

Guidelines for Distribution of Funds – Public Lands Endowment Trust

Purpose:

The Trust is established for the purpose of maintaining an endowment to protect, enhance and preserve public lands and the public lands livestock grazing industry.

Limitations on Use of Distributions:

Distributions to the PLC may be used by or for the benefit of the PLC only in accordance with the following provisions:

(a) These approved guidelines will govern PLC's use of the Distribution Amount as available in the PLC Trust Account. Examples of the types of uses contemplated include: (i) educational projects; (ii) wildlife restoration projects; (iii) resource enhancement projects such as range monitoring programs, fire restoration work or invasive plant removal and control; (iv) scientific research projects; (v) tours and field trips; (vi) cooperative projects with federal land management agencies and state wildlife agencies; and (vii) media outreach and publicity associated with the foregoing projects.

(b) Under no circumstances may the Distribution Amount be used to directly or indirectly support affirmative or offensive litigation involving the PLC. However, if a suit is filed against the PLC in relation to projects undertaken by PLC pursuant to the use of Distribution Amounts in accordance with Section 6.3(a) of the Public Lands Endowment Trust, PLC may use Distribution Amounts to directly or indirectly fund the defense to such litigation.

(c) PLC may use a portion of the Distribution Amount to fund overhead costs associated with activities undertaken consistent with and in furtherance of these guidelines. However, under no circumstances may PLC use Trust distributions to fund any overhead allocated to direct or indirect litigation activity.

Submission of Proposals:

Proposals affecting multiple states shall be submitted directly to PLC, or through national affiliates. Proposals affecting individual states shall be submitted through the state PLC affiliate if the affiliate pays the PLC dues. If an entity other than a state affiliate funds that state's dues to PLC, proposals from that state shall be submitted in accordance with an agreement between the PLC state affiliate and the funding entity. States may choose to develop guidelines at the state level for submission for receiving and compiling proposals prior to submitting to the Trust through these approved guidelines.

Proposal Selection Panel:

The PLC Board of Directors shall serve as the selection panel to review, score, and approve proposals to be funded through the Trust.

Scoring of Proposals

Weighted Scoring of Proposals (the following will receive preference):

- PLC Membership (member of PLC affiliate organization)
- Affiliate Support (direct or explicit endorsement)
- Matching Funds/Cost Share (fully explained and committed in application)
- Scope of Proposal (broader impact on industry)
- Reflecting factors that led to creation of the Trust

Annual Timeline for Proposal Submissions:

All inquiries regarding the proposal submission process shall be made to the Executive Director of PLC and proposals shall be submitted to the PLC office at 1275 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Suite 801 Washington, D.C. 20004.

- Proposals due in the PLC office by COB May 31st
- June 1 – 30 Review and follow up clarification/questions and responses due.
- July 31 – Operations/overhead and proposals division recommendations consistent with available funds in the PLC Trust Checking Account.
- August 15 – recommendations sent to the PLC Board of Directors - Staff shall provide a full list of proposals received prior to the Annual PLC meeting.
- At anytime throughout the year the Executive Committee may recommend a proposal to the PLC Board of Directors
 - The Board will act to accept or deny the recommendation.
 - A 2/3rds vote of the Board is required to approve such projects.

PLC Board of Directors Meeting

- A full day work session shall be scheduled the day before the Annual PLC Meeting to consider PLC Trust Proposals
- The meeting and vote of the Board shall be conducted and facilitated by the PLC Trust Protectors.
- The Board shall review, question, express concern, and discuss the proposals.
- The aggregate amount of funds for recommended projects may not exceed funds available in the PLC Trust Account as reported by staff and approved by the Trust Protectors.
- A Board vote will be taken for consideration of each proposal.

Reporting

Every six months, prior to receiving a distribution from the Trust, the PLC shall submit to the Trust Protectors a financial report setting forth all uses of the Distribution Amount for the prior six-month period. The financial report shall contain sufficient detail to permit the Trust Protectors to verify that Distribution Amount has been spent consistent with the limitations set forth in Section 6 of the Trust Agreement.

Signed Contract with Trust Fund Recipients:

In accordance with accepting funding from the Public Lands Endowment Trust , recipients agree to the following:

- Recipients of funds shall provide regular written reports on progress of projects and activities as provided in the contract.
- Ten percent (10%) of each grant that is awarded will be withheld until the project has been satisfactorily completed and a final report has been submitted to PLC.
- At the end of the grant period, any unexpended funds must be returned to the PLC Trust Account.
- All funds granted must be expended in strict compliance with the terms of the grant contract. Any funds expended outside of such terms without prior approval by the PLC Board shall be immediately due and payable to the PLC Trust Account.

Review/Modification Process for Guidelines:

These Distribution Guidelines shall be reviewed annually by the PLC Executive Committee. Recommendations for modifications shall be presented to the PLC Board of Directors and Trust Protectors for approval.

Miscellaneous:

PLC staff shall track time spent on Trust activities.