



Land and Water Conservation Fund Virginia 2022 DCR Application Form

Please read the **Virginia LWCF 2022 Application Manual** before completing this application. Guidance on completing this form and other application requirements can be found in **Appendix A: Application Resources**.

2022 DCR Application Form

Section A – Applicant Information

1. Project Sponsor Name

Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources

2. Contact Person Name & Title

Rebecca K. Gwynn, Deputy Director

3. Project Sponsor Street Address

7870 Villa Park Drive

4. Mailing Address (if different from street address)

P.O. Box 90778, Henrico VA 23228-0778

5. Telephone Number

804-389-3953

6. Contact Person E-mail Address

Becky.gwynn@dwr.virginia.gov

7. Name and E-mail Address of person to receive notification of application status *if* different from contact above

Click or tap here to enter text.

8. Applicant Type (type one)

- Municipality (city, town, county),
- Tribe,
- State agency, or
- Regional park authority

State Agency

Section A – Applicant Information

9. US Congressional District Number

7

10. Virginia State Senate District Number

12

11. Virginia House District Number

74

Section B – Project Details

12. Project Title

Big Survey Operations and Maintenance Facility and Barrier-Free Trail

13. Award Request Amount (up to 50% of total cost but not more than \$2 million)

\$376,500

14. Total Project Cost (100%)

\$753,000

15. Project Type (type one)

- Acquisition,
- Development, or
- Combination Acquisition and Development

Development

16. Current or future name of the park

Big Survey Wildlife Management Area

17. Latitude and Longitude (entrance to the park)

Barrier-Free Trail: 36.88656074515781, -81.13254146625461

Operations and Maintenance Facility: 36.885993, -81.133453

18. Tax Parcel ID Number

54-121

19. Property Street Address (if there is no street or 911 address, then provide driving directions to the park from 600 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219)

Barrier-Free Trail & Operations and Maintenance Facility: 516 STROUPE MOUNTAIN RD, Wytheville VA 24382

Section B – Project Details

20. Current Property Owner (as outlined in the application checklist, acquisition projects must also include willingness to sell letter or statement from landowner)

Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources

21. Indicate the total number of acres that, if awarded, will be placed in perpetuity for public outdoor recreation as required by section 6(f) of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act

1,282.08

22. Project Scope (Quantitatively indicate in miles, linear feet, square feet, acres, numbers, or other applicable unit/s what the project will accomplish).

Examples: Grade and install 3600 square foot gravel parking lot, construct two ADA accessible asphalt paved parking spaces, install 64 square foot single user ADA accessible vault toilet, construct 200 linear feet of 5 foot wide crushed stone pathway, and install one vertical trail information sign at Riverside Park in Town Name, Virginia.

Purchase 32 acre property from private landowner for future development of community playground, picnic area, and walking trails.

Demolish existing structure and install operations and maintenance facility with office; install 2,000 linear feet of barrier-free trail that will be 9 feet wide, made of compacted limestone aggregate.

Section C – Project Need

23. Indicate how the project will provide needed outdoor recreation opportunities identified in the most recent Virginia Outdoors Plan (VOP) found at <https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/recreational-planning/vop>. Include the page numbers for all VOP references.

In the Mount Rogers Recreational Planning Region, the second most important recreational activity is visiting natural areas, and the need for trails is identified as the fifth most important need in the region (VOP 13.16). The barrier free trail would provide recreational and health benefits. It would create a specialty trail that could be used for a variety of wildlife recreation to include viewing and hunting (also VOP 8.4). The operations and maintenance facility gives the DWR the ability to provide and maintain access for all people and to be able to promote conservation and resource protection (VOP section 3.2). This facility would house equipment and provide a maintenance area for staff on Big Survey WMA. This would allow for more efficient conservation work and less travel and extended life on equipment used to manage this resource.

24. Is the project listed as a regional feature project in the current VOP? If yes, please list project name as identified in VOP and page number.

No

25. Explain if/how the project will expand or link existing outdoor recreation areas or trails.

This project would expand existing recreational trails on the Big Survey Wildlife Management Area by adding 2,000 linear feet of barrier-free trail to the property's trail infrastructure. It would also enable the DWR to more effectively and efficiently operate and maintain current infrastructure.

