

**Grant Applications Due:** Friday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2021

In collaboration with the National Park Service, this is a call for proposals for two National Park Foundation programs – ParkVentures and Junior Ranger Angler. Each program is described below. The application questions and maximum award amount are the same for each program. You will be asked to select which program you are applying for and you may submit one application for each program (two applications in total).

### **ParkVentures**

The National Park Foundation (NPF) works with national parks and partner organizations to engage all in the wonder of our national parks and to inspire a life-long love of the outdoors, recreation and exploration. The ParkVentures program is intended to eliminate barriers, promote access, and cultivate connections to the social, mental and physical health benefits for individuals and communities who face challenges in authentically and joyfully embracing their own national park experience. Our goal is to support a broad and inclusive narrative that everyone belongs in the outdoors and eliminate barriers for communities who have been historically underrepresented on public lands.

From improving accessibility infrastructure, to supporting affinity spaces for individuals with shared identities, to bringing together intergenerational families, ParkVentures is focused on creating equitable access to the power of participating in outdoor experiences.

This RFP is open to all units and programs of the National Park Service as well as partner organizations. Indigenous groups and organizations led by people of color are especially encouraged to apply.

### **Junior Ranger Angler**

The Junior Ranger Angler program, where anyone young at heart can earn their Junior Ranger Angler badge, inspires young people to catch their first fish and encourages families to enjoy the vast recreational opportunities of the national parks. Today, nearly 200 parks—both urban and rural—allow recreational fishing in some capacity, presenting a great opportunity to educate and engage the next generation of fishing enthusiasts.

This grant opportunity specifically supports connecting children and families in their local communities with fishing activities in their national parks. Funds can be used to support programs that encourage and engage a wide variety of audiences with recreational fishing such as fishing clinics, gear libraries, community engagement programs, and more.

This RFP is open to all units and programs of the National Park Service as well as partner organizations. Indigenous groups and organizations led by people of color are especially encouraged to apply.

**Optional Informational Call:** Two optional informational call to discuss this RFP and the proposal process are scheduled for **June 29<sup>th</sup> and July 8<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm ET. A link to the video calls can be accessed below.** All parties interested in submitting a proposal are welcome to attend either call, but it is not required that you join a call to submit a proposal. If you cannot participate via computer, please email Lisa ([lmclure@nationalparks.org](mailto:lmclure@nationalparks.org)) or Chaska ([chansen@nationalparks.org](mailto:chansen@nationalparks.org)) to request a call-in phone number.

**June 29<sup>th</sup> Zoom Link –** <https://nationalparks-org.zoom.us/j/98858059777>

**July 8<sup>th</sup> Zoom Link** – <https://nationalparks-org.zoom.us/j/92858650946>

**Contact Us:** Alternatively, you can contact the NPF program staff listed below with any questions about your proposal idea or on how to submit your proposal, especially if you have never applied for an NPF grant. Outreach is welcomed.

ParkVentures Contact: Lisa McClure (she/her) at [lmclure@nationalparks.org](mailto:lmclure@nationalparks.org)  
Junior Ranger Angler Contact: Chaska Hansen (she/her) at [chansen@nationalparks.org](mailto:chansen@nationalparks.org)

**Deadline:** Applications are due no later than **Friday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>**.

**Award Amount:** Applicants may request up to \$20,000.

**Notification:** Applicants will be notified of award selections by mid-August.

**Selection Process:** All applications will be reviewed by a selection committee comprised of representatives from the National Park Foundation and the National Park Service.

**RFP Contents:**

- A. Overview**
- B. Final Reporting**
- C. Grantee Requirements**
- D. Program Timeline**

**A. Program Overviews**

ParkVentures

Following a series of conversations with key champions in the outdoor recreation and equity spaces, including staff of the National Park Service, NPF identified several barriers to communities accessing fun and meaningful recreation experiences in the outdoors and in national parks. The first barrier described is a lack of representation of historically excluded communities among visitors to public lands, among public land staff and volunteers, and as pictured in marketing materials. A second barrier is a lack of accessibility across four main themes summarized below.

- Lack of accessibility to equipment, transportation, and/or guides for more immersive or advanced recreational experiences;
- Lack of accessibility to information regarding barriers found in facilities and along trails that prevent visitors with mobility challenges from participation. For visitors who may require accommodations, pre-trip planning is an important aspect to ensure a robust in-park experience;
- Lack of physical accessibility to facilities and trails and a deeper understanding of the spectrum of accommodations needed – from paths that support wheelchair access to scenic vistas to benches to support those who require regular stops for rest while hiking;
- Lack of accessibility within interpretation. For example, using “we” statements to describe settler experiences in the West when settlers were predominantly from one homogenous background.

