



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

1849 C Street, NW

Washington, DC 20240

1.1.B(2225)

(via email)

March 1, 2024

Honorable Maura T. Healey
Governor of Massachusetts
Massachusetts State House
24 Beacon St., Office
of the Governor, Room 280
Boston, Massachusetts 02133

Dear Governor Healey:

I am responding to the request for a one-year extension for Massachusetts 2017-2022 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) to allow for additional time to prepare what will now be the 2024-2029 SCORP, and the review and approval of the updated 2024-2029 Massachusetts Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP).

I understand that the State has experienced delays due to difficulties in securing a contractor to perform the public surveys. During the extension period, the 2017-2022 SCORP priorities and Open Project Selection Process continued to guide project selection criteria for any Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) applications. The request for an extension is approved and extended the previous SCORP (2017-2022) to the new expiration date of December 31, 2023.

We also wanted to thank you for completing the update within the extension period and are pleased to inform you that we have approved this 5-year plan for outdoor recreation management, conservation, and development, including the Open Project Selection Process as outlined in Appendix C of the SCORP. Therefore, Massachusetts has continued eligibility to receive and distribute federal funds from the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) program until December 31, 2028.

We wish to commend Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs' Division of Conservation Services staff for their efforts during the planning process and on the production of a high-quality document. Our hope is that the implementation of this plan will be beneficial to Massachusetts' outdoor recreation needs and that additional efforts to maintain an

ongoing, effective, and comprehensive outdoor recreation planning program will proceed in a timely and efficient manner. We look forward to continuing our partnership with the State in implementing the SCORP and in administering the LWCF financial assistance program.

Sincerely,

Lauren S. Imgrund
Associate Director, Partnerships and Civic Engagement
National Park Service

cc: Ms. Rebecca Tepper, State Liaison Officer, Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs' Division of Conservation Services
Melissa Cryan, Alternative State Liaison Officer, Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs' Division of Conservation Services
Missy Morrison, Acting Chief of State and Local Assistance Programs, National Park Service