Section C – Project Need

26. Is the project located in a priority area for conservation as identified in by ConserveVirginia?
Estimate the percentage of the proposed LWCF Boundary Area that falls within ConserveVirginia.

See Appendix A: Application Guidance section of Application Manual for information on accessing ConserveVirginia map online.

The project occurs in an area that is already protected as a state Wildlife Management Area; therefore, there are no data layers of ConserveVirginia that intersect it directly. The WMA does surround and protect an area identified as a priority for Natural Habitat and Ecosystem Diversity.

27a. Indicate the project need based on DCR's Land-based Recreation Access Model or Trust for Public Land's ParkServe priority areas for new parks (only need to indicate higher of the two).

See Appendix A: Application Guidance section of Application Manual for information on accessing both models online.

- Very High
- High
- Moderate
- Low
- Very Low or No Need.

Low

27b. If very low or no need is identified in the models, explain and provide supporting evidence to show need for land-based recreation.

The DWR's Inclusive Excellence Plan identifies, as a priority for the agency, its desire and need to convert and expand usage of existing DWR lands and facilities to accommodate activities in which underrepresented groups (including individuals with limited mobility or other impairments) participate (<https://dwr.virginia.gov/wp-content/uploads/media/DWR-Inclusive-Excellence-Strategic-Plan-2022-2026.pdf>; p 17). In the Mount Rogers Recreational Planning Region, the second most important recreational activity is visiting natural areas, and the need for trails is identified as the fifth most important need in the region (VOP 13.16). The barrier free trail would provide recreational and health benefits. It would create a specialty trail that could be used for a variety of wildlife recreation to include viewing and hunting (also VOP 8.4). The operations and maintenance facility gives the DWR the ability to provide and maintain access for all people and to be able to promote and support conservation and resource protection (VOP section 3.2). This facility would house equipment and provide a work area for staff on Big Survey WMA. This would allow for more efficient conservation work and less travel and extended life on equipment used to manage this resource.

Section C – Project Need

28a. *If project will provide water-based recreation* Indicate the project need based on DCR's Water-based Recreation Access Model.

See Appendix A: Application Guidance section of Application Manual for information on accessing model online.

- Very High
- High
- Moderate
- Low or Very Low Need

N/A

28b. If low or very low need is identified in the model, explain and provide supporting evidence to show need for water-based recreation.

29. Explain how the project will create a new opportunity for a community that does not currently have access to public outdoor recreation opportunities within a 10 minute (1/2 mile) walk or within a 10 mile drive.

If neither condition above is met, but you believe the area is still underserved by public outdoor recreation opportunities, please describe and justify.

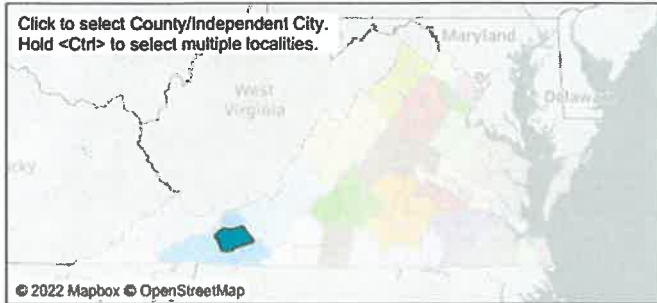
The proximity to interstate corridors and the diversity of wildlife habitats provide an excellent opportunity to develop a barrier-free trail that would provide limited mobility wildlife enthusiasts greater opportunities to pursue a variety of wildlife-dependent recreation.

30. Describe how the project will provide equitable experiences for people with disabilities. Do not simply state “will follow ADA” or “will meet all requirements.” Include information on *how* the project will meet the minimum relevant accessibility standards (ADA and ABA), and more broadly, how accessibility considerations will be incorporated beyond the minimum standards (Section 504). See Appendix B: *Accessibility Resources of Application Manual for accessibility resources.*

Due to the topography this will be a barrier free trail with ADA parking. The DWR barrier-free trail regulations currently allow only power mobility devices 54 inches wide or less, so a trail width of nine feet would allow two mobility devices to pass.

