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 BOARD POLICY INFO ONLY, NO ACTION REQUIRED

AGENDA ITEM
Idaho Park and Recreation Quarterly Meeting
April 15, 2024
Boise, ID 83716

AGENDA ITEM: Outdoor Recreation Fund Advisory Council (ORFAC)
ACTION REQUIRED: Approval of Proposed Projects
PRESENTER: Susan E. Buxton, Director

PRESENTATION

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Executive Order 2023-03 was signed by Governor Little to establish an Outdoor Recreation Fund Advisory Council, otherwise known as ORFAC. The purpose of the advisory council is to:

1. Advise the Governor and the Idaho Parks and Recreation Board on projects and policies that support expanded access to outdoor recreation opportunities in Idaho, and
2. Specifically, IDFG, IDPR, & IDL are tasked to work together to propose projects, manage under-utilized resources to enhance recreational access, and monetize outdoor recreation for long range sustainability EO 2023-3 51(a) & (b).

The executive order appropriated \$5 million from Senate Bill 1196 (FY2024) to IDPR's budget for inter-agency collaborative projects. Additionally, Senate Bill 1383 (FY2025) added \$5 million to ORFAC utilizing American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. ARPA funds are required to be obligated by December 31, 2024.

IDPR staff presented multiple projects to the Board on April 8, 2024 in a workshop format and provided the applications for review. Staff will be available to answer questions.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Staff recommends the following grant projects be funded with associated conditions:

1. **East Fork Rock Creek:** *Proposed Capital Funding: \$1,000,000*
Staff recommends approval of this grant, contingent upon the Idaho Department of Lands (IDL) and IDPR entering into a legal agreement for recreational use on endowment land.
2. **Henrys Lake Park Expansion:** *Proposed Capital Funding: \$750,000*
Staff recommends approval of this grant, contingent upon the Idaho Department of Lands (IDL) and IDPR entering into a legal agreement for recreational use on endowment land.
3. **Horsethief Reservoir:** *Proposed Capital Funding: \$2,000,000*
Staff recommends approval of this grant, contingent upon the Idaho Department of Fish & Game (IDFG) and IDPR entering into a legal agreement for improvements on IDFG property.

4. **Idaho for All:** *Proposed Capital Funding: \$112,500*
Staff recommends approval of this grant, contingent upon IDPR's evaluation and coordination with the Idaho for All group on which state parks these will be deployed to, and, IDPR's on-going operational needs.

5. **Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Campaign** *Proposed Capital Funding: \$200,000*
Staff does not recommend approval of this grant. IDPR understands more than \$5 million was appropriated to the Department of Agriculture to address Invasive Species as part of the Fiscal Year 2025 budget.

6. **Frank Church River of No Return Trail Restoration:** *Proposed Capital Funding: \$40,994*
Staff does not recommend approval of this grant. The grant submitted is largely personnel costs and personnel costs are not part of the Executive Order.

7. **Cooperative Management Recreation Area Eastern Idaho Grazing Association Pilot** *Proposed Capital Funding: \$300,000*
Staff recommends approval of this grant to support management of under utilized resources and manage recreational access.

8. **White Pine Heights Right of Way:** *Proposed Capital Funding: \$300,000*
Staff recommends approval of this grant at this time. This grant application included an estimated purchase price for the trail right of way near Ponderosa State Park. It is IDPR's belief that IDL can make this easement or right of way request a condition of the sale of White Pine Heights which would alleviate the need to use surplus funds. Staff requests direction from the Board to work with IDL staff on securing this right of way.

9. **Boulder Lake Recreation Area:** *Proposed Capital Funding: \$250,000*
Staff recommends approval of this grant, contingent upon Valley County producing a new land use permit with IDL for this project, and, provides a market rent to keep the endowment whole, and, ensuring the lease/permit agreement meets the State's endowment requirements.

SUMMARY TABLE

Project	Recommend Amount	Contingent Approved
East Fork Rock Creek		\$1,000,000
Henrys Lake Park Expansion		\$750,000
Horsethief Reservoir		\$2,000,000
Idaho for All		\$112,500
Aquatic Species Program	\$0	
Frank Church Trail	\$0	
Eastern Idaho Grazing Assoc	\$300,000	
White Pine Heights	\$300,000	
Boulder Lake Rec Area		\$250,000
Summary	\$600,000	\$4,112,500

If approved, the balance remaining is \$287,500