

Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Application 2016

Organization: Paint Creek Trailways Commission

TF16-0008

Section A: Applicant Site and Project Information: Paint Creek Trail

*Is the application for site development <u>or</u> land acquisition? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Development Acquisition			
*Name of Applicant (Government Unit) Paint Creek Trailways Commission		*Federal ID Number 38-3206489	*County Oakland County
*Name of Authorized Representative Kristen Myers		*Title Trail Manager	
*Address 4393 Collins Road		*Telephone 248-651-9260 Fax (248) 601-0106	
*City Rochester	*State MI	*ZIP 48306	*E-mail manager@paintcreektrail.org
*State House District District 45	*State Senate District District 12		*U.S. Congress District District 8

*Proposal Title (Not to exceed 60 characters) Paint Creek Trail Bridge 33.7 Renovation
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*Proposal Description Renovation of 61' long pedestrian bridge 33.7 on the Paint Creek Trail, a regional rail trail included in the Iron Belle Trail. A structural inspection of the 92-year old timber railroad bridge documented the bridge's deterioration and recommended replacement. This bridge traverses the Paint Creek, southeast Michigan's premier cold-water trout stream, and is located adjacent to MNFI Priority 2 natural areas including wetlands, woodlands and grasslands. Existing recreation opportunities which will continue with this bridge's renovation include fishing, horseback riding, bicycling, walking and running, cross-country skiing and nature observation. The renovation will greatly improve accessibility for both trail users as well as emergency and maintenance vehicles, increasing the clear width from less than 9' to 14' and ensuring the ability to support a 10-ton emergency vehicle.
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*Address of Site Sidwell 10-33-503-005	*City, Village or Township of Site Oakland Township	*Zip 48306
*County in which Site is located Oakland	*Town, Range and Section Numbers of Site Location <i>Letters must be upper-case: (examples: T02N, R13E, 22)</i> (Town) T04N (Range)R11E (Section)33	*Latitude/Longitude at park entrance 42.711279 -83.156700

*Park Name Paint Creek Trail
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Section B: Project Funding and Explanation of Match Sources

SOURCES OF MATCHING FUNDS

PROJECT COST AMOUNTS

*Grant amount requested (round to the nearest hundred dollars)	\$300,000.00
Total Match	\$456,200.00
Total Project Cost	\$756,200.00
Percentage of match commitment (Must be at least 25% of total project cost)	60%
a) General Funds or Local Restricted Funds (Applicant's own cash)	\$156,200.00
b) Force Account Labor/Materials (Applicant's own paid labor or materials)	
c) Federal or State Funds	\$300,000.00

You have entered a value for item c). Please provide the information below for each federal or state program from which matching funds will be provided. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) AND RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM (RTP) ARE THE ONLY FEDERAL FUNDS THAT CAN BE USED AS MATCH:

* (1) Program Name Transportation Alternatives Program	*Administering Agency Michigan Department of Transportation	
*Contact Name for Administering Agency Vince Ranger	*Telephone (248) 483-5130	*Amount \$300,000.00

***Type of Funds**

Grant funds awarded

Date grant funds approved

Grant funds applied for, not yet approved

Estimated approval date

Appropriated funds

Date appropriated

✓ Other, explain

The Paint Creek Trailways Commission and Oakland Township Parks and Recreation will work with our Act 51 Agency, the Road Commission of Oakland County, to submit a grant application in April 2016.

*Is documentation containing the scope of work and budget for the other grant funds included with application?

Yes ✓ No

*Is documentation (such as grant approval letter) that verifies the availability of funds included in the application?

Yes ✓ No

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Check to add program information for additional State of Federal funds that will be used as Match.

(2) Program Name	Administering Agency	
Contact Name for Administering Agency	Telephone	Amount

Type of Funds

Grant funds awarded

Date grant funds approved

Grant funds applied for, not yet approved

Estimated approval date

Appropriated funds

Date appropriated

Other, explain

Is documentation containing the scope of work and budget for the other grant funds included with application?

Yes No

Is documentation (such as grant approval letter) that verifies the availability of funds included in the application?

Yes No

Check to add program information for additional State of Federal funds that will be used as Match.

(3) Program Name	Administering Agency	
Contact Name for Administering Agency	Telephone	Amount

Type of Funds

Grant funds awarded

Date grant funds approved

Grant funds applied for, not yet approved

Estimated approval date

Appropriated funds

Date appropriated

Other, explain

Is documentation containing the scope of work and budget for the other grant funds included with application?

