

Grant Manual Updates Effective for the 2026 LWCF Grant Cycle

LWCF State Manual Version 2026

Updated September 11, 2026:

Chapter 1.5.A. Acquisition Projects

- Added that acquisition of federal surplus property may be eligible for LWCF support, as per Secretary's Order 3442
- Added acquisition of land or water that in addition to providing public outdoor recreation may also have other uses, as per Secretary's Order 3442
- Moved acquisition-related policies from other sections of the manual into this section so that acquisition information would be available in one place.

Chapter 1.6. Eligible Recreation Facilities.

- Updated the list of eligible recreation facilities to match the LWCF federal manual, v2026
- Updated to reflect criteria requirements from Secretary's Order 3442, including:
 - Updated Fishing/Hunting Facilities to include tree stands and blinds
 - Added Big Game Habitat as an eligible recreation facility.

Chapter 1.7. Eligible Support Facilities

- Updated the list of eligible support facilities to match the LWCF Federal Financial Assistance Manual v2026
- Added "Creating Wetlands" as an eligible support facility

Chapter 1.9 Guidelines for Sheltered Facilities: Updated the language to match the LWCF Federal Financial Assistance Manual v2026

Chapter 1.11 Matching Requirements: Removed the requirement that selling agencies must receive payment for transferred land to be eligible for match. Permits property donations between state and local governments for new recreation areas, provided the land wasn't already used for recreation, in compliance with Secretary's Order 3442.

Chapter 2.3 National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106: Added information about the review process and budget impacts.

Chapter 2.7 Build America Buy America Act: Revised this section to match the language in the 2026 federal standard grant agreement template. Removed definitions and instead referenced 2 CFR 184.3, which provides the definitions.

Chapter 3.3 Attachments: Updated the list of attachments required

- Application & Revision (A&R) Form: added information about NEPA pathway options.
- Rearranged list by alphabetical order
- Land use Compatibility Statement (LUCS): added more information.

Chapter 4.5 Project Review and Scoring

- Technical Review section: updated language for consistency with current practices
- SCORP and Other Scoring Criteria section: Removed the SCORP criteria which had been copied/pasted into the manual and instead provided a summary of the SCORP and Other Scoring Criteria, and a link to the 2025-2029 SCORP document.

Chapter 5.1 Inspections: Removed annual inspections

Chapter 5.5 Notice of Grant: Updated language to be consistent with the LWCF Federal Financial Assistance Manual v2026

Chapter 6.1 Relationship of Project Period to Eligible Project Costs

- Updated section title
- Simplified the language to more plain language to say that no work may begin or costs incurred until a Notice to Proceed is issued by OPRD
- Revised language for consistency with LWCF Federal Financial Assistance Manual v2026
- Moved paragraph on pre-award acquisition costs to section to Chapter 1.5.A Acquisition Projects

Chapter 6.2 Pre-Award Costs

- Updated section title to remove references to a Waiver of Retroactivity (no longer referenced as such by the NPS)
- Simplified the language to more plain language for consistency with current practices
- Updated that costs must be incurred within 3 years prior to application submission to NPS; now says costs must be incurred within 3 years prior to project submission
 - 6.2 Pre-award costs:
 - Simplified section to match current practices of costs incurred prior to award are not reimbursable; pre-approved pre-agreement costs may be eligible as match.

- Pre-agreement costs must be incurred within 3 years prior to project submission. Prior language required costs to be incurred within 3 years prior to application submission to NPS.
- **Chapter 6.6 Accounting Instructions:** updated language to match LWCF Federal Financial Assistance Manual v2026 which clarified general procurement standards for states and Indian Tribes, including references to Build America, Buy America (BABA) and other regulations.

Chapter 7.3 Progress Reporting: Expanded description of what should be described in progress reports.

Appendices:

- Removed forms and sample documents from the appendices (*Volunteer or Donated Labor Timesheet; Donated Materials or Supplies Record form; Donated Equipment Record form; Sample Notice of Grant; Sample Resolution to Apply; State Natural Resource Agency Review & Instructions/Forms*). These documents can be accessed and downloaded from the LWCF website:
<https://www.oregon.gov/oprd/gra/pages/gra-lwcf.aspx>
- Updated Civil Rights Requirements: removed reference to Executive Order 11246 as this order was rescinded on 1/21/2025
- Updated Appraisals FAQs
- Deleted: Recommended Format for Federal Appraisal Reports and deleted Appraisal Report Documentation Checklist. Refer to the Uniform Appraisal Standards for Federal Land Acquisitions 2016 for these documents, and much more information.
- Deleted Documentation Required for Final Billing of acquisition or development/rehabilitation projects.