



# The Great America Outdoors Act (GAOA)



*Taking Aggressive Steps to Address Deferred Maintenance of our Recreation and Trail Infrastructure for the enjoyment of current and future generations*



# GAOA Fund Overview

- **Directs US Treasury to deposit 50% of energy development revenues, up to \$1.9B/FY, from oil, gas, coal, or alternative/renewable energy development on Federal land**
- **Deposits are to be used for priority Deferred Maintenance (DM) projects**
  - 70% to the National Park Service (up to \$1.33 billion);
  - **15% to the Forest Service (up to \$285 million);**
  - 5% to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (up to \$95 million);
  - 5% to the Bureau of Land Management (up to \$95 million); and
  - 5% for the Bureau of Indian Education (up to \$95 million).
- **For the Forest Service, equates up to \$1.4B over the five-year period 2021-2025**



# GAOA Criteria

- **GAOA Sideboards**
  - Reduction of Infra (Database of Record) Deferred Maintenance
  - Improve Visitor Experience
  - Contribute to Rural Economic Development
  - Improve Visitor Access
  - Ensure Health & Safety
  - Leverage External Agencies and Resources



# Timeline of GAOA

- **FY 2021 GAOA Projects Submitted & Approved**

- Very Short Turn around time in August 2020
- Over 100 projects submitted by the forest and prioritized by leadership on the IPNF that included:
  - Large Scale Recreation projects aligned to our 10-Year Implementation Plan within our Sustainable Recreation Strategy
  - District Level Recreation Projects
  - District Level Trail Projects
  - District Level Transportation Projects
- 11 Projects Approved by Congress for the IPNF



# GAOA Criteria

## ● What makes a Competitive GAOA Project?

### ■ Very Important!

- Reduction of Infra (Database of Record) Deferred Maintenance
- Revenue Generated on the Project
- High Recreation Priority Index (RPI) score – Prioritized Infrastructure
- Does it align to our Sustainable Recreation Strategy (Priority Areas)
- Occupancy/Visitation
- Miles of Trail Returned to Standard

### ■ Other contributing factors

- Supported by Collaboratives, Partners and Cooperators
- Watershed Improvements
- Active Management (Volume and Acres Treated)
- Fire Operations (WUI and Wildfire Hazard Potential)



# FY 2021 GAOA Projects

- **Route of the Hiawatha (Crown Jewel of Rail Trails) – We can compete really well Nationally!**
  - **Resurfacing Project** – Resurfacing of both the Taft (St. Paul) Tunnel and the bottom 4.65 miles of trail
  - **Tunnel Improvements YEAR 1** – Survey and Design for Critical Health and Safety Issues w/in the 9 tunnels along the trail



# FY 2021 GAOA Projects

## ● Campgrounds

- **Priest Lake Boat in Campsite Improvements YEAR 1** – Replaces all fire rings, picnic tables, and kiosks at over 125 campsites along the Upper Priest Lake, Priest Lake Lakeshore, and Island sites. Design for Toilet Replacements
  
- **Whiskey Rock and Green Bay Campground Improvements YEAR 1** - Site Planning as well as Survey & Design work for the Campgrounds as well as road/parking for Green Bay
  
- **Kit Price Campground Renovations** –
  - Complete Redesign of 4<sup>th</sup> largest campground on the forest and matches RV Grant



# FY 2021 GAOA Projects

- **Toilet Replacements - Will be replaced by fully accessible and properly ventilated vault toilets**
  - **CDA Toilet Replacement- 7 Toilets**
    - English Point Trailhead (2 Single Vault Toilets that were installed in 1993)
    - Fourth of July Ski (2 Single Vault Toilet that was installed in 1985)
    - Mullan Tree (1 Single Vault Toilet that was installed in 1985, decom. additional toilet)
    - Rainy Hill Boat Launch (1 Single Vault Toilet that was installed in 1988, decom. additional toilet)
    - Avery Creek Day Use ( 1 Single Vault Toilet that was installed in 1992)
  - **Priest Lake Toilet Replacement- 9 Toilets**
    - Beaver Creek Campground (5 Single Vault Toilets that were installed in 1992)
    - Navigation Trailhead (1 Single Vault Toilet that was installed in 1992)
    - Hanna Flats Day Use (1 Single Vault Toilet that was installed in 1999)
    - Kalispell Day Use (1 Single Vault Toilet that was installed in 1994)
    - Priest Lake Info Center (1 Single Vault Toilet that was installed in 1997)





