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State Outdoor Recreation  
Liaison Officers

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Dear Secretary Jewell:

I am writing you with an important inquiry about the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) State assistance program. I am president of the National Association of State Outdoor Recreation Liaison Officers (NASORLO). We are the officials appointed by our Governors that serve as liaison to the LWCF State Assistance Program as required by the LWCF Act.

On March 9, 2016, the Department of the Interior posted notice of a grant funding opportunity to the States and Territories through the LWCF State Assistance program. This grant notice was a call for applications for the Land and Water Conservation Fund Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership Program (ORLPP). The announcement noted an application deadline of May 20, 2016 for a nationwide competition for \$15,000,000 in ORLPP funding with a maximum grant award of \$750,000 per project. State Liaison Officers were instructed to solicit applications from eligible recipients and submit no more than two proposals each. Many States took advantage of this opportunity in spite of the short (less than 60 day) fund submission window.

Since the deadline there has been little further news about the status of our grant submissions. We have been told that the expected process is that the National Park Service LWCF State Assistance Office would review State submissions to determine eligibility, create an internal review committee to further vet the submissions to meet program goals, and would then provide recommendations for fund support so a final request for formal submission of proposals could come back to SLOs.

As you could imagine, we at the State level are now receiving frequent inquiries from those applicants we selected for initial submission. We are also concerned with what impact the pending change in Administration may have on the funding process. We are anxious to proceed with good projects and meet DOI and Congressional goals for this important program, and wisely invest these funds to meet outdoor recreation needs. Please let me know if I or the NASORLO membership can aid in this process in any way. We look forward to hearing from you and thank you for your service.

Sincerely,

Lauren S. Imgrund

President, National Association of State Outdoor Recreation Liaison Officers

Cc: Michael Reynolds, Acting Director National Park Service