The ParkVentures program seeks to address these barriers through grant funding to NPS and partner organizations.

All applications should include recreation activities in the outdoors as the primary purpose of their request AND fundamentally address representation and access to our national parks. Parks and partners may propose scaffolded experiences that incorporate activities in a local or state park, but all proposals must include a national park connection.

In addition, multi-purpose opportunities are encouraged such as –

- Youth Employment – activities that offer paid opportunities, exposure to NPS careers, skill building, mentorship and/or leadership development for young people
- Family/Multigeneration – activities that bring together families for shared experiences
- Community Building – activities that foster social connections among individuals with shared identities
- Increased Access – activities that enhance, or add to, the accessibility of national park trails and/or other visitor amenities, including access to information
- Healing – activities that offer individuals with opportunities to experience the mental and physical health benefits of the outdoors
- Cultural Connections – activities that are culturally relevant to the local community
- Stewardship – activities that encourage protection of natural and cultural resources, deepen connections to the land, and/or elevate Indigenous or local knowledge of these special places

#### Junior Ranger Angler

This will be NPF's third year supporting the Junior Ranger Angler program connecting young people and their families to the many fishing opportunities available in national parks. Through the program, fishing helps young people foster a connection to healthy living, environmental conservation, community networks, and multigeneration, extended-family relationships. Whether surf fishing at Cape Lookout National Seashore, fly fishing at Grand Teton National Park, or fishing by kayak at Isle Royale National Park, there are no shortage of fishing experiences!

All applications should include recreational fishing with children and their families as the primary purpose of their request but can include other programmatic elements (i.e. community engagement, internships, cultural connections, ecology or climate change education, mentoring, veteran or military family engagement, etc.). National Park Service applicants should also incorporate the use of the Junior Ranger Let's Go Fishing! Activity Booklet and badge in their programming. Programs that address representation and access as described in the ParkVentures program are encouraged.

#### **B. Final Reporting**

Successful applicants will be required to complete a final report at the conclusion of their grant-funded activities. In the event completing a final report is burdensome, grantees will be required to communicate with NPF program staff to discuss the success and challenges of the program. At a minimum, all grantees will be asked to share the following:

- # of participants
- A description of the activities conducted with grant funding
- Examples of successes (as defined by the grantee)
- Examples of challenges (as defined by the grantee)
- Quotes from participants

#### **C. Grantee Requirements**

1. (a) ParkVentures: Projects should support recreation activities and address representation and access to national parks and the outdoors.  
(b) Junior Ranger Angler: Projects should support recreational fishing activities with young people in national parks.
2. Grantees will be required to execute project activities between October 2021 and September 2022. A high-level timeline will be requested as part of the grant application.
3. Grantees will be required to report back on the questions in Section B and provide photos, where possible and appropriate participant permissions are secured.
4. In consultation between NPF program staff and individual grantees, grantees may be asked to include donor recognition language where appropriate.

**D. Program Timeline**

June: RFP open to national parks and partner organizations

Tuesday, June 29 and Thursday, July 8: Information calls with NPF program staff

Friday, July 23: RFP submission closes

Mid-August: Selected parks and partner organizations notified of final decisions

October 2021 – September 2022: Program implementation

December 31, 2021: Top line reporting due

October 31, 2022: Final report due or conference call scheduled to discuss program impact

**E. Proposal Instructions:**

**1. Read the RFP**

Please read this RFP carefully and then use the online application process to submit.

- 2. Optional:** Two optional informational calls to discuss this RFP and the proposal process are tentatively scheduled for **June 29 and July 8, 2021 at 3:00 pm ET. A link to the video calls can be found below.** All parties interested in submitting a proposal are welcome to attend either call, but it is not required that you join a call to submit a proposal. If you cannot participate via computer, please email Lisa ([lmcclore@nationalparks.org](mailto:lmcclore@nationalparks.org)) or Chaska ([chansen@nationalparks.org](mailto:chansen@nationalparks.org)) to request a call-in phone number.

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- 3. Online Application – Application will go “live” in early July, but all application questions are included below.**

NPF transitioned to a new grants management system, Fluxx. All new users are required to create an account, which can be used to apply for future grants and complete final reports for NPF. Fluxx registration is a two-step process, as new accounts must be approved before grantees gain access to the portal. Please submit Fluxx registration requests as soon as possible to ensure ample time to finalize and submit grant proposals.

