
General

This section provides the basic information about the park or trail and the organizations responsible for it.

Last Update

03 Jun 2022 09:33:23

Park or Trail Name

Roseau River Water Trail

District

2

Location Description

Located in Northwest Minnesota, the Roseau River Water Trail follows the Roseau River from its headwaters near Hayes Lake State Park in southeast Roseau County, across Roseau County to the north and west until it exits into Canada near Caribou, MN in far northeast Kittson County. The Roseau River Water Trail represents the 91-mile Minnesota segment of the larger Roseau River which is a 214-mile tributary of the Red River of the North spanning from Northern Minnesota into Southern Manitoba. The Minnesota section of the Roseau River connects three very small towns in Roseau and Kittson Counties, including Malung, Ross, and Caribou with the only major population center located on the Roseau River, the City of Roseau. Additionally, the Roseau River traverses and adjoins a wide variety of State and local parklands and recreational facilities, including those at Hayes Lake State Park, the Malung Community Center and Town Hall, Roseau City Park, Campground and Greenway, Roseaus Riverview Park Complex, Ross Town park, the Roseau Lakebed and Roseau River WMAs, and the Lost River and Beltrami Island State Forests. The locations seeking regional park designation in this application include access points at the Malung Town Hall, City of Roseau, Ross Town Hall, and the Trangsrud river access. Roseau County has approved sponsoring and taking ownership of the town hall and RRWD sites identified for designation in this application. These strategically located city/county-owned recreational access sites are integrated into the larger system of Roseau River accesses and sites managed by the State of Minnesota at Hayes Lake State Park, Roseau Lake WMA (Stoe's Bridge Access), Roseau River WMA (Big Swamp Access & Caribou Access). Altogether these various State and local parklands create an integrated nature based recreational experience that is unique in Minnesota.

Park/Trail Address

121 Center Street E; Suite 202

City

Roseau

Park/Trail State

Minnesota

Zip

56751

Latitude

48.840551

Longitude

-95.767291

Map of Park/Trail

Description: Roseau River Overview Map

[Roseau River Water Trail Overview Map d4a63e.pdf](#)

Facility Website

http://www.roseauriverwd.com/Roseau_River_Water_Trail.html

Organization

City of Roseau

Lead Contact Person

Todd Peterson

Title

Community Development Coordinator

Mailing Address

121 Center Street E; Suite 202

City

Roseau

State

Minnesota

Zip

56751

Phone

218-463-5003

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Joint Applicants

Joint Applicant #1

Roseau River Watershed District

Upload Resolution

[City Resolution - Roseau River Water Trail 82abf0.pdf](#)

Joint Applicant #2

Roseau County

Upload Resolution

[Roseau County - Roseau River Water Trail 67aa98.pdf](#)

Joint Applicant #3

Upload Resolution

[Roseau River Watershed District - Roseau River Water Trail 21cec7.pdf](#)

Joint Applicant #4

Other project supporters

Northwest Regional Sustainable Development Partnership UofM Extension, Northwest Minnesota Foundation, Center for Urban and Regional Affairs, U of M College of Design, Roseau Outdoor Activities and Recreation, MnDNR, Roseau County Historical Society, Explore Minnesota, Go Roseau, Roseau CVB, Roseau County 4-H

Description

This section provides the basic information about the park or trail and the organizations responsible for it.

Regional Significance Statement

The Roseau River traces a landscape rich in natural and cultural history, travelling through unique biomes from coniferous forest to aspen parklands, each with distinctive environments. The river traverses land occupied by Glacial Lake Agassiz, whose action shaped the beach ridges and wetlands of the region. Dakota, Ojibwe and later French used the Roseau River as a key travel and trade route from the Red River to Lake of the Woods for generations.