# FY 2021 GAOA Projects

- **Trail Improvements/Reconstruction**

- **Mallard Larkin Trail Improvements** – 68 miles of trail restoration efforts within the Mallard Larkin Priority Area
- **Bonnors Ferry Trail Reconstruction YEAR 1-13** projects over a five-year time span that follows NEPA decisions



# Timeline of GAOA

- **FY 2022 GAOA Projects Submitted**
  - Even quicker turn around time in September 2020
  - Understood more of what makes a good GAOA Project
  - Top 15 projects were submitted by the forest and prioritized by leadership on the IPNF.
  - Has not been approved through Congress yet
- **FY 2023- FY 2025 -Where we need your help/support!**
  - **Short Term**
    - Can you support the following phased projects
  - **Long Term**
    - Work with us and other partners, stakeholders, and communities to address future needs associated to:
      - Roads (Next Transportation and/or Infrastructure bill)
      - Trails
      - Recreation



# FY 2022-25 GAOA Projects

- **Competitive**
  - **RoH Tunnel Improvements (Construction 2022-2023)**
  - **RoH Trestle Improvements (S&D 2022, Construction 2023-2024)**
  - **Sam Owen Campground Expansion and Renovation (Survey & Design 2022, Construction 2023-2024)**
  - **Priest Lake Boat-in Sites Year 2- Toilets (Construction 2022)**
  - **Whiskey Rock & Green Bay Improvements Year 2 (Construction 2022)**
  - **CDA River Corridor Campground Improvements (Survey & Design 2024, Construction 2025)**
  - **CDA Front Campground Improvements (Survey & Design 2024, Construction 2025)**



# FY 2022-25 GAOA Projects

- **Competitive**
  - **Honey Badger Buckskin Integrated Infrastructure Project**
    - **Canfield Mountain Trail Improvements** – 32 miles of trail improvements and reconstruction.
    - **Buckskin Trail Improvements** - contains 17 separate trails that total approximately 56 miles.
    - **Trailhead Improvements** – Resurfacing of Nettleton Gulch and English Point Trailheads
    - **Road Improvements** – Aggregate Resurfacing (Possibly FSR 278, 332, and 437)
    - **Bridge Improvements** – Possibly Johnson Creek Bridge



# FY 2022-25 GAOA Projects

- **Other projects under consideration**
  - Sandpoint RD Trails Deferred Maintenance
  - Salmo-Priest Recommended Wilderness & Wilderness Trails Deferred Maintenance
  - Little Snowy Top Trail Improvements
  - Lake Pend Oreille Recreation Improvements
  - Toilet Replacements Sandpoint & CDA River Corridor
  - Kalispell Bay Boat Launch Improvements
  - Ledgewood Day Use Improvements
  - Porcupine Lake ATV Suspension Bridge over Lightning Creek



# FY 2022-25 GAOA Projects

- **Road Projects for GAOA and/or Future Transportation and/or Infrastructure Bills**
  - **Grouse Creek Road Reroute FSR 280 and Aggregate Surfacing Project**
  - **Scotchman's Peak FSR 2294 and FSR 2294A Aggregate Surfacing Project**
  - **Auxor FSR 489 Surface Rock Replacement**
  - **Butler Creek Road FSR 230 Road Reconstruction**
  - **Moose Creek Road FSR 419 and FSR 1022 Road Aggregate surfacing**
  - **Other**