



2026 Second-Level Application Training

Recreational Trails Program (RTP)

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Purpose



ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

Implementation of a new environmental process.

Gain understanding of what is required for the formal application.

Present trail project for easier and effective review from FHWA.



Second-Level Application Required Documents



Second-Level Application Portal



Applicant Information

Georgia Recreational Trails Grant Program Second-level Application 2025-2026

Welcome to the RTP Second-level Application. In this application, you will be asked to submit various documents. If you have any questions, please contact Ouicia Jolly at ouicia.jolly@dnr.ga.gov.
Second - Level Application will close on June 1, 2026.

Current Status

- Active
- Closed
- NEPA review
- Withdrawn
- DNR Review
- FHWA Review

FHWA Project Number

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Applicant Agency

Agency Address

City, State, Zip

Primary Contact Person

Email Address

Phone Number

Name and Title of Chief Elected Official

Federal Employer Identification Number (EIN or FEIN)

System for Award Management SAM#

Project Overview

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Project Name

Trail Site Address

City, State, Zip

What county or counties is the trail project located?

Latitude and Longitude of Trail Site

Project Length

Primary Trail Users; must include ALL user groups you included during Pre-application and may contain others if you have added others since Pre-application (check all that apply)

- Pedestrians (hike, walk, &/or run; & wheelchair)
- Bicycles
- Water Trail (canoe & kayak access along an established water trail)
- Equestrians
- other

Project Description

Explain in detail all potential land disturbance for this project.

Total Project Cost

Maximum RTP Funds

Minimum Grantee Percentage (%) Matching Funds

Grantee's Match Commitment

Project Documents Required

PROJECT DOCUMENTS REQUIRED

Resolution Authorizing Commitment to Project



Does the applicant currently control the site through:

- deed
- easement
- lease
- acquisition will occur during the project period
- other

Please upload all deeds, easements, leases, or acquisition plans for this site as a single PDF.



GEPA Environmental Checklist

Form can be found at https://gadnr.org/sites/default/files/dnr/pdf/GEPA_Environmental_Checklist.pdf





Resolution

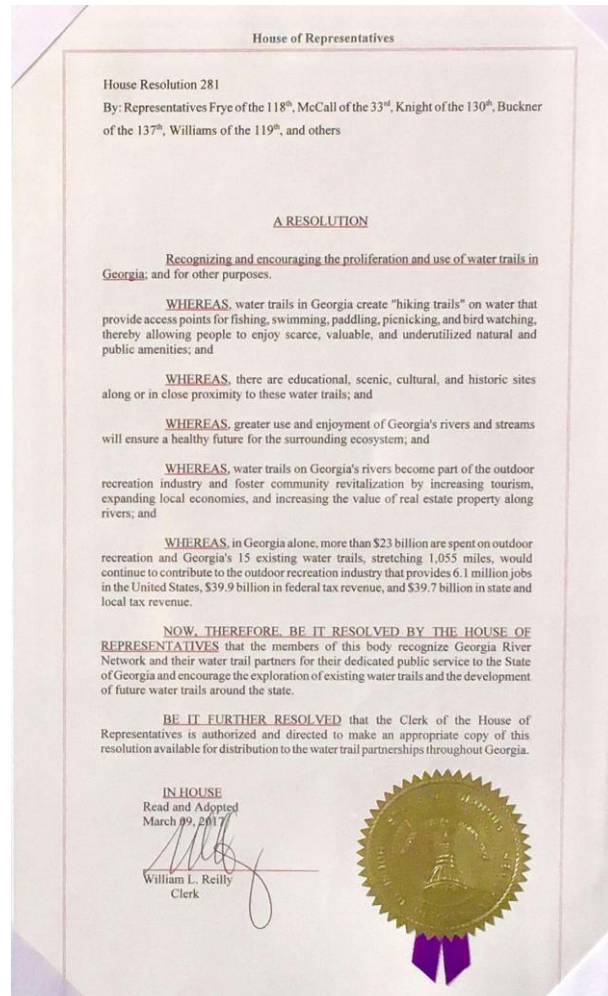


Proof of Ownership



GEPA
Environmental
Checklist

Resolution

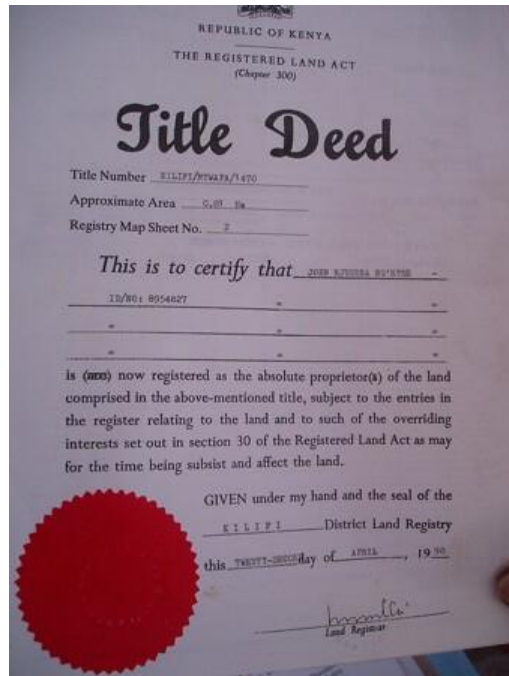


Adopted by the governing entity to authorize the following:

- Submission of the full application.
- Commitment of funds to complete the proposed project.
- Commitment to the match of funds.
- Acceptance of agreement terms.