Yes No

Is documentation (such as grant approval letter) that verifies the availability of funds included in the application?

Yes No

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Section B: Project Funding and Explanation of Match Sources

d) Cash Donations

You have entered a value for item d). Please list the individual sources and the amounts to be donated below.

SOURCE	AMOUNT
*	
Total	\$0

*Is a letter of intent from each donor included with the application?

Yes No

e) Donated Labor and/or Materials

You have entered a value for item e). Please include each item to be donated, the source, dollar value, and how the dollar value was determined.

ITEM	SOURCE	DOLLAR VALUE	VALUATION METHOD
*			
Total		\$0	

*Is a letter of intent from each donor included with application?

Yes No

f) Donated Land Value (acquisition applications only)

You have entered a value for item f). Please describe how the value of the land donation was determined.

*

*Is a letter from the landowner committing to the donation of a portion of fair market value and any conditions placed upon their commitment included with application?

Yes No

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Section B: Project Funding and Explanation of Match Sources

Section C2: Project Details

Development Applications ONLY

*Applicant's current control of the site:

- Fee Simple
- Lease
- Easement
- Other (describe)

*Age of Park 33 Years

*Acres 109.44

Project Cost Estimate Table

<u>SCOPE ITEM</u>	<u>IS SCOPE ITEM OF UNIVERSAL DESIGN?</u>	<u>QUANTITY</u>	<u>TOTAL ESTIMATED COST</u>
<input type="text"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<i>(New rows will appear as rows are completed and Saved)</i>			
Other: <input type="text"/> 60' Long Concrete Arch Bridge & Railings	No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="text"/> 1	<input type="text"/> \$668,900.00

Do not list the aspects of project execution, such as labor, construction equipment, contingency or raw materials.*(New rows will appear as rows are completed and Saved)*

Permit Fees	\$3,000.00
MNRTF Sign	\$300.00
Subtotal	\$672,200.00
Engineering (These fees may not exceed 15% of subtotal)	\$84,000.00

Total Estimated Cost *(Must equal Total Project Cost amount on Section B page.)* **\$756,200.00**

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Section D: Justification of Need

- *1) If you are submitting multiple acquisition or development applications, what is the priority for this application? (1 = highest) 1

- *2) What page(s) of your recreation plan is the need for the proposed project discussed? From: 132 To: 132
If proposed project is on only one page, please enter the page number in both boxes

- *3) What was the date(s) of public meeting to discuss submission of the grant application? 3/15/2016
Additional dates: 3/9/2016, 3/22/2016

- *4) Did you gather public input from individuals with disabilities, their families, or advocates? No Yes

- *5) Are you the primary provider of recreation services to any surrounding communities, as documented in your recreation plan? No Yes
List Communities:

- *6) Was the application developed through collaboration with adjacent communities or school districts? No Yes

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Section E: Application History and Stewardship

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NO YES

*1) Questions 1 is for *acquisition applications only - for development projects, leave blank and move to question 2.* Is the applicant financially solvent to complete the acquisition transaction without any third party assistance (i.e. loans, lines of credit, same day closings, etc.) until partial reimbursement and final audit is completed (approximately 180 days after closing)?

If yes, please provide documentation that supports this.

* 2) Has applicant received DNR recreation grant(s) in the past?

✓

If yes, does applicant currently have an open, active grant?

✓

*3) Has applicant closed, sold, or transferred any parkland or recreation facilities in the past 5 years?

✓

*4) Does applicant have a known unresolved conversion of grant-assisted parkland? (a conversion is a change from public outdoor recreation use to some other use)

✓

*5) Does applicant have a "residents only" policy for this park or other parks or recreation facilities?

✓

*6) Do you now or do you intend in the future to charge an entrance fee to the project site?

✓

If yes, fee schedule and policy for reduced entrance fees for low-income users included with application?

✓

If yes, attach supporting Documentation on Required Attachments page.

*7) What is the applicant's current year budget for parks and recreation?

\$98,854.00

*8) What are the estimated operation and maintenance costs associated with the project?

\$1,100.00

Comments:

Regarding question 7, Oakland Township's 2016/2017 Parks and Recreation budget will total \$ 1,850,000 and is paid from the Township's Parks and Recreation Millage. The Paint Creek Trailways Commission annual operating budget is \$98,854.