Classification

Overview/Description of Park or Trail

The Trail encompasses a segment of the Roseau River from Hayes Lake SP in southeast Roseau County to the US-Canadian Border in the northeast corner of Kittson County. A Red River of the North tributary, the river is a glacial era legacy of ancient Lake Agassiz. However, the Roseau River Water Trail is ultimately an effort to promote the river and its adjacent places for recreation, education and tourism. The trail isn't so much about a physical trail, as it is the embodiment of the collection of experiences joined by a common element. The river is more than a watercourse, it is a many faceted experience, including recreation, natural beauty, education, history, culture and community. The trail affords opportunities for a vast array of interests, abilities and ages. The river is navigable for motorized and non-motorized boats. The river is also a great sport fishery and sustains diverse and abundant ecological systems and wildlife. The river cuts through thousands of acres of scientifically, biologically and naturally significant and diverse landforms set aside for public enjoyment and preservation. Additionally, the river also joins communities both past and present, particularly at the City of Roseau where cultural and historical events collide. The river has an ancient history from its creation as a remnant of Glacial Lake Agassiz to its more recent settlement and use by Native Americans and later French fur traders as a vital trade and transportation route, to becoming a power source and conveyance for early Europeans seeking to exploit the regions lumber and agricultural resources. Each group bringing with them changes to the land and river. The trail weaves these experiences together into an intriguing tapestry for both residents and visitors. The developments proposed as part of this trail are intended to build upon and promote these many experiences of the river. The goal of the trail effort is to promote the enjoyment and conservation of the natural, cultural and historic resources of the river by encouraging responsible, quality, public access opportunities through partnerships and stakeholder advocacy. The effort envisions capitalizing on the rivers vast potential for increased accessibility for motorized and non-motorized watercraft, fishing, camping, and wildlife watching by promoting the trail and working to improve signage and support structures along the river. The effort also seeks to utilize the river for educational opportunities through interpretive signage and public engagement in the biology, habitats, landforms, ecology and historical use of this unifying feature of the region. Finally, the plan seeks to promote the high-quality recreational experiences the river provides in its many various forms to various interest groups. Six design elements are part of the plan to promote the trail. Those design elements involve promoting recreation and the development of active lives; respecting wildlife and nurturing habitat; understanding the past and learning for the future; integrating art and fostering creativity; building local businesses and economy; and creating a connected and virtual presence.

Total Acreage or Mileage

91

Acquisition and Development Status

Existing Park or Trail

River and adjacent banks under State ownership. Adjacent parks and proposed developments seek to use existing public lands with small acquisitions for access as needed

95

Development status

Some development, but more proposed

New facilities proposed

Facility Listing

This section provides an overview of existing and proposed site facilities and general site characteristics .

Existing Facilities

- Camping-cross-section of camper types

Proposed Facilities

- Camping-cross-section of camper types

-
- Electric/water campsites
 - Electric campsites
 - Non-electric campsites
 - Group campsites
 - Tent only sites
 - Camper Cabins
- Picnicking and picnic shelters
 - Walking Trails (paved)
 - Hiking Trails (natural)
 - Biking Trails (paved)
 - Mountain Biking Trails (natural)
 - Cross-country Skiing Trails
 - Swimming
 - Lake Access for power boats
 - Canoeing Facilities
 - Fishing Piers
 - Visitor Center
 - Play areas, with an outdoor theme
 - Restrooms/sanitation building
 - Roads and Parking Areas
- Electric/water/sewer RV sites
 - Electric/water campsites
 - Non-electric campsites
 - Tent only sites
 - Camper Cabins
- Picnicking and picnic shelters
 - Walking Trails (paved)
 - Hiking Trails (natural)
 - Biking Trails (paved)
 - Mountain Biking Trails (natural)
 - Swimming
 - Lake Access for power boats
 - Canoeing Facilities
 - Fishing Piers
 - Visitor Center
 - Nature Center/Interpretation Trails
 - Restrooms/sanitation building
 - Roads and Parking Areas

Proposed Facilities Other Information

Channel debris removal between Hayes Lake State Park and Malung

General Site Characteristics

The Roseau River Water Trail incorporates a 91-mile segment of the Roseau River from its headwaters to the point at which the river exits the United States into Canada. This segment of river has various characteristics as it moves across the landscape from a small rapid stream in the pine forests of Beltrami Island and Hayes Lake State Park into a larger slow-moving river as it enters the Roseau River Wildlife Management Area (Big Swamp) area prior to exiting into Canada. The lower 2/3rds of the Roseau River is generally 75 feet in width and maintains depths from 6-10 feet being navigable by kayak, canoe, watercraft and small motorboat. Upstream of Malung, all the way to Hayes Lake State Park, the river channel narrows significantly and is shallow with depths of less than 6 feet. In addition, considerable tree debris in the upstream section restricts navigation to only kayak and canoe and requires frequent portages. Fishing in the Roseau River is very good with a variety of sport fish readily caught in the main channel including walleye, northern pike, catfish and recently reintroduced lake sturgeon. In the Hayes Lake reservoir, upstream of the Hayes Lake dam, additional fishing opportunities exist for additional species of bass and panfish. The Roseau River provides opportunities to experience a variety of landscapes, habitats and activities along the route, highlighted by nine (9) access points including: Hayes Lake State Park (DNR) which provides the only lake experience along the Roseau River; Malung Town Hall (County/Township) access; Roseau City Park and Riverview Park (City) accesses which provide access to city cultural and recreational amenities; Stoe's Bridge (DNR) access; Ross Town Hall (County/Township/RRWD) access, Trangsrud (County/RRWD) access, Big Swamp (DNR) access and the Caribou (DNR) access. Each of these access point provides unique opportunities for recreational, cultural and educational experiences. The Roseau River provides the best means of entry to the vast State wildlife management areas in the northwest portion of Roseau County. Most of these WMA areas are largely unreachable by vehicle or foot. Here water trail users can experience natural features, vegetation and wildlife seen nowhere else in the State. Visitors can experience elk, moose, timber wolves, native orchids, wetland vegetation and over 275 bird species in this wild place. The headwaters of the Roseau River originate from the peatlands of the Beltrami Island State Forest. Beltrami Island SF is a former beach ridge of Lake Agassiz which formed a unique landscape of sandy hills and peat lowlands. Emanating from the peat bogs is the infant Roseau River. As the river emerges from the pine forest it was dammed to create Hayes Lake State Park. Hayes Lake is a recreational lake created to serve the people of northwestern Minnesota with a place for water recreation including canoeing, boating, fishing, swimming and hiking. A campground and support facilities also serve the park. At the center of the Roseau River water trail is the City of Roseau where