31. Will the project benefit a community with documented health disparities such as rates of obesity, diabetes, cancer, and/or heart disease greater than the state-wide average rates? If yes, please explain, cite source data and provide link; see Appendix A: Application Guidance section of Application Manual for optional data sources.

This project will benefit an area of Wythe County with an identified low to average Health Opportunity Index and a low community environmental profile, according to data provided by the Virginia Department of Health. <https://apps.vdh.virginia.gov/omhhe/hoi/dashboards/counties>



Rank (of 134) Median of Selected Counties	Local Health District	
	All	
	Health Opportunity Index	
	94	
	Economic Opportunity Profile	Consumer Opportunity Profile
97	38	
Community Environmental Profile	Wellness Disparity Profile	
84	46	



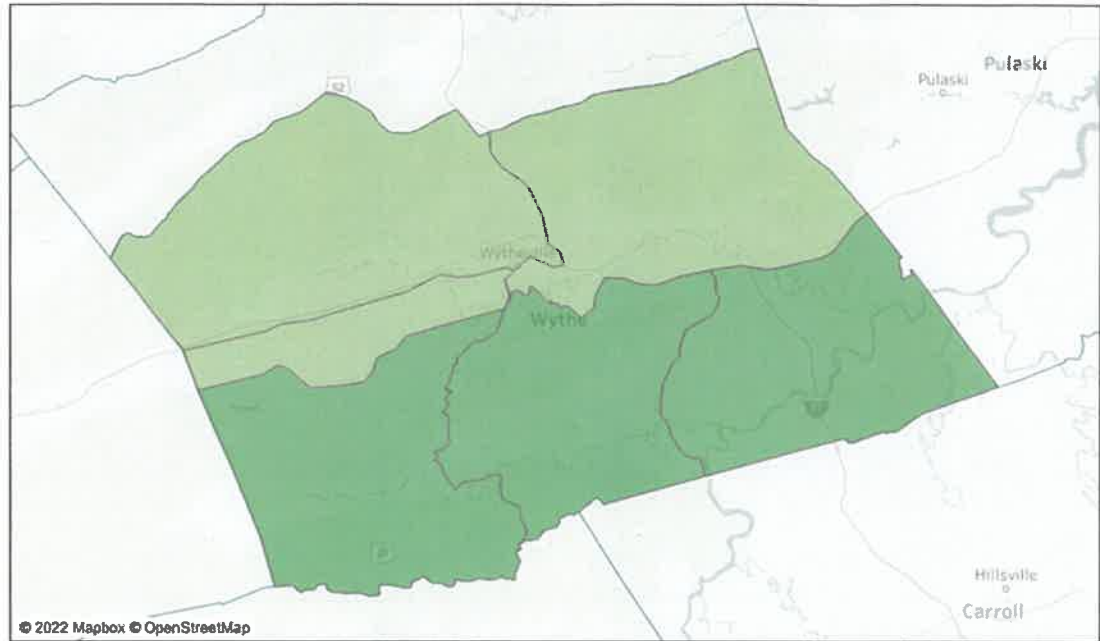
Section C – Project Need

- Profile**
- Health Opportunity Index
 - Community Environmental Profile
 - Consumer Opportunity Profile
 - Economic Opportunity Profile
 - Wellness Disparity Profile