Regarding question 8, Oakland Township funds the improvements, operation and maintenance of their 5+ miles of Paint Creek Trail. Oakland Township's 2016/2017 budget for these services will total \$44,200 and is paid from the Township's Parks and Recreation Millage plus \$36,500 is being reserved yearly in preparation for the 2018/2019 resurfacing of the entire Paint Creek Trail.

The attached maintenance plan includes details regarding the renovated bridge's \$1,100 annual maintenance cost and potential rehabilitation costs. The plan also lists the projected total life cycle cost including the design/construction, maintenance and rehabilitation of the bridge over its 50-year expected life.

Section F: Site Conditions

	<u>NO</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>UNKNOWN</u>
*1) Does the applicant, landowner, or others have knowledge that any portion of the property is or has been used for industrial purposes, including manufacturing and/or minerals' processing or extraction (sand, gravel, oil, or gas) at this time or in the past?	✓		
*2) Does the applicant, landowner, or others have knowledge that any portion of the property is currently being used or has been used in the past for a gas station, motor vehicle service or repair facility, commercial printing facility, dry cleaners, photo developing lab, junkyard, landfill, waste treatment, storage, processing or recycling or disposal facility?	✓		
*3) Does the applicant, landowner, or others have knowledge that any of the following are or have in the past been stored, discarded, or used on the property – automotive or industrial batteries, pesticides or other chemicals used in agricultural practices, paints, industrial waste, or other chemicals in drums or other containers?	✓		
*4) Does the applicant, landowner, or others have knowledge that fill dirt or other fill material of unknown origin is on this property or has in the past been placed on the property?	✓		
*5) Does the applicant, landowner, or others have knowledge of any evidence of leaks, spills, or stains from a substance other than water at this time or in the past?	✓		
*6) Does the applicant, landowner, or others have knowledge that there are or have in the past been waste disposal pits, lagoons, or ponds on the property?	✓		
*7) Does the applicant, landowner, or others have knowledge that there are at this time or have in the past been registered or unregistered storage tanks on the property?	✓		
*8) Does the applicant, landowner, or others have knowledge that contaminated groundwater lies below the property?	✓		
*9) If there is a water well on the property, does the applicant, landowner, or others have knowledge that contaminants have been identified in the well that exceeded legal standards or has the well been identified as contaminated by a government agency?	✓		

Section F: Site Conditions

- *10) Has the landowner been notified about any current violations of environmental laws pertaining to activities on the property or does applicant, landowner, or others have knowledge about past violations? ✓
 - *11) Has the landowner been notified of any environmental assessments of the property that identified a) the presence of hazardous substances, petroleum products, or contamination; or b) the need for further assessment? ✓
 - *12) Does the applicant, landowner, or others have knowledge that any hazardous substances, unidentified waste materials, tires, or automotive or industrial batteries have been dumped above ground, buried, or burned on the property? ✓
 - *13) Is the property listed on any federal or state list of contaminated sites, including the site of a leaking underground storage tank? ✓
 - *14) Does the applicant, landowner, or others have knowledge that any of the adjoining properties are currently being used or have been used in the past for the purposes listed in the previous questions 1-13? ✓
 - *15) Has an environmental assessment been completed for the site?
If yes, provide the most current on the Required Attachments page. ✓
- NO YES UNKNOWN
- *16) Are permits required for the development of the site?
If yes, please complete the following table: ✓

TYPE OF PERMIT	PERMITTING AGENCY	EFFORTS TAKEN TO OBTAIN PERMIT OR DETERMINING PERMIT REQUIREMENTS
MDEQ/USACE	Michigan Dept. of Environmental Quality	Project Engineer Determined Permit Requirement
Temporary Road Closure	Road Commission of Oakland County	Project Engineer Determined Permit Requirement

If 'Yes' or 'Unknown' was selected for any of the questions on this page, please explain here:
 RCOE permit would be for temporary closure of shoulder on Dutton Road or Silver Bell Road to access site on Paint Creek Trailway .

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Section G: Natural Features of The Project Site

To the best of your knowledge, does the project site include:

*Great Lakes shoreline or Great Lakes connecting water frontage? ✓ No Yes

If yes, name of Great Lake or Great Lakes connecting water:

How many linear feet of shoreline or frontage?

*Inland lake frontage? ✓ No Yes

If yes, name of water body:

What is the size of the total water body in acres?

How many linear feet of frontage are on site?

*River and/or tributary frontage? No ✓ Yes

If yes, name of water body:

Paint Creek

How many linear feet of frontage?