- a. If you have previously created an account in Fluxx, please sign in using your existing username and password.
- b. To register for an account in Fluxx, please go to <https://nationalparks.fluxx.io/> and click on “Create an Account Now” to fill out the form.

- **Reminder:** Please register for Fluxx at least **two-days in advance** of RFP deadline to avoid technical delays and ensure timely submission of all grant proposals.
  - Once registration has been approved, grantees will receive an email link to set up an account password. Please check your junk/spam folder for an incoming email from [Do-not-reply.grants07-us-east-1@fluxx.io](mailto:Do-not-reply.grants07-us-east-1@fluxx.io).
- c. To submit an application, please log into the grantee portal, navigate to the left-hand menu, and click on “Apply for Funding”. On this webpage, select “PV JRRRA Application” to get started.
- **Reminder:** Fluxx **does not automatically save**. Click on the “Save” button frequently to ensure that no information is lost. You may save applications to continue working on it later. We recommend you complete your application in Word first to ensure you don’t lose any information.
- d. For assistance using Fluxx, please contact Emily Kamin at [applications@nationalparks.org](mailto:applications@nationalparks.org).

**4. Start Online Application and Needing to “Saving and Finish Later”**

After you have begun your submission, you may choose to save and complete it at a later date. You can exit the submission at any time and access it later by logging back into the Fluxx grants management system.

**5. Complete and submit your finished application**

Press “Submit” on the last page of the online system. You will receive an automatic email confirming that your application has been submitted. If you do NOT receive an automatic email, your application has NOT been submitted. Please note, the Fluxx system **does not** autosave so please be sure to save any changes that are made before exiting the application.

**Proposals are due no later than Friday, July 23, 2021.**

**F. Application Template**

See following pages

**WORD VERSION OF PARKVENTURES AND  
JUNIOR RANGER ANGLER APPLICATION**

Grant Applications Due: **July 23, 2021**

**FOR NPS APPLICANTS ONLY**

NPS Site Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Superintendent First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Superintendent Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Superintendent Email: \_\_\_\_\_

NPS Project Lead First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

NPS Project Lead Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**FOR ALL APPLICANTS**

**Partner Organization Information**

Organization Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Executive Director Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Executive Director Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Grantee Project Lead:**

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address (Street): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

**APPLICATION STATEMENTS:** Read and answer each question below.

**Section One: Program Information**

**1. Program Title**

Program title should be concise and capture the essence of the initiative.

**2. Recreation Activity/Program Description**

Describe how you will use your grant funds? Be sure to include what recreation activity or activities will you engage your community in. Please also mention if you will include other programmatic aspects (i.e. Youth Employment, Healing, Stewardship, Community Engagement, etc.)?

**3. Participant Description**

Describe the community/communities you seek to engage or support in your proposed program? How is your proposal rooted in the community you seek to engage?

**4. Program Timeline**

Do you have an estimated timeline of when activities or key events will occur? You can give a range of months or dates as best you know them at this time.

**5. Other Program Partner(s)**

Are there any other partner organizations who will participate in the program? If so, briefly describe their role.

**6. Other**

What else do you wish to tell us about your program, if anything?

**Section Two: Impact**

1. What does success look like for your program?

2. For the Junior Ranger Angler programs, please list the outputs (measurable results) you hope to achieve with this project.

- Fishing clinics
  - # of youth participants
  - # of adult participants
  - # of events planned
- Gear libraries
  - Do you anticipate starting, or adding to an existing, gear library for your local community? Y or N?

**Section Three: Budget**

**1. Amount Requested**

Please identify the total amount requested from NPF. The maximum amount is \$20,000, but you are not required to request the full amount.

**2. Project Budget**

Please provide a budget for your proposed grant activities. You can attach an Excel or Word document in the attachments section. A simple template is provided below (Note: this is meant to be an example

template and you do not need to fill in all categories or be restricted to these categories). There is no required partner match (either from the requesting partner or other organizations) for this funding.

Expense Line Items	Brief Description of Expense	Amount requested from NPF Grant (\$)	Amount supported through other funds (if any)
Staff			
Supplies and Equipment			
Youth or Elder Stipends			
Transportation			
Evaluation			
Overhead/Indirect Costs			
TOTAL BUDGET			

**Section Four: Letter of Support**

National Park Service applicants must submit a Superintendent signature/letter of support.