- Opportunity Level**
- Low
 - Average

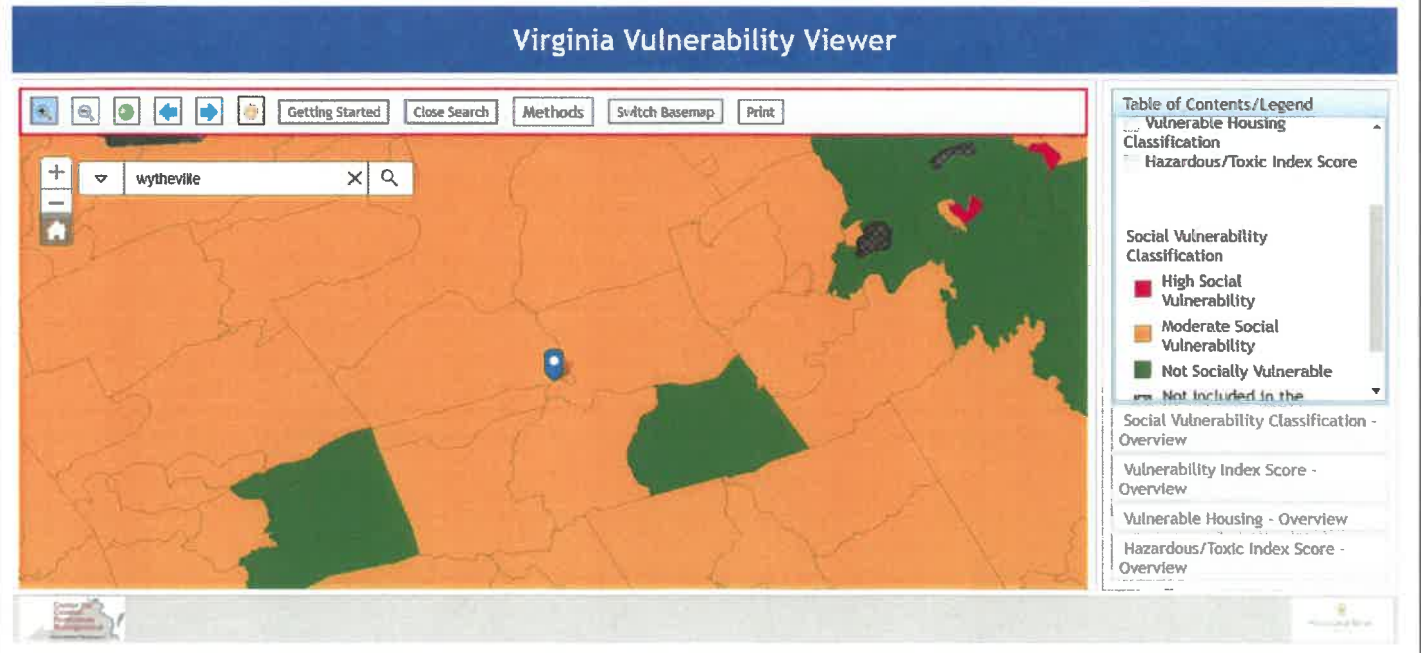


- County Name**
- Null
 - Accomack County
 - Albemarle County
 - Alexandria city
 - Alleghany County
 - Amelia County
 - Amherst County
 - Appomattox County
 - Arlington County
 - Augusta County
 - Bath County
 - Bedford city
 - Bedford County
 - Bland County
 - Botetourt County
 - Bristol city
 - Brunswick County
 - Buchanan County
 - Buckingham County
 - Buena Vista city
 - Campbell County
 - Caroline County
 - Carroll County
 - Charles City County
 - Charlotte County
 - Charlottesville city
 - Chesapeake city



32. Describe the degree to which the community where the project is located is socially vulnerable. This can be identified using the VIMS Social Vulnerability Index or other vulnerability index or mapper (source citation and link must be included). See Appendix A: Application Guidance section of Application Manual for VIMS model link.