50

Is the river or tributary a state natural river or a federally dedicated wild and scenic river? ✓ No Yes

*Wetland acreage or frontage? ✓ No Yes

If yes, please list the number of acres of the type(s) of wetland(s) on site:

Marsh	Bog	Dune and swale complex
Prairie	Forest	Boreal Forest
Fen	Shrub	Type unknown

Is documentation of type and quality with application? ✓ No Yes

If yes, source of information:

*Other water acreage or frontage? ✓ No Yes

If yes, name of other water body:

Is the entire water body completely within the site boundaries? ✓ No Yes

How many linear feet of frontage or acres of water are on site?

*Sand dunes? ✓ No Yes

If yes, list the number of acres of sand dunes on the site:

Critical Not designed as critical, or designation unknown

Is documentation of type and quality provided with application? ✓ No Yes

If yes, source of information:

*Dedicated state or federal listed wilderness or dedicated natural area or ✓ No Yes

Pigeon River County State Forest land or inholding?

If yes, name of area:

How many acres on site?

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Section G: Natural Features of The Project Site

***Rare species or any other significant feature as defined by the Michigan Natural Features Inventory?**

No Yes

If yes, list species or feature and status.

if too many to list here, include in the application narrative.

Population/range locations denoted on site plan or other map?

No Yes

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Section H: Wildlife Values of The Project Site

Will the proposed park or park development:

* **Protect wildlife habitat** (for example, breeding grounds, winter deeryards, den sites)?

No Yes

If yes, list species:

Brown Trout, Bluegill

How many acres of habitat does the site provide?

0.11

* **Act as a wildlife corridor between existing protected areas or buffer an existing protected area?**

No Yes

If yes, name the existing park(s) or protected area(s):

How many acres are currently in protected status?

Is documentation of the ecological value of adjacent protected areas and/or the ability of the project site to act as a corridor/buffer provided with application?

No Yes

If yes, source of information:

Section I: Natural Resource Recreation Opportunities

Will the proposed park or park development provide new or additional:

*Water recreation opportunities? ✓ No Yes

*Motorized recreation opportunities (ORV and/or Snowmobile)? ✓ No Yes

*Hunting Opportunities? ✓ No Yes

If yes, what seasons will be available? (for example, deer/firearm)

How many acres will be available for hunting?

*Fishing opportunities? No ✓ Yes

If yes, what type of fishing opportunities will be provided? (species/methods)

Brown Trout/Fly fishing and spin casting

*Bird watching or other nature viewing opportunities? No ✓ Yes

If yes, what species can be viewed?

See attached documentation

*Nature interpretation or education opportunities? No ✓ Yes

If yes, how are the interpretation or education opportunities provided? (check all that apply)

✓ Interpretive signage Part time or volunteer naturalist

✓ Interpretive brochures Full time naturalist

Nature center

Have you formed a partnership with another organization to provide interpretive/educational services? No ✓ Yes

If yes, name of organization

Oakland Township Parks & Rec Commission

Provided examples of interpretive materials, descriptions of classes, and other documentation on the interpretive/educational services provided with application:

Please find attached several pages from the Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Newsletter that include nature programs which we currently offer for children , families, and adults. There are also pages of Natural Areas Stewardship programs and volunteer workday opportunities which include workshops regarding Prescribed Fire and Oakland Township Prairies along the Paint Creek Trail , invasive plant removal workdays along the Paint Creek Trail and articles about prairie areas along the Paint Creek Trail . In addition, we have attached a brochure titled "Wildflowers along the Paint Creek Trail" which details the many native plants found near the area of this project. We have also attached our popular Paint Creek Trail brochure that includes trail information, rules, points of interest, and a map of the trail.

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Section J: Public Access Opportunities

* Will the site be open to the general public?

No Yes

List the hours open to the public:

	From	To	Closed
Sunday	6:00am	10:00pm	
Monday	6:00am	10:00pm	
Tuesday	6:00am	10:00pm	
Wednesday	6:00am	10:00pm	
Thursday	6:00am	10:00pm	
Friday	6:00am	10:00pm	
Saturday	6:00am	10:00pm	
Holidays	6:00am	10:00pm	

Comment:

How will the public reasonably be able to access this site?

Automobile

Boat

Public Transportation

Motorized Trail

Non-Motorized Trail including Mountain Bike and Hiking Trails

Sidewalk or Pathway

Other (describe)

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Section K: Trails

* Is the proposed site a trail?

