



Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) Requirements

Use the table below to make sure the drafted SCORP includes all the required elements.

- Page 2 includes an example Governor letter with the proper address.
- Page 3 outlines the LWCF Act and LWCF Manual requirements for review.

| SCORP Element | Page # |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| Governor’s certification of ample opportunity for public participation (see example next page) | |
| Name of the agency with the authority to represent the state with the LWCF program | |
| Public participation involving all segments of the state’s population | |
| Process and methodology | |
| Identification of outdoor recreation issues based on public input. Discussion of issues that will be addressed through the LWCF and those that may be addressed by other means | |
| Evaluation of demand | |
| Evaluation of supply | |
| Implementation plan (sufficient detail to develop OPSP - OPSP Requirements). State must review its project selection criteria each time that a new or amended SCORP is approved by the NPS. | |
| Contain or reference a wetlands priority component - SCORP Wetland Component Requirements | |
| When assistance from LWCF is provided, include the following acknowledgement: "The preparation (updating, revision) of this plan (study, analysis, etc.) was financed in part through a planning grant from the National Park Service, United States Department of the Interior, under the provisions of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 (Public Law 88-578) as amended." | |

Below is an example of a previous letter from the state's Governor.

Some states address the letter to the public, but if addressing it to NPS, use the address below:

Stephan Nofield
Acting Associate Director, Partnerships and Civic Engagement
Department of the Interior
1849 C St NW, Washington, DC 20240



STATE OF INDIANA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
State House, Second Floor
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Mike Braun
Governor

September 17, 2025

Stephan Nofield
Acting Associate Director, Partnerships and Civic Engagement
Department of the Interior
1849 C St. NW
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Mr. Nofield,

It has been five years since Indiana published our last Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP). We have continued to use the President Benjamin Harrison Conservation Trust and the Land and Water Conservation Fund as primary funding sources to conserve and develop public outdoor recreation lands at the state, county and local level throughout Indiana. The SCORP is an invaluable guide for this development.

This letter certifies that the citizens of Indiana were provided with ample opportunity for public participation in our latest SCORP planning process. As with our previous SCORPs, the 2026 plan uses a needs assessment based primarily on public input solicited from the citizens of Indiana, park professionals, and a 13-member Plan Advisory Committee. Through third-party surveys, we objectively gathered public input from citizens all over the state. At each stage, the Plan Advisory Committee offered reviews, feedback, and ideas crucial to our plan's development using their extensive knowledge and hands-on experience with the subject matter. We combined this specialized input with data from national recreation trends and the review of local park and recreation master plans to finalize the 2026 SCORP.

Our parks and outdoor recreation lands provide Hoosiers with the opportunity to experience nature and enjoy outdoor activities all across the state. The 2026 Indiana SCORP details statewide acquisition priorities for these public outdoor recreation lands from willing sellers for the next five years.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mike Braun".

Mike Braun
Governor of Indiana

LWCF Act (54 U.S.C. § 200305(d)):

- (1) the name of the State agency that will have authority to represent and act for the State in dealing with the Secretary for purposes of this Act;
- (2) an evaluation of the demand for and supply of outdoor recreation resources and facilities in the State;
- (3) a program for the implementation of the plan; and
- (4) other necessary information, as may be determined by the Secretary.
- The plan shall take into account relevant Federal resources and programs and shall be correlated so far as practicable with other State, regional, and local plans.
- No plan shall be approved unless the chief executive official of the State certifies that ample opportunity for public participation in plan development and revision has been accorded.
- A comprehensive statewide outdoor recreation plan shall specifically address wetlands within the State as an important outdoor recreation resource as a prerequisite to approval, except that a revised comprehensive statewide outdoor recreation plan shall not be required by the Secretary, if a State submits, and the Secretary, acting through the Director, approves, as a part of and as an addendum to the existing comprehensive statewide outdoor recreation plan, a wetlands priority plan developed in consultation with the State agency with responsibility for fish and wildlife resources and consistent with the national wetlands priority conservation plan developed under section 301 of the Emergency Wetlands Resources Act of 1986 (16 U.S.C. 3921)

LWCF Manual Vol 72.1 explicitly requires the SCORP to include the following:

- A. The plan must describe the process and methodology(s) chosen by the State to meet the guidelines as set forth in this section.
- B. The planning process must include ample opportunity for public participation involving all segments of the State's population, including Tribes.
 - Tribal engagement should be used in regard to public participation and input.
- C. The plan must be comprehensive. The plan will be considered comprehensive if it:
 - Identifies outdoor recreation issues of Statewide importance based upon, but not limited to, input from the public participation program. The plan must also identify those issues the State will address through the LWCF and those issues which may be addressed by other means;
 - Evaluates demand, i.e., public outdoor recreation preferences, but not necessarily through quantitative Statewide surveys or analyses; and
 - Evaluates the supply of outdoor recreation resources and facilities, but not necessarily through quantitative Statewide inventories.
- D. The plan must have an implementation program that identifies the State's strategies, priorities, and actions for the obligation of its LWCF apportionment. The implementation

program must be of sufficient detail for use in developing project selection criteria for the State's OPSP so projects submitted to the NPS for LWCF funding will implement the SCORP.

- E. The plan must contain or reference a wetlands priority component consistent with Section 303 of the Emergency Wetlands Resources Act of 1986. At a minimum, the wetlands priority component must:
- (1) Be consistent with the National Wetlands Priority Conservation Plan, prepared by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service;
 - (2) Provide evidence of consultation with the State agency responsible for fish and wildlife resources;
 - (3) Contain a listing of those wetland types that should receive priority for acquisition; and
 - (4) Consider outdoor recreation opportunities associated with its wetlands resources for meeting the State's public outdoor recreation needs.
- F. In accordance with 54 U.S.C. § 200305(d)(1)(D), the Secretary may determine other necessary information the plan should contain, which will be conveyed through other means, such as the annual apportionment letter.
- G. The plan may consist of a single document or may be comprised of multiple documents as long as the guidelines as set forth in this section are met.