

2015 LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND

Congress approved an apportionment of \$1,239,974 for the State Of Iowa. One half of Iowa's apportionment, \$620,000 is available to cities and counties for outdoor recreation acquisition and development projects.

A total of 7 applications were received by the March 15, 2016 deadline. Grant requests for the 7 applications totaled \$870,000 for a variety of activities including general park improvements, campground developments, playgrounds and land acquisitions. (Some applications included aspects that fit into more than one of the previous listed areas).

A five member committee reviewed the 7 applications and scored/ranked them based on the following criteria:

Relationship to SCORP Priorities (Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan)

Direct Recreation Benefits Provided

Local Need

Quality of the Site

Additional bonus points and penalty points are also included in the scoring system. They are based on such things as level of prior assistance from the LWCF; special features for the elderly and handicapped; minority populations served; degree of public participation and supports; recycled content material use; and level of planning that has preceded the application for a LWCF grant.

On May 12, 2016 the Natural Resource Commission approved the ranking from the Review Committee. After the appropriation letter was received, it was determined that the top 5 projects were approved for full funding.

Grant Applicant	Project	Grant Request	Total Cost	Score (Ave)	Grant Award
Jackson County Conservation Board	Prairie Creek Recreation Area Development	\$75,000	\$545,675	74.8	\$75,000
Des Moines County Conservation Board	Modern Amenities at Big Hollow RV Campground	\$150,000	\$580,000	74.1	\$150,000
Polk County Conservation Board	Jester Park Nature Center Outdoor Streamscape	\$150,000	\$10,375,000	72.1	\$150,000
Linn County Conservation Board	Children's Outdoor Natural Playscape	\$70,000	\$153,500	69.6	\$70,000
Woodbury County Conservation Board	Curtin Timber Addition	\$200,000	\$424,800	65.8	\$175,000
City of Dubuque	Eagle Point Park Environmental Restoration Project	\$175,000	\$375,000	65.0	
City of Dunkerton	Dunkerton Splash Pad Development	\$50,000	\$100,132	57.8	