

DIVISION OF PARKS AND RECREATION - STATE TRAILS PROGRAM



2014 Federal Recreational Trails Program

Annual Grant Funding

Recommendation Summary

August 22, 2014

2014 RTP Annual Grant Recommendation Summary

Program Background

The Division of Parks and Recreation manages the Federal Recreational Trails Program (RTP) for the Department of Environment and Natural Resources. The intent of the RTP is to leverage local funds to develop trails and trail-related recreational needs in an effort to provide low infrastructure economic development opportunities through natural resource tourism.

Supporting data from 1999 to 2014 indicates our state has received approximately \$40,753,325 in requests for funding. From those requests, the state has awarded \$25,553,481 to sustainable RTP trail projects statewide. These RTP funds, in combination with in-kind services and matching funds, total \$54,273,414 that have been applied to trail and greenway projects for the citizens of North Carolina.

RTP in North Carolina is enabled by the legislation, Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) which reauthorized the RTP Program for fiscal years 2013 and 2014. RTP funding comes from the Federal Highways Administration (FHWA) through the NC Division of Transportation and is administered by the State Trails Program within the NC Division of Parks and Recreation. Since 1993, RTP funding in North Carolina has been used to provide recreational opportunities for hikers, equestrians, bicyclists, paddlers, and off-highway vehicle (OHV) users.

The North Carolina Trails Committee, composed of seven citizen user group representatives appointed by the Secretary of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, has focused on funding projects that are sustainable, community-supported, and partnership-oriented. Together with additional financial and social capital, local communities continue to leverage RTP funds to maximize their project value and meet public needs.

The positive effect RTP funding has had across our local communities is exemplified in the Jackrabbit Mountain Bike and Hiking Trail System in Clay County, NC. Approximately 15 miles of trail on the shores of Lake Chatuge were constructed in cooperation with the Southern Appalachian Bicycle Association, US Forest Service, and Clay County Communities Revitalization Association. Local businesses provided additional funding and in-kind services, while volunteers also spent many hours physically working on the project. The Clay County Schools and Health Department were also active partners in the effort. Overall, the shared goals of recreation, physical activity and fitness for all ages, environmental conservation, “green” tourism, and economic development promoted partnerships within the local communities.

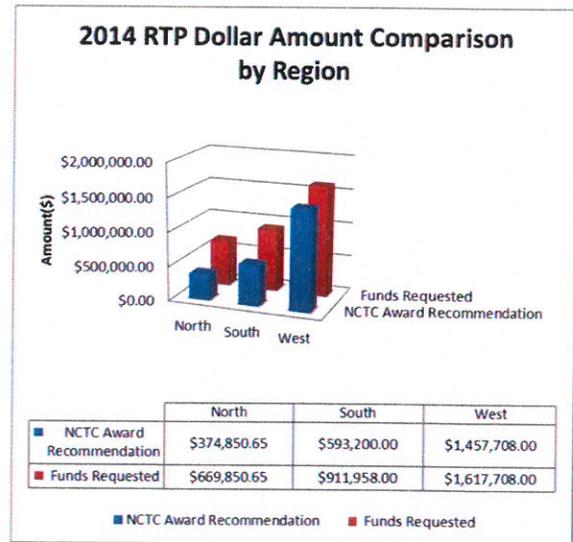
In a time when government funding is limited, communities throughout the state are seeking sources of capital to invest for their citizens on a local, regional, and statewide scale. Trails and greenways encourage physical activity, connect citizens to the environment, and provide alternative transportation options within our communities.

2014 RTP Annual Grant Recommendation Summary

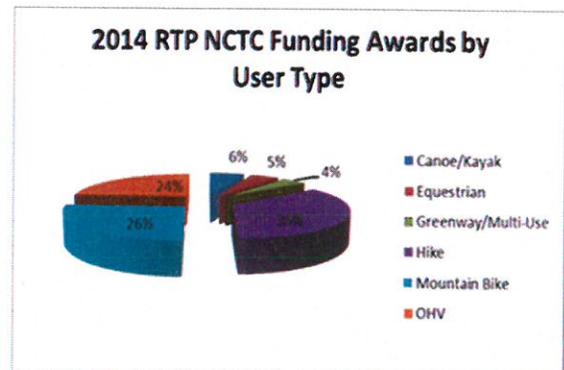
Charts & Graphs

The Division of Parks and Recreation through the State Trails Program received 37 grant requests totaling \$ 2,999,516 for grant projects in 2014. Of those requested funds, the NCTC recommended awards for 27 grant projects totaling \$2,225,758 to leverage \$4,557,225 of grantee matching funds to provide economic development and recreational resources to 27 counties with North Carolina.

In North Carolina a Pre-Application is required for RTP to help determine the sustainability of project request. For the 2014 grant year RTP received 65 pre-applications leading to 37 Final Applications being recommended for award.