No Yes

Who is the primary intended user? (Check one)

- Hikers/Pedestrians
- ✓ Mountain Bicyclists
- Other motorized vehicle users
- Road Bicyclists
- Cross-Country Skiers
- Other, explain:
- Equestrians
- Snowmobilers

Who are the secondary users?

- ✓ Hikers/Pedestrians
- Mountain Bicyclists
- Other motorized vehicle users
- ✓ Road Bicyclists
- ✓ Cross-Country Skiers
- ✓ Other, explain:
- ✓ Equestrians
- Snowmobilers
- Anglers

Is the trail connected to another trail(s) or part of a larger trail network?

No Yes

If yes, what is the name of the network?

Oakland County Oak Routes

How long is the trail?

- 46992 Total linear feet
- 1320 Linear feet bituminous (paved)
- Linear feet boardwalk (if applicable)
- Linear feet sidewalk
- 45672 Linear feet other hard surface

What is the width of the trail?

8 Linear feet

* Is this proposed project part of the Iron Belle Trail (Governor's Showcase Trail)?

Yes No

Application Narrative

***I. Project Justification and Support:**

Need - After performing a field inspection of bridge 33.7 over Paint Creek, engineers from Spalding DeDecker recommended the replacement of this structure due to the age and deterioration observed. Each community that participates in the Paint Creek Trail is responsible for the maintenance of their geographic section. This project is listed on page 90 of the Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Capital Improvement Plan in year 2016. The Paint Creek Trail Commission also lists "Working with communities to maintain/repair bridges as needed" as a Maintenance Goal on page 132 of their Action Plan.

Alignment with SCORP and MNRTF Priorities - The Paint Creek Trail, a popular regional rail trail, is a key link in Oakland County's Oak Routes Network as well as the Iron Belle Trail. Bridge 33.7 provides access across Paint Creek for pedestrians, bicyclists, equestrians and skiers.

Collaboration - See attached intergovernmental agreement for Paint Creek Trail which describes how four member municipalities, including Oakland Township, collaborate to improve, manage and operate the Paint Creek Trail. Improvements and maintenance projects are funded and performed by the municipality in which they are located. See attached draft Reaffirmation of Understanding of Maintenance Responsibilities and In-Kind Services which shows the collaboration among the five trail communities to provide maintenance and operational support of the Paint Creek Trail.

Public Input - Input was received on this grant application at a Paint Creek Trailways Commission and two Oakland Township meetings held March 9, March 15 and March 22 after it was made available for review on three websites, social media, and at three municipal locations.

Public Support - This project is expected to receive support from government, non-profit, business, and user group organizations. Letters of support have been requested from Clinton River Watershed Council, Clinton Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited, Friends of the Paint Creek Trail, Oakland County Trails, Water & Land Alliance, Michigan Trails & Greenway Alliance, Oakland Twp Trails & Safety Path Committee, Dinosaur Hill Nature Preserve, League of Michigan Bicyclists, Rochester Avon Recreation Authority, Orion Township Safety Path Committee, Rochester Bike Committee, Lake Orion DDA, Rochester DDA, Six Rivers Land Conservancy, and users of the Paint Creek Trail.

Accessibility and Universal Design - information will be added in future after meeting with accessibility advocates.

Renovation - A structural inspection of this 92-year old timber railroad bridge that is 61' long documented the bridge's deterioration and recommended replacement. The renovation will greatly improve accessibility for both trail users as well as emergency and maintenance vehicles, increasing the clear width from less than 9' to 14' and ensuring the ability to support a 10-ton emergency vehicle.

***II. Project Description:**

The proposed precast concrete arch bridge is a single span, 60-foot long, 3-sided or arch segmental precast concrete culvert (each segment is six feet wide). The superstructure consists of a precast concrete arch that will be filled with structural granular backfill. Since this type of structure is earthen backfilled over the arch, the railway surface will be placed to match the existing aggregate trail. The arch is supported by concrete footings and precast wingwalls. Steel pedestrian railings will be

Application Narrative

integrated across the bridge. Expected life of precast concrete arch would be 50 years.

This bridge requires almost no maintenance during the life of the bridge; eliminates the maintenance of a bridge deck; once materials are delivered to site the speed of construction is relatively quick as arch and wingwalls are precast, and the design eliminates bents within the waterway, thus eliminating log jams that currently occur. Aesthetically this bridge looks similar to Paint Creek Trail bridges 36 and 38.4 which also have concrete arch superstructures.