Ownership Documents

- Deed
- Lease for 25 years and more.
- Easement Documents



LAND LEASE AGREEMENT

This Ground Lease Agreement (this "Agreement") is entered into as of the ____ day of _____, 20____ (the "Effective Date") by and between _____ (the "Landlord") and _____ (the "Tenant"). Each Landlord and Tenant may be referred to in this Agreement individually as a "Party" and collectively as the "Parties."

WHEREAS Landlord owns and desires to lease to Tenant, and Tenant desires to lease, the Site (as defined herein); and

WHEREAS Landlord and Tenant wish to enter into this Agreement for the lease of the Site for use by Tenant as per the terms of this Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE for good and valuable consideration stated herein, the sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the Parties agree as follows:

1. **Agreement to Lease.** Landlord agrees to lease to Tenant and Tenant agrees to lease from Landlord, according to the terms and conditions set forth herein, the real estate described in Exhibit A attached hereto (the "Site").

2. **Purpose.** The Site may be used and occupied only for the following purpose (the "Permitted Use"): _____. Nothing herein shall give Tenant the right to use the Site for any other purpose without the prior written consent of Landlord. Landlord makes no representation or warranty regarding the legality of the Permitted Use, and Tenant will bear all risk of any adverse change in applicable laws.

3. **Term.** This Agreement will be for a term beginning on _____ and ending on _____ (the "Term"). The Parties hereto may elect to extend this Agreement upon such terms and conditions as may be agreed upon in writing and signed by the Parties at the time of any such extension.

4. **Rent.** Tenant will pay Landlord rent in advance on the Effective Date in the amount of \$ _____.

5. **Late Fee.** Rent paid after the ____ day of each month will be deemed as late, and if rent is not paid within ____ days after such due date, Tenant agrees to pay a late charge of \$ _____.

6. **Additional Rent.** There may be instances under this Agreement where Tenant may be required to pay additional charges to Landlord. All such charges are considered additional rent under this Agreement and will be paid with the next regularly scheduled rent payment. Landlord has the same rights and Tenant has the same obligations with respect to additional rent as they do with rent.

7. **Security Deposit.** Upon signing this Agreement, Tenant will pay a security deposit in the amount of \$ _____ to Landlord. The security deposit will be retained by Landlord as security for Tenant's performance of its obligations under this Agreement. If Tenant does not comply with any of the terms of this Agreement, Landlord may apply any or all of the security deposit to remedy the breach, including to cover

DEED OF EASEMENT

THIS DEED OF EASEMENT, made as of this ____ day of _____, 200____, by and between _____ (the "Grantor"), and the MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST, an instrumentality of the State of Maryland (the "Grantee").

WHEREAS, Grantee is a body corporate and instrumentality of the State of Maryland created for the purpose generally of preserving and maintaining historic, aesthetic and cultural properties, all as is more particularly provided for by law; and

WHEREAS, the real property as hereinafter described (the "Property") has substantial historic, aesthetic and cultural character and this Deed of Easement (this "Deed") will promote the preservation and maintenance of the Property and its historic, cultural, scenic and aesthetic character; and

WHEREAS, Grantee is possessed with the power and duty to accept, hold and administer this Deed; and

WHEREAS, Grantee has determined that this Deed is exclusively for conservation purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing recitals, and for other good and valuable considerations, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the parties hereto agree as follows:

1. Grantor hereby grants and conveys to Grantee with Special Warranty of Title an easement (the "Easement") in all of [that][those] certain lot[s] or parcel[s] of land known as [the] _____ property, together with all of the improvements thereon, and appurtenances, rights and interests thereto belonging, which is situate, lying and being in _____ County, State of Maryland, and which is more particularly set forth in Exhibit B, attached hereto and incorporated herein.

2. Exhibit A consists of ____ pages and includes as page 1 a schedule (which is recorded with this Deed) describing the documents, photographs of selected portions of the Property, and other things that are not recorded herewith but are nonetheless as fully and completely incorporated by reference into this Deed as though recited herewith. [Grantor acknowledges that Exhibit A may be modified and updated upon the conclusion of the restoration of the Property.]

3. The terms of the Easement are as follows:

(A) Duration and Nature of the Easement. The Easement shall be perpetual in duration. The parties agree that it is and shall be considered an easement in gross and as such is inheritable and assignable and runs with the land as an incorporeal property interest in the

GEPA Environmental Checklist

Environmental Check List Georgia Environmental Policy Act

Project No. : _____

Project Name: _____

GEORGIA AREA/CATEGORY	IS AREA AFFECTED?			IF AFFECTED, HOW SEVERELY?			
	NO	YES	UNKNOWN	MINOR	MEDIAN	MAJOR	UNKNOWN
1. Wetlands	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Flood Plain/River Corridor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Water Supply	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Water Resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Groundwater Recharge	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Storm Water	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Waste Water	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Air Quality	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Solid Wastes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Soil Stability/Erodibility	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Protected Mountains	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. Protected Species	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. Critical Habitats	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. Historical	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15. Archeological	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16. Parks/Recreation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17. Energy Supplies	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18. Beaches	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19. Dunes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20. Shoreline	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
21. Coastal Marshland	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
22. Forest Land	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
23. Barrier Island	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
24. Aquatic Life/Trout Streams	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- Ensure to include project number and submit.
- Address any concerns or explanation based on the guidelines.
- The form and guidelines can be found on the website. <https://gadnr.org/RTP>

Environmental Coordination Documents (Applicant & GADNR)


US Fish & Wildlife Service Additional Information Needed

ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATION DOCUMENTS (Applicant & GADNR)

Section 106 HPD: Please submit attachments individually for coordination by GADNR.


Section 106 Application for HPD

This information is to be submitted by the applicant.




Section 106 Maps for HPD

This information is to be submitted by the applicant.




