

**New Zealand
Outdoor Recreation
CONSORTIUM**



“A partnership to maintain and enhance backcountry facilities”

Backcountry Recreation Fund: Guidelines for Applicants

Round 5: September 2017

Background

The Backcountry Recreation Fund is one of three funds managed by the NZ Outdoor Recreation Consortium (The Consortium). The Consortiums principle funder is the Department of Conservation’s Community Fund – *Pūtea Tautiaki Hapori*.

The Consortium was formed in 2014 as a partnership between FMC, New Zealand Deerstalkers’ Association and Trail Fund NZ to maintain and enhance backcountry facilities and attract a wider range of users to enjoy and look after these special places. The Consortium works on behalf of all backcountry recreationalists to manage the funding for the benefit of all who enjoy the New Zealand backcountry.

The Backcountry Recreation Fund welcomes all applications from people or groups that recreate in the backcountry that meet the guidelines below. We apologise that it may not be possible to fund all applications and we may choose to fund some applications in part.

Applications for this fund must be received by **the 30th of September 2017**. When possible applications will be assessed as received. All applicants will be notified of the decision on their application by the end of November.

Address any queries to: eo@fmc.org.nz

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Please ensure that you read these guidelines carefully in conjunction with the application form. Incomplete applications cannot be accepted.

1. The Essentials

These are conditions which you must fulfill before we can consider your application.

- Your project must be located on Department of Conservation-administered public conservation land, and for money to be transferred there must be an agreement in place with DOC.
- Your project must be consistent with the provisions of the relevant Conservation Management Strategy and other statutory planning documents.
- Your project must be “publicly accessible”. Facilities that are operated on a commercial basis are not included in this definition and will not be eligible for funding or support.
- The primary purpose of the Backcountry Recreation Fund is the maintenance of existing huts and tracks that would not otherwise be undertaken by DOC. Priority will generally be given to these projects.
- Your project must be volunteer-led.

2. What We Can and Cannot Fund

The main categories for which funding is available are:

- Helicopters: especially using a fly-in, walk out model.
- Materials: materials required for track building and hut/track maintenance.
- Contractors: where specialist qualifications are required to undertake a task contractors may be funded.
- Volunteer Expenses: Costs associated with supporting volunteers such as transport (e.g. petrol for private vehicles, jet boat access), food and accommodation (e.g. hut fees). Food costs must be reasonable.
- Tools e.g. hand saws, loppers, rakes, grubbers, and wheelbarrows.
- Costs associated with applying for resource or building consents.
- Way finding e.g. trail signage, map boards, mapping projects.
- Safety equipment e.g. eye protection, gloves, ear protection, etc.

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Note: You must include two quotes for any proposed purchase or service over \$500. You may very well have contacts which can provide cheaper ‘mates rates’, but please ensure we are aware of any possible conflict of interest. The Consortium reserves the right to request additional quotes or peer review quotes before funding is confirmed.

Exclusions - these are items we are unable to fund:

- Alcohol.
- Overheads (e.g. web site hosting, electricity, PO Box fees etc.).
- Retrospective applications.
- Other conservation activities such as pest control.

3. The Criteria

These are what the decision-makers will be looking for in an application:

- A clear and achievable outcome such as: maintain X hut by carrying out Y repairs and also maintaining Z access track.
- It would be advantageous if you have managed to raise money for your project from other sources.
- It would be advantageous if your group has some experience in carrying out similar projects successfully. You could include photos of your work, or explain the experience your group members have.
- Applications that can demonstrate significant volunteer participation and support will be viewed favourably.
- Projects that maintain and enhance existing facilities will be favoured over building new assets.
- Projects that increase recreation participation and attract a wider range of visitors will have an advantage.

4. The Conditions

These are the things you will need to do if you are successful in your application:

- Spend the money on the approved items within the negotiated period.
- Invoice FMC for the amount you have been approved for (FMC holds the Backcountry Recreation fund on behalf of the Consortium).
- Provide a short report, including before and after photos of your work party and your work.

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- Provide brief information to enable the Consortium to meet the minimum reporting requirements of the CCPF: number of volunteers, volunteer hours, number of organisations involved, number of huts maintained, kilometres of track maintained and level of other funding obtained.
- Agree that the work will be carried out to Department of Conservation standards and in compliance with any Department of Conservation safety requirements.
- Be available to participate in publicity (we might want to do an interview, a feature or use your photos/report online or in print to promote the work of the Fund).

5. For further information please contact.

FMC on behalf of the Outdoor Recreation Consortium - eo@fmc.org.nz