

FY26 Land and Water Conservation Fund Work Plan

**There is a 12 to 16 month waiting period from application to awarded grant due to federal application processing requirements.*

MAY 2026

Thursday, May 1, 2026

Friday, May 30, 2026

LWCF
 Application
 Open

LWCF
 Application
 Close

JUNE

June 2,
 2026

June 4,
 2026

June 30,
 2026

July 9,
 2026

Applications
 are reviewed
 by Grant
 Coordinator.

Applications are
 released to LWCF
 committee to be
 reviewed and
 ranked.

LWCF applications
 are submitted back
 to Grants
 Coordinator and
 complied.

Final Meeting:
 Final ranking
 results and
 review.

JULY - Submit the committee's recommendations to NDPRD Director for review and approval. Offer Title VI training and manual reviews by request if needed.

AUGUST - Send out pre-award letters to notify applicants of grant status. Commence state environmental reviews and pre-site inspection of pre-awarded projects. **Note: State SOV review is a minimum of 30 days.*

SEPTEMBER - Assess the responses of the state environmental reviews and send out notification packages to applicants. Grantees can follow up to obtain environmental/cultural approvals, clearances, and permits for the project.

OCTOBER - The NPS project lead assesses grant application packages for also starts Section 106/Tribal Consultation review of the state approved projects.
** Note: Federal Section 106/Tribal Consultation review is 30 to 120 days.*

NOVEMBER - JANUARY - NPS will approve final Section 106/Tribal Consultation responses and request project submission into Grants.gov. A federal grant contract will be generated when the project and funds are approved.

FEBRUARY - APRIL – Prepare grant award agreements and issue notices to proceed.

**Note: Once the grant agreement is signed by all parties, the project bidding and construction can begin. Project expenses cannot be submitted until grant agreement is issued and signed!*