. The RecTrails Program is a reimbursable grants program. The project sponsor must first incur the project costs and then submit requests for reimbursement.

The 20% matching share can be in-kind services, donations, volunteer labor, and cash. Other federal funds may be used toward the matching share. The total federal share may not exceed 95% of the total project cost.