

## **Department of Fish and Game**

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION Statewide Programs

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March 1, 2022

To Whom it May Concern:

The deadline for proposal submission has been extended for three weeks and will now close at <u>4:30</u> PM Alaska Daylight Time on Tuesday, March 22, 2022.

ADF&G Division of Wildlife Conservation (DWC) is pleased to announce that proposal applications are now being accepted for the Hunter Access Grant Program. Program funds utilize Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act (Pittman-Robertson) funds, which are administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) as a pass-through grant to ADF&G DWC.

Program funds are used to provide additional or improved opportunity and access to Alaska's public lands for hunting, trapping, and other wildlife related recreation. And now also includes recreational shooting range enhancements which are made possible through the Target Practice and Marksmanship Training Support Act (Public Law No. 116-17). Eligible applicants include public and non-profit organizations who are eligible to do business with the Federal government and must be able to provide the required 25% non-federal match. If selected for award, the Hunter Access Grant Program will reimburse 75% of total eligible costs. Entities submitting shooting range proposals must be capable of providing 25% match, however there is potential that less match (10%) would be required if selected for award.

In 2022, ADF&G DWC anticipates that a minimum of approximately \$1.5 million in federal funds will be available. Proposals with a federal budget exceeding \$30,000 are preferred, though those with smaller budgets may still be considered for funding on a case-by-case basis.

Proposals must develop or enhance public access to public lands and wildlife resources for hunters, trappers, shooters, and other wildlife related users to be considered for funding. All proposals will be evaluated, ranked, and scored using established criteria that can be found on the Hunter Access Grant Program website along with the application package, FAQ's, and more at: <a href="https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=hunteraccess.grantapplication">https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=hunteraccess.grantapplication</a>.

Background information and more about the Hunter Access Program can be found online at <a href="https://www.hunteraccess.adfg.alaska.gov">www.hunteraccess.adfg.alaska.gov</a>. If individuals have a project in mind, but don't have the required 25% match, we encourage you visit our website and take our survey to help us prioritize project types and regions of interest.

To date DWC has awarded approximately \$14 million and partnered with state and federal land managers, local governments, and nonprofit entities to meet match requirements and facilitate design and construction of 20+ hunter access projects. These projects are diverse and include building, improving, and repairing public use trails, roads, parking lots, campgrounds, boat launches, bridges, shooting ranges, and more. Please view our website project pages to see what we've been up to.

If you have any questions, please contact ADF&G Hunter Access Program Coordinator:

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