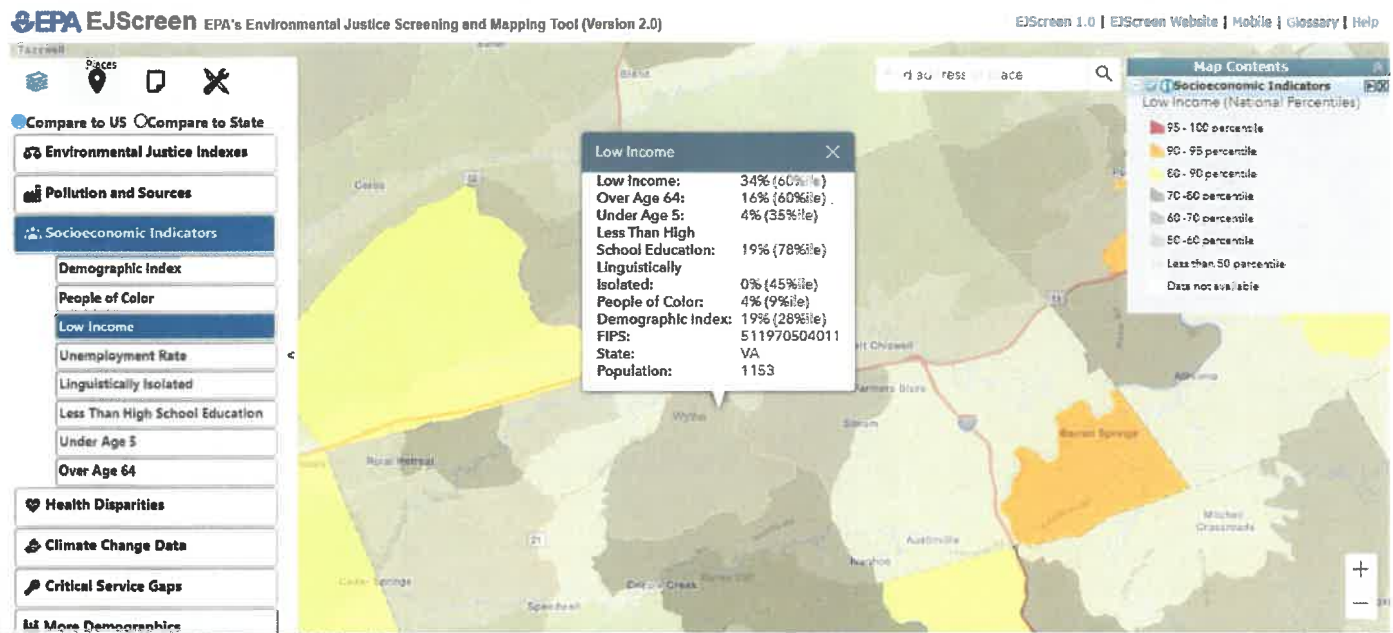
Moderate, according to the VIMS Social Vulnerability Index tool http://cmap2.vims.edu/SocialVulnerability/SocioVul_SS.html



Section C – Project Need

33. Is the project located in a community where greater than 50% of the population is considered low income? If no, greater than 30%? Cite source data; see Appendix A: Application Guidance section of Application Manual for recommended data sources.

In the project location, 34% of the population is considered low income (<https://ejscreen.epa.gov/mapper/>)



34. Will the project, when complete, require an entrance or membership fee? If yes, please describe fee structure and opportunities for reduced fee access, if planned.

It will require one of the following hunting, fishing or trapping license; registered boat; access permit; or Explore the Wild membership (which includes the access permit), per the Code of Virginia §29.1-113.

Section D – Local Need

35. Describe the process that led to the development of this proposal and how the public was involved, including, if applicable:

- Consultation to date with representatives from historically underrepresented groups.
- Progress to date and future plans for public participation in the planning process, including methods of outreach.
- Presentations to the public through a Board of Supervisors, City or Town Council, or other similar public meeting.
- Whether an official public comment period has been held.
- Describe any plans for future consultation and public input.

This proposal was developed based on feedback from public input in the DWR Wildlife Management Area Study conducted in 2010-2011.

Section D – Local Need

36. Indicate how the project addresses needs identified in local and/or regional plans or surveys. If the acquisition or development project is specifically referenced in a local or regional plan, please also indicate. **Attach** the relevant pages from these documents or provide a link and page number.

The Wythe County Comprehensive Plan identifies an objective of encouraging programs and activities that enhance the quality of life of the county's older citizens, in part by encouraging countywide recreation programs for seniors (such as the use of the barrier-free trail) (<http://www.wytheco.org/index.php/component/jdownloads/send/22-planning-commission/246-comprehensive-plan>; page 9-4).

37. How is the project unique within the Locality? How is it unique within the County?

The DWR currently have a limited number of operations and maintenance facilities, primarily on the Eastern side of the state. The barrier-free trail would be the only one on the Wildlife Management Area and only the second one west of the Blue Ridge on DWR properties

38. List any previously funded LWCF-funded properties within the same jurisdiction of the proposed project and/or sponsored by the same applicant. Indicate the approximate year of LWCF funding.

Rural Retreat Fishing Lake, 1973

Wythe County Public Fishing Lake 1967

George Washington and Jefferson National Forest, various dates

Section E – Project Readiness

39. Describe the level of site and environmental analysis that has already been conducted for the proposed project. Is the NEPA/NHPA review complete? Has the process been started? Include the agencies contacted and the status of each correspondence. **Attach** copies of correspondence to date.