Section 106 Detailed Project Plans

This information is to be submitted by the applicant.




Section 106 Photo Key Maps

This information is to be submitted by the applicant.



Section 106 Supporting Photos

This information is to be submitted by the applicant.




Coordination Documents (EPD and GDOT)

Provide a PDF file of the following:

brief project description

location map

Submit for EPD and GDOT environmental review. (ONLY ONE DOCUMENT IS NEEDED.)




US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Documents

IPAC Correspondence

Species List

Submit the document in PDF format



USFWS - Would tree clearing occur on the project? *

yes

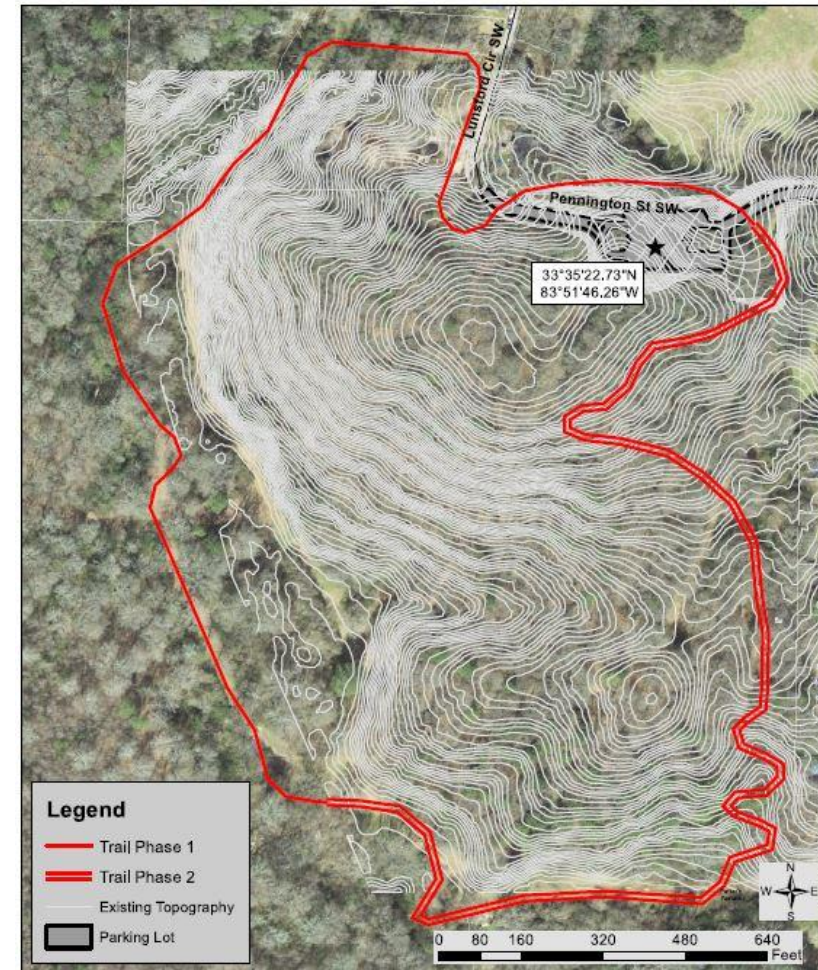
no

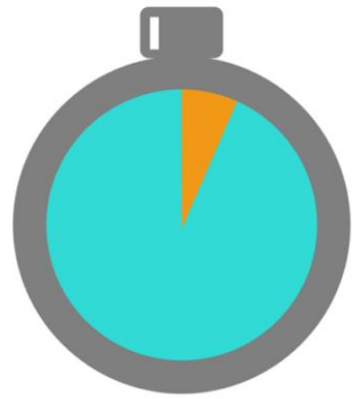
USFWS - Would the project include construction activities within the wetlands, rivers, or streams? *

Yes

No

Project Location Map Examples (EPD & GDOT Reviews)





5 minute break



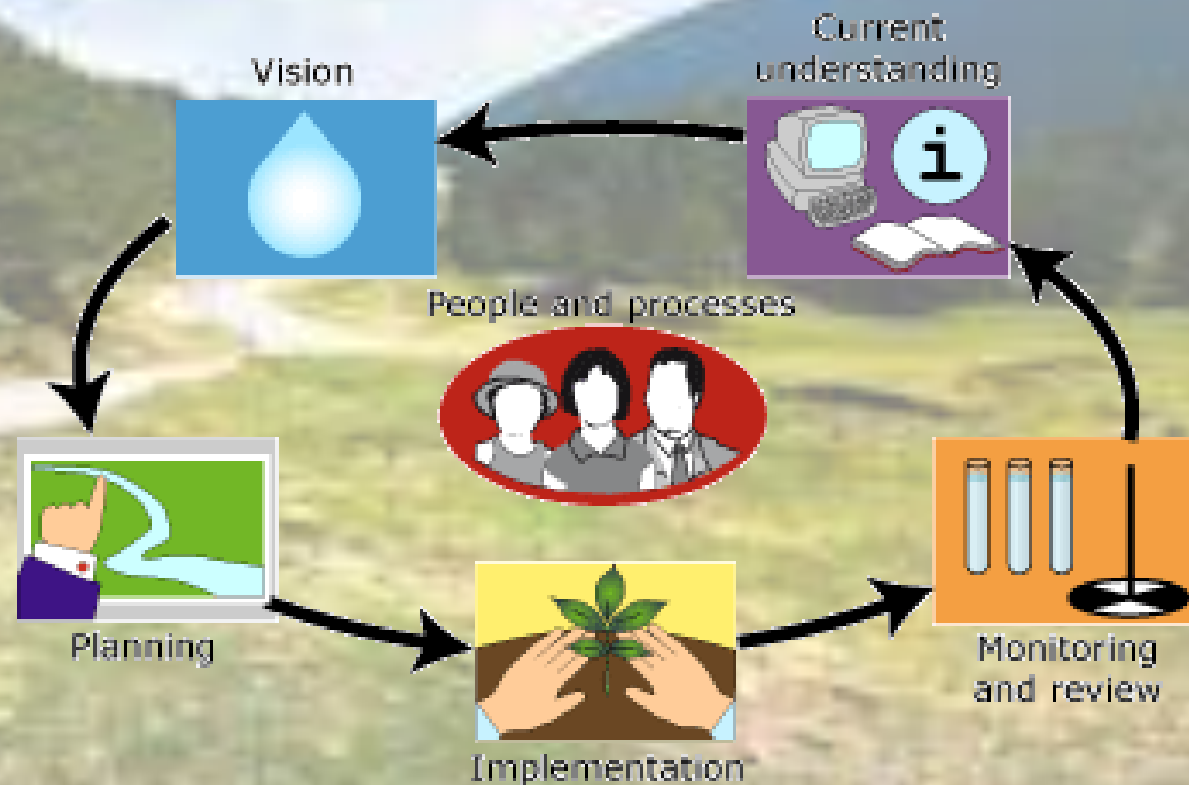
Categorical Exclusion (CE Form)

