



GEORGIA

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES


WALTER RABON
COMMISSIONER

TREVOR W. SANTOS
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER

January 14, 2026

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members, Board of Natural Resources

FROM: Trevor W. Santos 

SUBJECT: Action on the Board of Trustees of the Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Fund
2025-2026 Approved Proposal of Projects

The Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Program (GOSP) is a grant and loan program administered by the Department of Natural Resources, as authorized in O.C.G.A. Chapter 6A of Title 12, “The Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Act.” It now comes before the Board of Natural Resources to approve the 2025-2026 proposal of approved slate of conservation projects recently approved by the GOSP Board of Trustees.

The GOSP Pre-application cycle opened on August 1, 2025, and closed on October 17, during which eligible applicants, including Qualified Local Governments, Nongovernmental Entities, with a mission of conservation, and State Agencies throughout Georgia, submitted project proposals to the Department. These proposals were reviewed in accordance with the approved Evaluation Criteria and duly ranked. From that ranking, a proposal of approved slate of conservation projects was formulated and approved by the GOSP Board of Trustees at its January 14, 2026, meeting. The proposed slate of projects as approved by the GOSP Board of Trustees will be presented to the Board of Natural Resources for consideration during its Board meeting on January 30, 2026.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or need additional information in advance of the Board meeting.

Proposal of 2025-2026 Approved Slate of Conservation Projects

The slate of projects initially approved by the Board of Trustees of the Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Fund require final approval by the Georgia DNR Board and Appropriations subcommittees of the State House of Representatives and Senate having jurisdiction over the Georgia DNR and Georgia Environmental Finance Authority prior to awarding Applicants.

Applicant	Project Title	County	Requested Funding
Augusta Canal Authority	Riverwatch Trail and Bridge	Richmond	\$3,000,000.00
Carroll County	McIntosh Reserve: Expanding Outdoor Access	Carroll	\$1,462,000.00
City of Atlanta	Fishing, Birdwatching & More: Falling Water Park	Fulton	\$2,006,900.00
City of Monroe	Alcovy River Park	Walton	\$3,000,000.00
GADNR, State Parks & Historic Sites Division	ADA and Trail Improvements - Providence Canyon	Stewart	\$620,776.00
GADNR, State Parks & Historic Sites Division	ADA Trail Access and Museum Renovation - Hofwyl	Glynn	\$3,720,000.00
GADNR, State Parks & Historic Sites Division	ADA and Boating Access Improvements - GL Smith	Emanuel	\$530,300.00
GADNR, State Parks & Historic Sites Division	Liberty Bell Pool Renovation - FDR	Harris	\$497,567.00
GADNR, Wildlife Resources Division	TCF Charlton County	Charlton	\$7,000,000.00
GADNR, Wildlife Resources Division	Lumberjack North Brantley Acquisition	Brantley	\$2,500,000.00
Houston County	Echeconnee Creek Park	Houston	\$2,340,000.00
Oconee County	Heritage Park Trail Expansion and Preservation	Oconee	\$3,000,000.00
Southeastern Trust for Parks and Land	Lumberjack South Acquisition	Camden	\$522,000.00
Wayne County Altamaha Leisure Service Authority	Altamaha Conservation Center at Jaycee Landing	Wayne	\$2,999,400.00

Total Requested GOSP Funding for 14 Recommended Projects

\$33,198,943.00