The bridge's universal design provides minimum clear bike/multi-use path width of 14 feet and supports 20 mph bicycle speed. These standards were developed to provide the safest traveled way for pedestrians on multi-use paths of both walking and riding individuals. The fourteen feet path width is to provide adequate shy distance between a walking and bicyclist meeting at the same location on the pathway. The bridge slope is less than 2% and it will be covered with a unitary aggregate surface identical to the existing trail surface. The 54" tall steel railing provides a safe vantage point for nature observation.

Trail Project - The renovation of bridge 33.7 will greatly improve accessibility for both Paint Creek trail users as well as emergency and maintenance vehicles, increasing the clear width from less than 9' to 14' and ensuring the ability to support a 10-ton emergency vehicle. The non-motorized Paint Creek Trail is part of the Oakland County Oak Routes Trail Network, as well as the Iron Belle Trail. The Trail is 8' feet wide, and surfaced with crushed limestone. The trail is 8.9 miles long, with 5.3 miles in Oakland Township. The trail receives over 100,000 users annually and they are comprised of cyclists, pedestrians, equestrians, nature enthusiasts, and anglers. The trail connects the business districts of Rochester, Goodison, and Lake Orion, and connects directly to Bald Mountain State Recreation Area in Orion Township. Amenities include picnic areas, benches, restrooms, drinking fountains, nature observation decks, and bicycle repair stations. The Commission holds two annual events: National Trails Day & a Labor Day Bridge Walk and Run. The Trailways Commission provides maps, history and information at www.paintcreektrail.org. The 2014-2018 Paint Creek Trail Recreation Master Plan is posted and accessible at <http://paintcreektrail.org/wordpress/recreation-master-plan>.

***III. Natural Resource Access and Protection:**

Natural Features Description - This bridge traverses the Paint Creek, southeast Michigan's premier cold-water trout stream, and is located adjacent to MNFI Priority 2 natural areas including wetlands, woodlands and grasslands as shown on the attached Oakland County Green Infrastructure Plan and MNFI Natural Areas Map. Oakland Township manages the sections of Paint Creek which lie within the Paint Creek Trail right-of-way. Most creek maintenance includes supporting the trout fishery, addressing creek shoreline erosion including removal of log jams and maintaining fishing access routes. In addition to providing excellent fishing opportunities, this stretch of Paint Creek provides opportunities to view wildlife including mink, muskrat, beaver and birds. From March 2014 thru Feb 2016, 137 bird species were observed in Oakland Twp. The report included species and counts, and is attached. A bird count specific to the project location site will be done in Spring 2016.

Type of Natural Resources on Property - The bridge crosses the Paint Creek, one of few designated brown trout streams. The trail and bridge provide anglers with multiple access points to the wade-able trout stream. The DNR stocks the creek with 5,600 brown trout annually to maintain the brown trout fishery that has limited natural reproduction. Paint Creek has high banks and stairs down to the water next to the bridge provide a safe

Application Narrative

path to and from the water's edge.

Quality and Quantity of the natural resource - The Paint Creek is a high quality natural resource. Southeast Michigan is dominated by warm-water streams and most of what is available as a cold-water stream is typically a small, headwater stream with little access or ability to maintain a fishery. Paint Creek is one of the few cold-water streams in SE Michigan. It has high water quality with temperatures rarely exceeding 70°F. This high quality stream also has a fair amount of good habitat with most of the river bed being made of sand, gravel, cobble, and in-stream woody habitat. The stream averages 26.3 feet and much of it is wade-able water allowing anglers the ability to move throughout the stream. The combination of high gradient, good groundwater inflow, and abundant public access make this one of the best river stretches in the Clinton River watershed for fisheries management activities. The buffer zones around the stream allow for stretches of Paint Creek to provide anglers with an "up north" feel even though they are fishing in a highly urbanized area.

Sustainability - Any maintenance or improvements performed on the Paint Creek adheres to the MDEQ requirements including closure during the trout spawning season. We maintain shoreline vegetation which, when partially submerged, deflects and slows the current, reducing the erosive energy, as well as overhanging vegetation which provides shade, cover, and substrate for fish habitat, their food, and to reduce (marginally at this scale) water temperature.

*IV. Other Information:

The Paint Creek Trail does NOT have a "residents only" policy. It is completely open to the public. There are no known health advisories for the Paint Creek. Our Public Hearing is open to receive support and concerns about this project. If concerns are expressed, we will provide a plan to address those concerns.