For the 2014 Grant Year funding requests for RTP per user group were analyzed and funding recommendations were balanced based on the percentage of requests received per user group.



**2014 FEDERAL RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM
GRANT RECOMMENDATION SUMMARY**

Applicant	Project Name	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended
City of High Point	Deep River Greenway	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00
Classical American Homes Preservation	CAHPT Foot Bridge #1	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00
NC DPR- Carvers Creek State Park	Carvers Creek State Park Sandhills Multiuse Trail	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00
NC DPR- Raven Rock State Park	Phase 1: Beginner Level Bike Loop	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00
Elkin Valley Trails Association	E & A Trail Reservoir Bridge: Design, Approaches, & Support Structures	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00
Friends of the Mountains to Sea Trail	MST- Boone Fork Bridge- Phase 1	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00
RiverLink	French Broad River Paddle Trail Expansion Project	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00
Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy	Blue Ridge Pastures Trail (Extension of Upper Hickory Nut Gorge Trail)	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00
Town of Murphy	Murphy Marble Creek Biking and Hiking Trails	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00
USDA Forest Service - Croatan Ranger District	Black Swamp OHV Trailhead Paving - 2014 Phase 1	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00
Elkin Valley Trails Association	E & A Rail Trail Reservoir Bridge Phase 2	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00
Friends of the Mountains to Sea Trail	MST- Boone Fork Bridge- Phase 2	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00
USDA Forest Service - Grandfather Ranger District	Brown Mountain Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) Trail Maintenance 2015	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00
USDA Forest Service - Croatan Ranger District	Black Swamp OHV Trail Maintenance - 2015 Phase 2	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00
USDA Forest Service - Nantahala Ranger District	Wayehutta OHV Trail System Maintenance 2015	\$99,750.00	\$99,750.00
USDA Forest Service - Croatan Ranger District	Flanners Bike Trail Project - Phase 1	\$98,000.00	\$98,000.00
USDA Forest Service - Uwharrie National Forest	Badin Lake OHV Trail & Trail Head Maintenance 2014	\$97,700.00	\$97,700.00
USDA Forest Service - Uwharrie National Forest	Badin Lake OHV Trail & Trailhead Maintenance 2015	\$97,500.00	\$97,500.00

2014 FEDERAL RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM GRANT RECOMMENDATION SUMMARY

Brushy Mountain Cyclist Club	Dark Mountain & OVT Beginner Trails/Reroutes	\$90,300.00	\$90,300.00
SORBA-Pisgah	Buckwheat Knob to Rich mountain	\$90,000.00	\$90,000.00
USDA Forest Service- Cheoah Ranger District	Fontana Bike Trail Phase 1	\$80,000.00	\$80,000.00
Clay County Communities Revitalization Association	Jackrabbit Campground Connector	\$64,164.00	\$64,164.00
Pamlico-Tar River Foundation	Tar-Pamlico Water Trail	\$53,000.00	\$38,000.00
Friends of the Mountains to Sea Trail	MST- Piedmont/Neusiok maintenance	\$21,844.00	\$21,844.00
Friends of the Mountains to Sea Trail	MST- Western Mountains- Maintenance	\$19,943.00	\$19,943.00
NC DPR- Medoc Mountain State Park	Equestrian Trail Connection	\$15,006.65	\$15,006.00
Friends of the Mountains to Sea Trail	MST- eastern mountains- maintenance	\$13,551.00	\$13,551.00
	Total	\$2,240,758.65	\$2,225,758.00

**2014 FEDERAL RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM
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2014 Applicants Not Recommended For Funding			
Alamance County	Cedarrock Park Enhancement Project - Rock Creek Recreation Area	\$80,000.00	\$0.00
Carolina Commerce & Technology	Turtle Preserve Connector Trail	\$93,758.00	\$0.00
The Land Trust for Central NC	Forks of Little River Park - Trails and Canoe Access	\$45,000.00	\$0.00
The Land Trust for Central NC	Low Water Bridge Preserve Trail Network	\$60,000.00	\$0.00
Town of Ahoskie	Mitchell Park Nature Trails	\$100,000.00	\$0.00
Town of Carrboro	Morgan Creek Greenway Phase 1	\$100,000.00	\$0.00
USDA Forest Service - Uwharrie National Forest	Uwharrie National Recreation Trail Maintenance	\$50,000.00	\$0.00
USDA Forest Service- Pisgah Ranger District	Ivestor Gap/Graveyard Ridge - Phase 1	\$100,000.00	\$0.00
Battleship North Carolina	Eagles Island Expedition Trail	\$100,000.00	\$0.00
The Land Trust for Central NC	Uwharrie Trail Shelter with Observation Platform	\$30,000.00	\$0.00
	Total	\$758,758.00	