FHWA Georgia Division Recreational Trails Program (RTP)

Categorical Exclusion (CE) Form

I) Project Information	
Name of Project:	Click or tap here to enter text.
Federal Project Number:	Click or tap here to enter text.
Project Sponsor:	Click or tap here to enter text.
Project Description:	Click or tap here to enter text.
Project Location:	Click or tap here to enter text.
Project Purpose:	Click or tap here to enter text.
Project Need:	Click or tap here to enter text.
Funding Source(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/> Private
Estimated Total Project Cost:	Click or tap here to enter text.

II) Do any of the following apply to the project?			
	Yes	No	Comments
1. The activities associated with this project do not lead directly to construction. <i>(ex: education projects, requests for administrative funds, purchase of trail construction/maintenance equipment)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Click or tap here to enter text.



Categorical Exclusion (CE Form)

Responsible parties:
DNR, Applicant, and FHWA

FHWA Georgia Division Recreational Trails Program (RTP)
Categorical Exclusion (CE) Form

I) Project Information			
Name of Project:	Click or tap here to enter text.		
Federal Project Number:	Click or tap here to enter text.		
Project Sponsor:	Click or tap here to enter text.		
Project Description:	Click or tap here to enter text.		
Project Location:	Click or tap here to enter text.		
Project Purpose:	Click or tap here to enter text.		
Project Need:	Click or tap here to enter text.		
Funding Source(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Federal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State	<input type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/> Private
Estimated Total Project Cost:	Click or tap here to enter text.		

II) Do any of the following apply to the project?			
	Yes	No	Comments
1. The activities associated with this project do not lead directly to construction. <i>(ex: education projects, requests for administrative funds, purchase of trail construction/maintenance equipment)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Click or tap here to enter text.

Section I Project Information

- **Complete all information that identifies the project.**
- **Project description**
- **Project purpose.**
- **Funding Source**
- **Estimated Total Project Cost**

I) Project Information				
Name of Project:				Click or tap here to enter text.
Federal Project Number:				Click or tap here to enter text.
Project Sponsor:				Click or tap here to enter text.
Project Description:				Click or tap here to enter text.
Project Location:				Click or tap here to enter text.
Project Purpose:				Click or tap here to enter text.
Project Need:				Click or tap here to enter text.
Funding Source(s):		<input type="checkbox"/> Federal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State	<input type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/> Private
Estimated Total Project Cost:				Click or tap here to enter text.

Key Terms to Avoid in the Application and CE Form.

- Environmental Justice
- Racial Equity
- Equity
- Climate
- Climate Change
- Greenhouse Gas
- GHG
- Energy
- 40 CFR
- Justice 40
- Sea level
- Sea rise
- low -income
- BIL
- Diversity
- minority

Section II Do any of the following apply to the project?

Answer which, if any, of the following activities apply to your project.

ii) Do any of the following apply to the project?

	Yes	No	Comments
1. The activities associated with this project do not lead directly to construction. <i>(ex: education projects, requests for administrative funds, purchase of trail construction/maintenance equipment)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project does not lead directly to construction.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>This project includes construction activities.</i>	

2. This project occurs on lands under the control of a federal agency and a NEPA analysis has been completed by that federal agency.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
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If either of the above apply, the project may qualify for a streamlined environmental review process. Please coordinate with GA DNR to determine the appropriate next steps. If a federal agency has prepared a NEPA document for the project, please provide a copy of the NEPA document and supporting documentation for review.

If the project includes activities that are not described in Section II, then additional environmental analysis is required. Please proceed to Section III of this form.