Environmental analyses have been initiated but are not completed for historic resources review (Department of Historic Resources) and threatened and endangered species reviews (DWR and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service). The DWR has extensive experience completing these reviews and is confident it can coordinate with the responsible agencies in a timely manner. The barrier-free trail site and the work center site have been previously disturbed, and the proposed work will be within the footprints of the current facilities.

40. *For projects that include development* Please describe the status and level of completeness of any construction drawings for the project. Indicate if any feasibility or preliminary plans have been created.

We have drawings for the trail and preliminary operations and maintenance facility drawings from a different location (see Ware Creek WMA Work Center construction drawings) that would be adapted to the site.

41. *For projects that include acquisition* Indicate whether an appraisal has been conducted of the subject property(ies). Was a UASFLA appraisal completed? Has it been reviewed by a secondary certified appraiser? Indicate the date of appraisal.

[Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

42. *For projects that include acquisition* Describe any purchase agreements with the property owner or letter of commitment from the property owner in place at the time of application. Please include as an attachment.

[Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

Section F – Budget and Grant Match

The following two questions should be answered by completing form *LWCF-02-Project Budget.docx*. Do not enter answers in this document.

43. Provide a detailed, itemized budget estimate and budget narrative for the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) proposal.

44. Identify all funding sources, funding amounts, and funding gaps, if present, for the project.

Section G – Facility Management, Operations, and Maintenance

45. Describe the current and planned management, operations, and maintenance of the park and its facilities. Be sure to address:

- What maintenance will occur and how often will it occur, and who is responsible?

Trail inspections will occur weekly during peak usage times and bi-weekly during slower usage times by Wildlife Management Area staff. Routine building maintenance will be done by WMA staff as needed

- Are there formal or informal long-term operations and maintenance plans existing or in development?

Informally the trail and building will be maintained by WMA staff per their duties. The DWR is developing a WMA Management Plan for each of its properties, and operations and maintenance of this infrastructure will be included in the Big Survey WMA Plan.

- Outline the support staffing that will be dedicated to maintenance and operation of the park. Indicate the number of support staffing that will be provided to operate and maintain the park. Indicate whether staff for maintaining a new park is already available or if additional staffing will need to be hired.

There are currently three staff members who will work out of the operations and maintenance facility who can maintain the building and the barrier free trail.

- How will the entity fund routine and preventive maintenance and any new staffing required?

Maintenance will be funded through agency funds and federal funds provided by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service under the Wildlife Restoration grant program.

- How expected and potential safety hazards will be mitigated.

Staff will monitor the facilities and be responsible for mitigating any hazards that they can or report to the appropriate staff to address to ensure the facility is back accessible as soon as possible.

Section H – Certification

On behalf of Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources,

I hereby certify the information contained in this form and other application documents is true and correct. I understand this application will be rated on the basis of the information submitted and the submission of incorrect data or an incomplete application can result in this application being withdrawn from consideration for funding.

I hereby certify the applicant will comply with all applicable local, state, and federal laws and regulations.


I hereby certify the availability of funding and commitment of funding for the total project costs as represented in this application.

I hereby certify that the applicant understands that the LWCF program reimburses at 50% and that documentation verifying expenditures must be submitted to DCR in order to receive payment, whether partial or in full.

I hereby certify that, if authorized by NPS, the property will be placed under Section 6(f) protection of the Land & Water Conservation Act and that wording to such effect placed in the deed of the property. Further, I certify that necessary coordination with interested parties was involved during the development of the LWCF Boundary Area.

If it is determined that we, the applicant, cannot move forward with the project as described, we will contact DCR LWCF Grant Staff in writing with justification and official notification of withdrawal.

Signed on: March 15, 2022

Signature: 

By Name: Rebecca K. Gwynn

Title: Deputy Director

This application form, along with other application materials, must be submitted via email to recreationgrants@dcr.virginia.gov by 4:00 pm on March 15th, 2022.

If your document file or email size is larger than 25MB please contact Recreation Grants staff at 804-786-1119 for instructions on how to submit.