community and recreation facilities can be found including parks, trails, campgrounds, lodging, comfort services, museums, shopping all within walking distance of the city's river access points.

Master Plan

Master Plan Status:

Master Plan meeting requirements of strategic plan is available

Upload Existing Master Plan

Roseau River Water Trail Master Plan

[Final Document RRWT 9 10 \(003\) 21e2ef.pdf](#)

Additional Supportive Information:

The Roseau River Water Trail Master Plan provides a general framework for promoting the use and enjoyment of the unique Roseau River amenity through the development of nine access points and the promotion of the overall recreational feature. The master plan seeks to highlight the broader promotion of the river and its integration into both local life but also as a tourist attraction for Northwest Minnesota. The Roseau River has been underdeveloped and under-utilized as a recreational and tourism feature for our region. This is the beginning effort to create a regional attraction for outdoor enthusiasts and the general public to access great outdoor recreational opportunities unique only to our region.

Classification Details

Attachments

Doc Name	Description	Url
Classification Criteria4 Upload	Ross Town Hall Site	ross_town_hall_56f022.jpg
Classification Criteria4 Upload	Malung Town Hall Site (2)	malung_town_hall_2_7f672f.jpg
Existing Master Plan	Roseau River Water Trail Master Plan	Final Document RRWT 9 10 (003) 21e2ef.pdf
Additional Attachment	Water Trail Interpretive Sign	2021_0825_roseauriverkayak_b57841.pdf
Classification Criteria4 Upload	Hayes Lake	Hayes_Lake_1_678b7e.jpg
Classification Criteria4 Upload	Hayes Lake Swimming Beach	Hayes_Lake_2_fad3d8.png
Classification Criteria4 Upload	River Rapids - Bank Fishing Area	rapids_5aab26.JPG
Classification Criteria4 Upload	Fishing Pier	fishing_2_bb905a.JPG
Classification Criteria4 Upload	Hayes Lake Campground	Hayes_Lake_5_39f20c.jpg
Classification Criteria4 Upload	Roseau River	river_1_c978d1.jpg