Section III Involvement With Resources

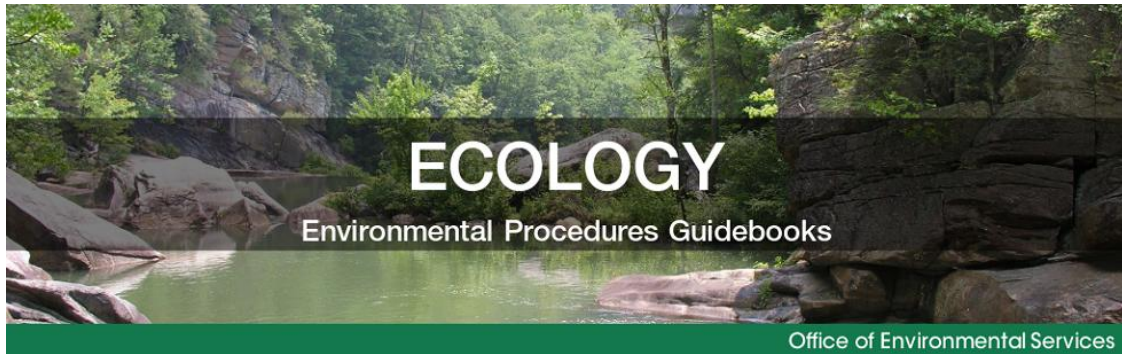
III) Involvement with Resources			
	*No	Possible	Resources Present, Studies, Coordination, Comments, and Commitments
1. Water Resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Click or tap here to enter text.
2. Wild and Scenic Rivers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Click or tap here to enter text.
3. Threatened and Endangered Species	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Click or tap here to enter text.

4. Cultural Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
5. Air Quality Impacts	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	RTP projects will not result in any meaningful changes in traffic volumes, vehicle mix, location of the existing facility or any other factor that would cause an increase in emissions impacts relative to the no-build alternative pursuant to the Clean Air Act criteria for pollutants.
7. Public Involvement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
8. Floodplains	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

*If "No" is selected for an above resource, then no description is required in the box to the right.

This section will describe coordination conducted with Resource Agencies and environmental impacts associated with the proposed project.

1. Water Resources



[GDOT Environmental Procedures Guidebooks – Ecology](#)

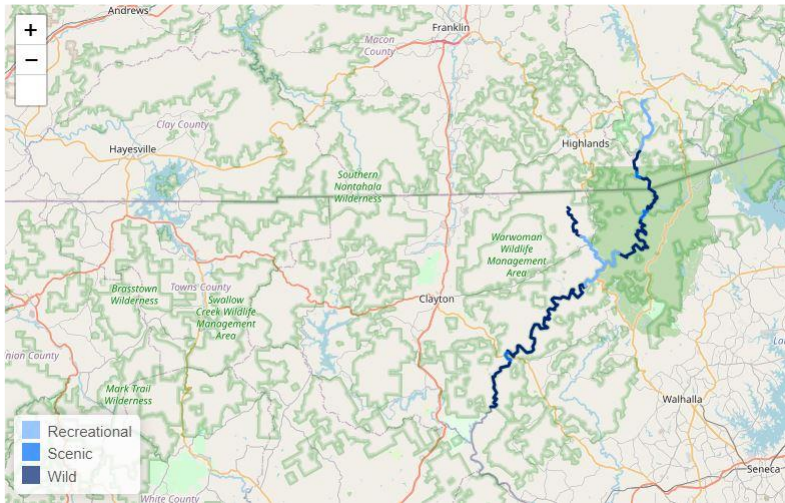


Permit Program under CWA Section 404

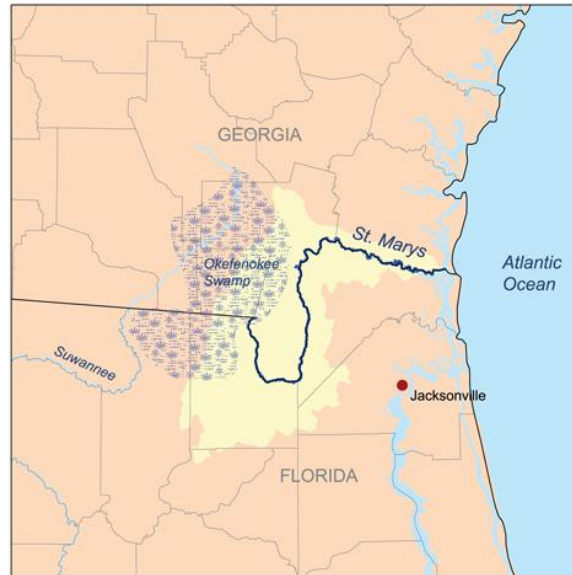
[Permit Program under CWA Section 404](#)

2. Wild and Scenic Rivers

Chattooga River Map



St. Mary's River Map



- If there are no impacts check “No”
- If there are impacts contact GADNR for additional information and coordination.

3. Threatened and Endangered Species



Applicant must include comments and suggestions if available to the comment section and what actions will be taken in the commitment section



Applicant must submit the following to WRD:

- Description of the project/scope of proposed activities
- Shapefile and detailed map
- Submit information to Nongame.Review@dnr.ga.gov

Subject field "Recreational Trails Program"



WRD- Erosion Control Statement

We are glad to see multi-use path or trail construction, which will provide additional recreation opportunities for the surrounding communities. Please keep erosion to a minimum during

IR 24493-sko-2024-05-28-16-13-06

construction and leave as much vegetation intact as possible. In seepage or wetland areas, use boardwalks where feasible to prevent degradation and destruction of these sensitive habitats. If the path is paved, we strongly recommend using a porous pavement that allows for stormwater infiltration rather than impervious materials that significantly increase runoff into the watershed. Please plan the path carefully and provide adequate parking and access areas. These measures will help protect water quality, protect sensitive habitats and native species, and provide for a more enjoyable recreational experience for the users.

4. Cultural Resources



**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
OF TRIBAL HISTORIC
PRESERVATION OFFICERS**

**Georgia Historic Preservation Division
Environmental Review Form**

As a minimum, the Historic Preservation Division (HPD) requires the following information in order to review projects in accordance with applicable federal or state laws. Please note that the responsibility for preparing documentation, including items listed below, rests with the federal or state agency or its designated applicant. HPD's ability to complete a timely project review largely depends on the quality and detail of the material submitted. If insufficient information is provided, HPD may need to request additional materials, which will prolong the review process. For complex projects, some applicants may find it advantageous to hire a preservation professional with expertise in history, architectural history and/or archaeology, who would have access to the Georgia Archaeological Site Files and an understanding of HPD's publicly available files.

