ROUND 16 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT RANKING CRITERIA

Representative:_____ Agency:_____

Nomination Title:_____

Tab #: _____

Projects must be consistent with the SNPLMA program's vision, mission, and goals associated with connecting people to the outdoors and conserving public lands while ensuring the projects' fiscal sustainability.

The following criteria will be used by the subgroup to evaluate, score, and rank all nominations in the Capital Improvement category. The total points available are shown to the right of the criteria. The factors used to score the criteria are listed below it with the points available for each factor. Unless stated below the factor, scoring is on a sliding scale from 0 to the maximum allowable.

1. SUSTAINABILITY: The project promotes sustainability by conserving resources to ensure availability to future generations, or restores or maintains natural processes. The project will remain relevant and continue to provide a benefit in the face of changing demographics and/or environmental conditions. The project minimizes the human impact on the environment. ***(Factors (A or B) + C + D = total points)***	Points = XX (max possible points = 23)

Factors:

A.	Conserves the quality of the outdoor environment and mitigates future potential negative impacts by conserving, preserving, or protecting the natural and/or cultural resources of the project area.	10	
B	Enhances or Restores the quality of the outdoor environment by reducing or eliminating existing impacts to the natural and/or cultural resources of the project area.	10	
C	Project will enhance stewardship and shared support for the operations and maintenance over the life of the project. (*must show financial support and/or in-kind support*)	5	
D	Project employs sustainable or "green construction" practices using recycled or renewable materials, improves energy efficiency or utilizes low-maintenance products in construction. Conserves resources during the manufacture and life-cycle of the project	8	
		Total	

2. CONNECTIVITY: The project provides recreational opportunities that link population centers, recreation facilities and natural landscapes. It encourages people to meaningfully connect with their natural environment, thus helping them appreciate and care for the environment. *(Factors A or B + C = total points)*	Points = XX (max possible points = 20)

Factors:

A.	Project provides access and/or amenities to previously undeveloped recreation areas and/or new recreation opportunities to enjoy the public lands. *(i.e., trails, kiosks with location maps and site information, parking, way-finding, restrooms, day or overnight camping, etc.)*	10	
B.	Project improves access to previously developed recreation areas and sites on the public lands and/or upgrades site amenities.	5	

	(i.e., trails, kiosks with location maps and site information, parking, way-finding, restrooms, day or overnight camping, etc.)		
C.	Project contains an outreach and education component to improve public awareness and engage the public in the conservation and protection of the surrounding natural environment through the use of resource interpretation (information signage, kiosks, educational programs etc.) **(This factor <u>only</u> is scored on a sliding scale from 0 to 10)**	10	
		Total	

3. COMMUNITY: This project provides outdoor recreation opportunities to improve the quality of life, especially for underserved communities. It conserves or restores the functionality, resiliency, and integrity of biological communities. The project encourages partnerships, which in turn also builds community. (*Factors A + B + C = total points*)	Points = XX (max possible points = 25)

Factors:

A.	Project provides new or enhances existing recreation opportunities for under-served or under-represented communities that cannot be addressed or met with current funding. (*Must be sustainable – see criteria #1*)	10	
B.	Project has identified committed non-SNPLMA sources of funding or in-kind contribution for the development of the project. (*see below for in-kind or volunteer hours calculation*)	5	
C.	Project has identified committed non-SNPLMA sources of funding or in-kind contribution for the implementation of the project. (10 pts. for project that engages the public in the conservation and protection of the surrounding natural environment through use of volunteer/stewardship resources)	10	
		Total	

(3.C.) Volunteer labor, professional services, or contributed material and equipment may comprise a significant portion of the in-kind match for SNPLMA-funded projects. Project nominations that have identified in-kind contributions must submit a breakdown of the valuation of these contributions. The breakdown of these contributions may include:

1) Volunteer labor - valuation to be computed at the rate used by the Department of the Interior, which is currently $21.36 per hour.
2) Salaried employees - actual hourly rate plus the value of any fringe benefits received.
3) Actual costs for material, equipment and supplies should be used. (Overhead costs may not be included in determining in-kind contributions).

4. Addresses maintenance and operation costs. ***<u>Score only for one of the three factors</u>***	Max Points = 10

Factors:

A.	Operations and Maintenance costs will be reduced. ***Factor A is scored on a sliding scale: 6 points for short-term up to 10 points for long-term reduction to operations and maintenance cost***	10	
B.	Operations and Maintenance costs will remain the same.	5	
C.	Operations and Maintenance costs will increase, but the project will improve an existing situation or address an immediate health or safety issue.	0	
		Total	