

571—30.59(455A,461A,462A) Project eligibility.

30.59(1) *Water trails development program.* The scoring committee will evaluate proposals for water trails development projects to determine whether the projects will achieve, or achieve progress related to, the goal of creating water trails that may ultimately be eligible for designation on navigable waters in the state of Iowa. The following types of projects may be eligible:

a. Accesses. Construction of low-impact water access points or other conveyances by which recreational users are provided a means of legally placing vessels in the water and removing them.

b. Land acquisition for water trail development. Purchases of easements or fee title lands that will be used for water trail navigation, such as access, portage, camping, or other uses related to navigation on a water trail.

c. Dam warning signage. Warning signs, supporting structures, and navigational aids such as buoys at and near low-head dams.

d. Navigation and interpretive signage. Various water trail signs and markers, as needed, to instruct recreational users about safe uses, regulation of access areas, and surrounding area characteristics.

e. Portages. Construction of portage trails where a portage would aid navigation or around dangerous water areas, such as dams, unnavigable waters, or any other sections of water that are potentially dangerous or life-threatening.

f. Related construction and development. Construction and development of items related to water trail navigation, including dam modification/removal; amenities such as access roads or parking areas, canoe racks or bike racks for shuttling purposes, and restrooms, picnic areas, and campsites that are easily accessible from waterways of primary use by water travelers; and contracted costs of developing any of the water trails navigational amenities listed. Direct labor costs to the sponsor may count toward in-kind match according to prevailing local wages, up to \$10.50 per hour.

g. Promotion. Informational publications of water trails for public access and online materials available to the public.

h. Education. Education projects related to water safety and appropriate etiquette, with a primary focus on water trails recreation.

i. Materials and equipment. Actual material cost of trail maintenance tools, gravel, fencing supplies, gates, bridges, culverts, riprap, and other materials necessary for trail, portage and access maintenance.

30.59(2) *Low-head dam public hazard program.* The scoring committee will evaluate proposals for projects that enhance safety at low-head dams on or adjacent to navigable waters in Iowa. The scoring committee will evaluate the following three categories of proposals:

a. Small projects. Small projects shall include proposal requests of up to \$20,000. Eligible projects for consideration for award as small projects shall include: warning signage and supporting infrastructure; feasibility, environmental, or preliminary design or engineering studies related to removal of hazardous structures; and construction costs related to portage trails and modification or removal of hazardous dams.

b. Medium-sized projects. Medium-sized projects shall include proposal requests of \$20,001 to \$50,000. Eligible projects for consideration of award as medium-sized projects shall include: warning signage and supporting infrastructure; and construction and engineering costs related to portage trails and modification or removal of hazardous dams.

c. Large projects. Large projects shall include proposal requests of more than \$50,000. Eligible projects for consideration of award as large projects shall include construction and engineering costs related to modification or removal of hazardous dams.