PLEASE NOTE: THERE IS A 30-DAY REVIEW PERIOD FROM THE DATE HPD RECEIVES THE SUBMITTAL. SHOULD ADDITIONAL INFORMATION BE REQUESTED, THE 30-DAY PERIOD RESTARTS.

I. General Information

A. Project Name: _____
Project Address: _____
City: _____ **County:** _____

B. Federal Agency Involved: _____
State Agency (if applicable): _____

C. Agency's Involvement:

Funding Unknown
 License/Permit Other, please explain: _____
 Directly performing the action

D. Type of Review Requested:

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (Federal involvement)
 Section 112 of the National Historic Preservation Act (Federally owned properties)
 Georgia Environmental Policy Act (State involvement)
 State Agency Historic Property Stewardship Program (State owned properties)
 Technical Assistance (No Federal or State involvement)
 Unknown

E. Contact Information: Applicant Consultant

Name/Title/Company: _____
Address: _____
City/State/Zip: _____
Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

Agency Contact Info (either State or Federal, according to review type):

Name/Title/Agency: _____
Address: _____
City/State/Zip: _____
Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

- Applicant must complete the HPD Environmental Form.
- GADNR will submit the Section 106 documentation to HPD for review.

**Georgia Recreational Trails Program
Tribal Coordination Form**

Table 1: To be completed by GADNR

Project Name	Amicalola Falls-East Ridge Trail Renovation	
Project Number	NRT 24(05)	
County	Dawson	
Latitude/Longitude	Lat: 34°33'27.60"N	Long: 84°14'57.15"W
Project Description	<p>Regrade and repair severe erosion along the heavily used East Ridge Trail, which leads from the Visitor Center up a steep grade to the top of the falls. Scope to include: reinforcing and clearing drainage, replacing numerous culverts, installing two scenic overlooks, grading and resurfacing portions of the trail to provide safe pedestrian use and improve accessibility for the safe use of track-chair mobility devices. Scope for this project will include: regrading the upper portion of the East Ridge Trail, provide an aggregate surface capable of supporting tracked personal mobility devices, installing new drainage systems and culverts along both sides of that portion of trail. Scope will also include regrading the lowest section of the trail behind the new park visitor center. This portion will include the replacement of multiple sets of stairs and repairs of severely eroded and hazardous areas.</p>	
Project Location Map		

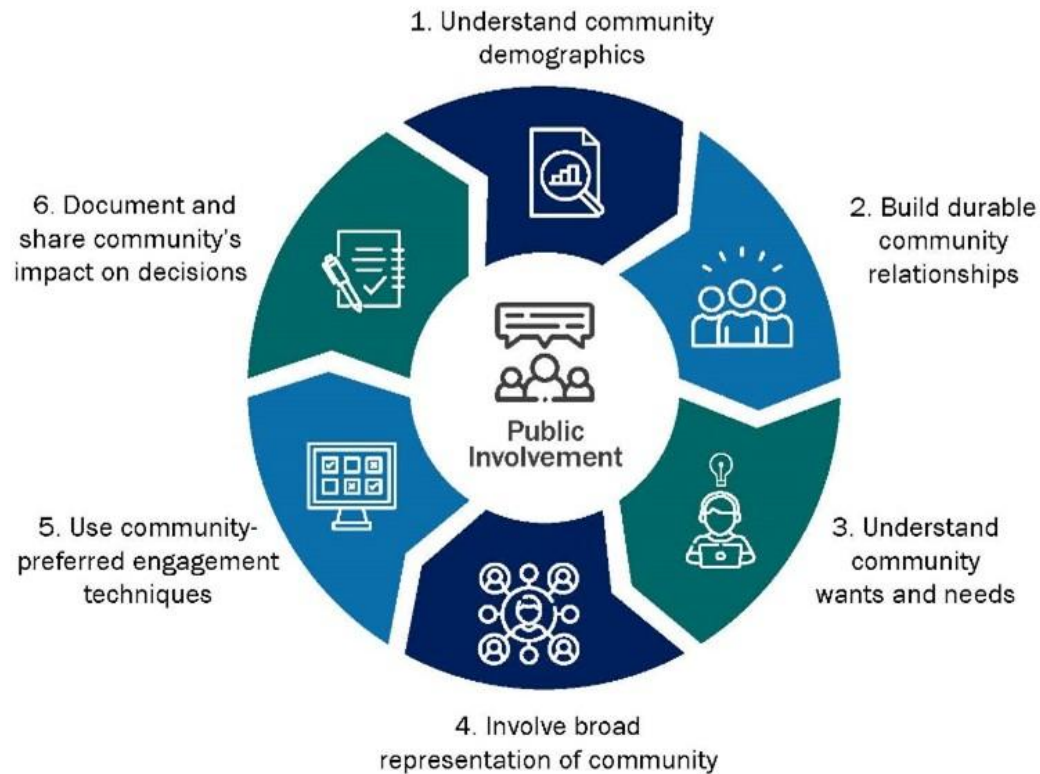
- GADNR will complete and submit form to FHWA.
- FHWA will conduct coordination with Native American Tribes

5. Air Quality Impacts



RTP projects will not result in any meaningful changes in traffic volumes, vehicle mix, location of the existing facility or any other factor that would cause an increase in emissions impacts relative to the no-build alternative pursuant to the Clean Air Act criteria for pollutants.

