FUNDING PROPOSAL – NEW OR EXPANDED for 2022-2023

NON-MOTORIZED PROGRAM

The Winter Recreation Program may consider proposals for funding for new or expanded, Priority 5 and 6, budget commitments for the 2022-2023 winter season in the non-motorized program. To apply for funding, please complete the following form. Please Note: All Proposals must be postmarked by June 1, 2021 to be considered. No late applications will be accepted. Examples of new or expanded funding requests could include: requests for grooming frequency increases, expanded or new trail systems, new Sno-Parks, trail improvements, increased enforcement, etc.

PROPONENT INFORMATION

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<tr>
<th>NAME OF INDIVIDUAL, ORGANIZATION OR AGENCY</th>
<th>NAME OF REPRESENTATIVE</th>
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<td>Mount Spokane State Park</td>
<td>Russell Aldrich</td>
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<td>MAILING ADDRESS</td>
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<td>26107 N Mt. Spokane Park Dr</td>
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<td>CITY, STATE, ZIP</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mead, WA 99021</td>
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<td>TELEPHONE NUMBER &amp; EXTENSION</td>
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<td>509-238-4258</td>
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1) Please give a thorough description of the intended purpose of the proposed funding, including location, and affected Sno-Parks and trail systems.

   This funding will provide 20 hours of extra grooming per week for 12 weeks of the Winter Recreation season at Mount Spokane State Park. This extra grooming time will be used to keep the area around the Selkirk Lodge clean and increase the grooming quality on the heavily used inner trails at Mount Spokane. We have experienced significant increase in the use of the inner trail system by new cross country skiers. The heavy use of the inner trail system results in a deteriorated quality of grooming. With less experienced skiers, it is important that we provide the safest grooming possible. This extra time will allow current (Mount Spokane funded) staff to keep the inner trails groomed five days per week on a regular basis. The large trail system at Mount Spokane currently does not allow for this.

   a. Does your total request factor in the potential need for Snow Removal, Grooming, Sanitation, Education, Enforcement and possible need for dirt/land work?
      Yes. It also includes the potential need of oil, grease, and small repairs.

1) Amount of funding requested. Please give as much detail as possible and the dollar amount required for each element of the proposal. For new trail grooming requests fill out the Table A. NEW TRAIL GROOMING MILES REQUESTED FOR 2022-2023 (on the last page of this application)

   $6400 This would pay for an extra 20 hours of grooming per week. State Parks purchased a second groomer to use for this purpose and as a back up to the BR350. State Parks also employs the
operator for this extra grooming time. We are asking the WRAC to fund the fuel, oil, grease, and small repairs for the increase in grooming hours.

2) What is the estimated target audience (snowmobilers, dog mushers, cross country skiers, snowshoers, others) and what percentage do you anticipate each use at?
   Cross Country skiers, skijorers.  90/10

3) Why is this project essential? (New or expanded area, local economic impacts, recreational demands)
   Several years ago the Mount Spokane Nordic trail system was expanded by more than 20 kilometers. Official recognition of the expansion and additional funding to groom was not requested at that time. As a result, trail grooming has been prioritized and rotated with less than 100% of the trails groomed each time grooming occurs. Use of the Nordic ski trails has increased as the regional population has increased and as people have also recognized the area as a winter vacation destination. Oftentimes the inner trails go ungroomed so the operator can catch up on the outer trail system - which takes significant time, especially if a storm system has moved through. The inner trails are very popular with beginner or less advanced skiers and regular grooming is essential to maintaining a safe and quality recreational experience.

4) Briefly describe the recreational benefits of the proposal. How will this funding improve the recreational experience of visitors? What types of recreational uses will be enhanced?
   This funding will provide more consistent and higher quality trail grooming for the heavily utilized inner trail system at Mount Spokane. It will also allow for an increased response to winter storms so that the regular grooming schedule is less impacted by weather events.

5) Is the requested funding one-time only, or on-going?
   One Time ☐
   On-going ☒

6) Has Landowner Permission been obtained? (Funding agreements may be approved on condition that Landowner Permission will be obtained prior to the beginning of the project)
   Yes.

7) If adjacent homeowners/housing developments/land owners will be impacted by the proposed action, do they support the proposal?
   N/A
8) Describe what communications were conducted to obtain homeowners/housing developments/land owners support.
   N/A

9) Are there any permitting or environmental review requirements associated with implementation of the proposal? (i.e. NEPA, SEPA, Environmental Assessment, Hydraulics Permit, Building Permit, etc.)
   N/A

10) Is the funding proposal consistent with the elements of the Winter Recreation Strategic Plan (to be found at http://parks.state.wa.us/149/Strategic-Plan) Explain how:
    Yes. This request is in concert with the following goals of the Winter Recreation Strategic Plan:
    1. Access to snow-based recreation will be our primary product.
    -Recreational access opportunities are responsive to user demands while reflecting sensitive enviromnental stewardship.
    -New grooming will increase the ability of users to access the entire trail system at Mount Spokane.
    2. The program has viable planning functions.
    -There is adequate separation of incompatible or conflicting recreational uses.
    -Well maintained, clearly signed and usable parking areas and trails, accurate maps.
    -Effective, safe trail grooming is provided.
    -This request will ensure more effective and more safe trail grooming at Mount Spokane, It is also part of an already existing system, so no challenging planning, land owener premissions, or signage is needed.

    This request also addresses the Strategic Plan’s direction to Adapt(ing) to Future Challenges. This area addresses an ever increasing population in Spokane County at the largest sno-park in Eastern Washington, it is a sno-park that exists at a higher altitude that can more effectively produce more usable trail miles as climate change threatens nordic ski areas around the state. It also is in an area where avalanches are not a concern and users can recreate safely without that threat.

11) Has the Area Winter Recreation Program Advisory Committee member been advised of this request?
    Yes.

12) Who will be presenting this proposal at the funding meeting?
    Russell Aldrich, Park Ranger 3

See Question 2.

A. NEW TRAIL GROOMING MILES REQUESTED FOR 2022-2023 (16 week season)
   - List the trail grooming miles planned for next season for each groomed trail system.
   - Grooming schedules will be required by October 16, 2022.

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<tr>
<th>Trail Name or Road Number</th>
<th>From which Sno-Park</th>
<th>Map Miles</th>
<th>Trip Miles</th>
<th>Trips per Week</th>
<th>Trips Per Season</th>
<th>Total Miles</th>
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2022-2023 Funding Proposal.doc
TOTAL GROOMING MILES FOR TRAIL SYSTEMS LISTED ABOVE:

| Total funds requested for new grooming miles. | $ |

**Agreement**

*In the event funding is recommended by the Snowmobile Advisory Committee or by the Winter Recreation Advisory Committee for this project and approved by State Parks, either an existing Purchased Services Contract will be modified to reflect the approved budget, or a new Purchased Services Contract will be awarded through a public bidding process.*

*The applicant certifies that, to the best of his/her knowledge, the information in this application is true and correct.*

**Russell Aldrich**

Signature of Applicant

**Russell Aldrich**  **Park Ranger 3**

Printed Name and Title of Applicant

5/28/2022

Date

**Russell Aldrich**

Signature of Grooming Council Representative

**Russell Aldrich**

Printed Name and Title of Grooming Council Rep.

5/28/2022

Date