Classification Criteria4 Upload	Roseau River	river_2_dfd28d.JPG
Classification Criteria4 Upload	Roseau River	river_3_0613d5.JPG
Classification Criteria4 Upload	Roseau River	river_4_5371cf.JPG
Classification Criteria4 Upload	Roseau River	river_5_334ddd.JPG
Classification Criteria4 Upload	Roseau River	river_6_df5b35.JPG
Classification Criteria4 Upload	Roseau River	river_7_49de97.JPG
Classification Criteria4 Upload	Recreation - Kayaking on the River	Kayak_1_a11b90.jpg
Classification Criteria4 Upload	Recreation - Kayaking on the River	kayak_2_1fac91.jpg
Classification Criteria4 Upload	Recreation - Kayaking & Paddleboarding on the River	kayak_3_b91a82.jpg
Classification Criteria4 Upload	Riverbank Fishing (Walleye)	Walleye_1_260056.jpg
Classification Criteria4 Upload	Small Boat Fishing (Walleye)	Walleye_2_7c39d1.jpg
Classification Criteria4 Upload	Riverbank Fishing	fishing_3_c4c471.JPG
Classification Criteria4 Upload	Small Boat Fishing (Catfish)	catfish_1_203acf.jpg
Classification Criteria4 Upload	City Park Fishing Pier and Boat Launch	fishing_pier_1_571d53.png
Classification Criteria4 Upload	City Park Swimming Area	City_Park_Swimming_3c065f.JPG
Classification Criteria4 Upload	City Park Kayak Launch	kayak_4_1f4b06.jpg
Classification Criteria4 Upload	Riverbank Fishing	fishing_1_5f4e2c.jpg
Classification Criteria4 Upload	Recreation - Kayaking	kayak_5_7f5943.JPG
Classification Criteria4 Upload	Recreation - City Park Trails and Pedestrian Bridge	City_Park_Ped_Bridge_01fbad.JPG
Classification Criteria4 Upload	Recreation - City Park River Trails	city_park_trails_2_7364d5.jpg
Classification Criteria4 Upload	Recreation - City Park Trails	city_park_trails_ef383a.JPG
Classification Criteria4 Upload	Recreation - City Parks and River Access Points	City_Parklands_8fd0b6.jpg
Classification Criteria4 Upload	Arts & Culture - Riverview Park Concert Gazebo	riverview_gazebo_1_1e61da.JPG
Classification Criteria4 Upload	Wildlife - Abundant Waterfowl	Waterfowl_1_8d978c.jpg
Classification Criteria4 Upload	Recreation - Pedestrian Trails	Ped_Bridge_1_e8dc09.jpg
Classification Criteria4 Upload	Wildlife - Bird Watching (Great Grey Owl)	GGOwl_1_19a257.jpg
Classification Criteria4 Upload	Wildlife - Rare Wild Orchids (Dragons Mouth Orchid)	Orchid_1_875b0f.jpg
Classification Criteria4 Upload	Wildlife - Unique Flora (Pitcher Plant)	PitcherPlant_1_77885b.jpg

Additional Attachment	Wildlife - Unusual Fauna like elk are present in the river corridor	elk_ca48f1.jpg
Additional Attachment	Roseau River Water Trail Land Ownership	Roseau River Water Trail Map - Land Ownership_dab4c5.pdf
Classification Criteria4 Upload	Malung Town Hall Site	malung town hall 1_cb83bb.jpg
Park Trail Map	Roseau River Overview Map	Roseau River Water Trail Overview Map_d4a63e.pdf
Acquisition Plan Overview Upload	Ross Town Hall Land Acquisition	Ross Town Hall Land Acquisition_06e0a6.pdf
Development Feature Upload		Proposed City Park Interpretive Center_8f335b.pdf
Maintenance Operations Budget Upload	RRWT Revenue & Expenditures	Roseau River Water Trail Budget Revenue Expenditures_ff7595.pdf
Development Acquisition Plan Upload	Dieter Town Hall - Ross (Roseau Co.) Site Development Plan	DIETER TOWN HALL ACCESS-One Page Plot (002)_aa2149.pdf
Development Acquisition Plan Upload	Trangsrud Landing (Roseau Co.) Site Development Plan	Trangsrud Landing-One Page Plot (002)_58bf4f.pdf
Development Acquisition Plan Upload	Malung Park (Roseau Co.) Site Development Plan	MALUNG TOWN HALL ACCESS-One Page Plot (002)_b5edd9.pdf
Development Acquisition Plan Upload	Roseau City Park Site Development Plan	Roseau City Park (003)_196c19.pdf
Development Acquisition Plan Upload	South Riverview Park (City of Roseau) Site Development Plan	SOUTH RIVERVIEW PARK-One Page Plot (002)_56b83c.pdf
Development Acquisition Plan Upload	Roseau Rapids (City of Roseau) Site Development Plan	ROSEAU RIVER RAPIDS-One Page Plot (002)_f7ac91.pdf
Development Acquisition Plan Upload	Norquist Farm Park (City of Roseau) Site Development Plan	NORQUIST FARM PARK-One Page Plot (002)_e70109.pdf
Ad Phasing Plan Upload	RRWT Phasing Plan & Cost Estimate	RRWT Phasing Plan_2d2fa1.pdf
AcqDev Cost Projections Upload	RRWT New Development Cost Estimates and Phasing	RRWT - Phasing Plan_62dfe3.pdf
AcqDev Cost Projections Upload	RRWT Development Costs Expended To Date	RRWT Investments To Date_3e1b90.pdf
Additional Attachment	City of Roseau Parks & Trails	Roseau Parks Trails Map_a4c3a9.pdf
Joint Org Responsibilities Upload	RRWT MOU	RRWT MOU_52591f.pdf
Joint Org Responsibilities Upload	RRWD Trail Maintenance Letter	RRWT River Maintenance_a63517.docx

Additional Attachment

Roseau River Water Trail
Overview

[Roseau River Water Trail 5 3ea
9af.pdf](#)