6. Public Involvement



The project sponsor must ensure the general public:

- Early review of development and involvement.
- Description of the project to allow the public to share their views.
- 14 days for public comment period.
- Share the Community's impact on decisions regarding the project.

7. Floodplains

To initiate the review submit the following information to GADNR:

- Project location map
- Brief project narrative

If coordination with LFA is required, the applicant will indicate the coordination in the CE Form.

Any required permit can be deferred until construction but shall be obtained before construction starts.



7. Floodplains

Georgia



General Rules:

1. Encroachment is not allowed on a designated floodway, unless it is demonstrated that the proposed encroachment would not result in an increase in flood levels during the occurrence of the 100-year base flood discharge.
2. An encroachment, on any area mapped on a flood insurance study as an area of special flood hazard (Zones A, A1-A30 and/or AE), will cause no more than a one-foot rise in the natural 100-year base water surface elevation. Note: The LFA may have more stringent criteria than the general rule for their specific purposes.

Based on the Floodplain Encroachment Review, if it is determined that the project occurs within a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) then the following questions should be answered:

1. Does the LFA see any fundamental problems with the project?
2. Does the LFA, and the local community, have a floodplain permit that will need to be obtained? If the local community requires a floodplain permit, then the applicant will be responsible for obtaining that permit during the more detailed design stages. (Some communities do not have an actual permit and will clear the project with a formal letter.)

IV. Environmental Commitments Made and Resources to be Avoided.

IV) Environmental Commitments Made and Resources to be Avoided		
1. Were any commitments made during the project development process? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
2. Are any of the following permits required on the project?		
a. CWA USACE Section 404 Permit	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
b. GA EPD Section 401 Water Quality Certification	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
c. GA EPD Buffer Variance	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
d. Tennessee Valley Authority Permit	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
e. Coastal Zone Management Coordination	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
f. Cemetery Permit	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
g. NPDES	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
h. U.S. Coast Guard	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
i. Forest Service/USACE Land (Section 408)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
j. Other (please describe below)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Click or tap here to enter text.		
If commitments have been made or permits are required, then list these in the environmental commitments table below. Permits should be listed as pre-construction commitments.		
When will the commitment be completed?	Commitment Description/ Permit(s)	Responsible Party
Choose an item.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Choose an item.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Choose an item.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
The commitments described in the table above <u>MUST BE</u> incorporated into the contract and discussed with the contractor prior to construction.		

The project sponsor must complete and include any commitments including public involvement.

- When will the commitment be completed?
- Summary of the commitment.
- Responsible Party

V. Required Attachments

- Include all required attachments.
- Coordination with other agencies.
- Present attachments in PDF format.

V) Required Attachments

The following items must be submitted as attachments to the CE Form.

- Second-Level Application
- Copies of Resource Agency correspondence, including but not limited to:
 - Section 106 coordination with the GA Historic Preservation Division (HPD) and Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (THPO)
 - GA HPD Environmental Review Form
 - Section 7 coordination with the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)
 - Protected species coordination with GA Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Wildlife Resources Division (WRD)
 - Floodplain coordination with GA DNR Environmental Protection Division (EPD) and Local Floodplain Administrator (LFA) if applicable
- Screening Tool for Equity Analysis of Projects (STEAP) Project Buffer Analysis Profile Report
- Documentation of Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) Planning Review
- Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) or Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) documentation, as required
- Completed GA RTP Trail Accessibility Form
- Copies of public comments received and responses to comments

Application Portal Attachment Section

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION (CE Form) ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE ATTACHMENTS

Categorical Exclusion (CE) Form

The instructions and the form can be found on our website <https://gadnr.org/RTP>.

This form must be reviewed by DNR before signature.

+ Select a file

HPD Review Letter (DNR)

+ Select a file

EPD Review Letter (DNR)

+ Select a file

GDOT - Correspondence (DNR)

+ Select a file

WRD Review Letter (Applicant)

+ Select a file

USFWS - Review Results (DNR)

+ Select a file

THPO - Review Response (DNR)

+ Select a file

STIP/TIP - Results (DNR)

+ Select a file

Public Announcements and Comments (Applicant)

Submit a copy of the announcement and comments if received. If there are no comments, add the statement to the announcement document: "No comments were received."

+ Select a file

Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) (DNR)

GADNR will upload this form on behalf of the applicant.

+ Select a file

DNR ADA Accessibility Form (Applicant)

The form can be found on the DNR grants website www.gadnr.org/RTP

+ Select a file

DNR Budget Form (Applicant)

The form can be found on the DNR grants website. www.gadnr.org/RTP

+ Select a file

DNR Implementation Form (Applicant)

This form can be found on the DNR grants website. www.gadnr.org/RTP

+ Select a file

This section will label the the areas for response attachments from:

- Applicant
- GADNR

GADNR Accessibility Form



Ensure the form is updated with any changes or explanations to compliance to the ADA Accessibility requirement.

This form is to serve as [record](#) of the RTP project's planning and review of the trails for accessibility and the factors that lead to the trail construction plans.

The project sponsor has referenced the *Architectural Barriers Act (ABA) Accessibility Guidelines for Outdoor Developed Areas*, Chapter 2 (Scoping Requirements) and Chapter 10 (Recreational Facilities) as the guiding principles for construction of the trails for accessibility.

Name of Trail: _____ Length of Trail: _____

Location (nearest town, city, county, state): _____

Check all boxes that apply:


- Designed use by pedestrian/[hiker](#)
- Connects directly to trailhead or accessible trail that complies with all the technical requirements in 1017 without any exceptions.
- New Construction
- Alteration

Check the box that applies:

- This project and the trails identified or proposed in this project are in accordance [to](#) the requirements of ABA Chapter 10, section 1017.
- This project and the trails identified or proposed in this project are not in accordance [to](#) the requirements of ABA Chapter 10, section 1017.

