

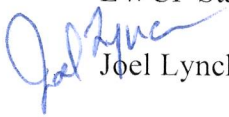


United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

MEMORANDUM (NO HARD COPY TO FOLLOW)

To: LWCF State Liaison Officers

From:  Joel Lynch, Chief, State and Local Assistance Programs Division

Subject: Small Conversion Policy Update
Underground Utility Easements and Rights-of-Way Process Update

The purpose of this memorandum is to share with you two updates related with the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) State and Local Assistance Program. The attached documents replace or update Sections in Chapter 8 – Post Completion and Stewardship of the October 1, 2008 LWCF State Assistance Program Manual (Manual).

Attached for your files and future reference are:

- Chapter 8 – E. 9. Small Conversions. POLICY UPDATE: This policy replaces the Small Conversion information provided on pages 8-10&11 of the Manual. This revised policy written to provide the program with more flexibility by allowing more conversions to qualify as “small” while still complying with the LWCF Act and applicable federal laws.
- Chapter 8 – F. Underground Utility Easements and Rights-of-Way PROCESS UPDATE: This is a process update intended to clarify the intent of Underground Utility Easements and Rights-of-Way details provided on page 8-12 of the Manual and outline a new process to incorporate NPS review. We are seeking to gather more detailed information to better understand the current circumstances of how the existing policy is being applied in light of the growth in proposed underground infrastructure that crosses multiple jurisdictions including state lines and situations that often requires landowners to surrender or give up certain property rights. If warranted, the NPS will develop and officially release a revised policy and/or guidance for underground utilities and infrastructure once we evaluate the nature and impacts of these alignments across LWCF recreation areas. If post-completion projects previously utilized this exception and the related details are available, NPS would appreciate being able to capture that data as well.

Please make sure this memo and the attachments are shared with any of your staff who directly administer LWCF assistance. As always, if you have any questions, feel free to contact me at joel_lynch@nps.gov or 202-354-6905, or your NPS LWCF Program Officer.

Attached files:

Final_2017_01_03 Chapter 8 - E. 9 Small Conversion.pdf
Final_2017_01_03 Chapter 8-F Underground Infrastructure.pdf