Detailed Budget Form

- Include all items depicted in the Cost estimate.
- Describe units of measure and cost estimates.
- Do not exceed the 15% requirement for design and engineering.
- Budget cannot have contingencies.

Detail Budget- Georgia Trails Application				
				Update: July 2023
Applicant Organization: _____				
Project Title: _____				
Cost Category	Grant Funds	Cash Match	In-kind Match	Total Cost
Design & Engineering <small>(maximum 15% of grant value)</small>				
Construction Contract(s)				
Material Costs				
Equipment Rental <small>(FEMA Schedule of Equipment Rates)</small>				
Volunteer Hours <small>(\$15.43/hour)</small>				
Other <small>(multiplicity)</small>				
Total	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Authorizing Signature: _____ Name: _____ Title: _____				

Implementation Schedule



Proposed Project Implementation Schedule

Provide a detailed, realistic schedule showing the timeline for each expected task of the project and tasks listed in the budget. If awarded a RTP grant anticipate a maximum 2-year performance period. Explain how the proposed work will be ready to proceed when funding is secured. Work must start and progress toward completion during the term of the grant agreement. Explain how the schedule was derived and show appropriate subtasks.

Applicant Organization: _____ Project Title: _____

Project Task	Start Date	Completion Date

Signature of Authorized Project Official _____ Title of Official _____ Date _____

2 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DR. SE SUITE 1370, EAST | ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334
404.463.1779 | WWW.GADNR.ORG

- Outline the timeline of the project to include the following:
- Administrative bid for contracts.
- Obtain materials and volunteer work
- Work on the ground
- Include estimated dates

VI. Approvals

VI) Approvals	
This section must be signed by the Project Sponsor, GA DNR, and FHWA prior to authorization of the next phase of the project.	
<i>Below section to be completed by Project Sponsor</i>	
The project sponsor has reviewed the RTP CE Form and supporting documentation and certifies that the information provided is consistent with the proposed project and accurately represents its anticipated impacts.	
	Click or tap to enter a date.
Insert Name and Title of Project Sponsor's Representative	Date
<i>Below section to be completed by GA DNR</i>	
GA DNR has reviewed the RTP CE Form and supporting documentation and recommends authorization to proceed to:	<input type="checkbox"/> Acquisition of Land <input type="checkbox"/> Construction <input type="checkbox"/> Program Administration
Total Federal Aid Funds Authorized:	Click or tap here to enter text.
Total Non-Federal Matching Funds:	Click or tap here to enter text.
Program Code:	Click or tap here to enter text.
Additionally, GA DNR certifies that this project and phase are correctly programmed in the currently approved Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) either as:	
<input type="checkbox"/> STIP Page #	Click or tap here to enter text.
<input type="checkbox"/> Lump Sum Page #	Click or tap here to enter text.
<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment	Click or tap here to enter text.
<input type="checkbox"/> Or on page	Click or tap here to enter text.
	Click or tap to enter a date.
GA DNR Grants Chief	Date
<i>Below section to be completed by FHWA GA</i>	
FHWA has reviewed the proposed action and it is our assessment that the proposed action is consistent with the CE requirements described in 23 CFR 771.117. If during further development of the project there is a substantial change in its impacts or the scope of the proposed action, the environmental effects will need to be reevaluated. FHWA has determined that Section 4(f) of the DOT Act of 1966 is not applicable to the Recreational Trails Program.	
	Click or tap to enter a date.
for: Sabrina David, AICP Division Administrator Federal Highway Administration	Date

Signatures are obtained by the responsible parties:

- Applicant
- GADNR Grants Supervisor after review of form and supporting documents.
- FHWA Division Administrator after granting approval.

DNR USE ONLY SECTIONS

DNR USE ONLY

SIGNED CE FORM AND AGREEMENTS

Categorical Exclusion (CE) Form- Fully Executed

+ Select a file ?

CE Form Amended

+ Select a file ?

Financial Assistance Recipient Risk Assessment Form

+ Select a file ?

Federal Subrecipient and Contractor Determination Checklist Form

+ Select a file ?

Financial Workshop Acknowledgement Form

+ Select a file ?

Signed DNR Project Agreement

+ Select a file ?

DNR Project Amendment #1

+ Select a file ?

DNR Project Amendment # 2

+ Select a file ?

DNR Project Amendment # 3

+ Select a file ?

GRANT MANAGEMENT DNR USE ONLY

- This section is for GADNR to manage all reports, financial documentation and inspections after the project has been approved.

The background features a vibrant, multi-colored geometric pattern in shades of red, yellow, and blue. Scattered across this pattern are numerous white, 3D-style numbers from 0 to 9. In the center, a silver and black alarm clock is visible, with its hands pointing to approximately 10:10. To the left of the clock, a portion of a white spiral-bound notebook is visible. A semi-transparent white rectangular box with a thin black border is centered over the image, containing the main text.

Tips and Deadlines
What happens after
the application
submission?

Successful Second-Level Application

- Get started on the environmental portion of the application first.
- Follow the guidance given in the webinar.
- Contact our office if you have questions or concerns.
- Work on your application to complete it by the deadline.
- After FHWA grants clearance you will be contacted for financial workshop and the project agreement



Q & A

The image features three-dimensional, white, blocky characters arranged horizontally. From left to right, they are the letter 'Q', the ampersand '&', and the letter 'A'. The characters are set against a dark blue background and rest on a light blue surface. The lighting is soft, creating subtle shadows and highlights on the characters' surfaces, giving them a realistic, three-dimensional appearance.