

# Application #: 42

## 1673 - Big Cherry Lake, Big Stone Gap, Va

### Application Details

Funding Opportunity: 1525-Preservation Trust Fund (PTF) - FY23 - Spring Round  
Funding Opportunity Due Date: Mar 7, 2023 5:00 PM  
Program Area: Preservation Trust Fund  
Status: Submitted  
Stage: Final Application

Initial Submit Date: Mar 6, 2023 4:36 PM  
Initially Submitted By: Idalina Walker  
Last Submit Date: Mar 7, 2023 10:55 AM  
Last Submitted By: Idalina Walker

### Contact Information

#### Primary Contact Information

**Active User\*:** Yes  
**Type:** External User  
**Name\*:** Ms. Idalina Walker  
Salutation First Name Middle Name Last Name  
**Title:** Director of Outreach and Partnership  
**Email\*:** [iwalker@myswa.org](mailto:iwalker@myswa.org)  
**Address\*:** one heartwood circle  
  
Abingdon Virginia 24210  
City State/Province Postal Code/Zip  
**Phone\*:** 540-239-3311 Ext.  
Phone  
###-###-####  
**Fax:** ###-###-####  
**Comments:**

#### Organization Information

**Status\*:** Approved  
**Organization Name\*:** Friends of Southwest Virginia  
**Organization Type\*:** Non-Profit Organization  
**Tax Id:** 36-4686736  
**Organization Website:** <https://friendsofswva.org>  
**Address\*:** one heartwood circle

Abingdon Virginia 24210-  
City State/Province Postal Code/Zip

**Phone\*:** 540-239-3311 Ext.  
###-###-####

**Fax:** ###-###-####

**Benefactor:**

**Vendor ID:**

**Comments:**

## PTF Application

### ***Project Information***

The project title will be used in public relations and grant documents should funding be awarded.

**Is the project title the same as the application title?\*** Yes

**Type of Applicant\*:** Non-Profit Organization

Would you like to be considered for any other VOF grant program if eligible?

**Other VOF Grant Program\*:** Yes

### **Land Protection Plan**

Projects may consist of land acquisition, easement acquisition, and/or components critical for public use of the land such as infrastructure and the associated necessary engineering, design, and planning. Land protection is a required deliverable for all projects.

**Select the real estate structure that best describes the project\*:** Land protection of owned parcel(s)

### **Land Protection Partner**

A real estate interest must be conveyed to VOF or a locality to be eligible for PTF funding. Some examples of how this requirement could be met are through ownership, an easement, a dedication to Open-Space, a right of way, or a lease.

**Land Protection Partner** Locality

This will be the partner which takes ownership of the property, holds the easement, deed restrictions or other method of land protection.

:

**Please name specific land protection partner:** Big Stone Gap, Va

If requesting VOF as holder of real-estate interest, please contact VOF at grants@vof.org before submitting the application. VOF will review request and determine if they are best partner.

**Is documentation of land protection partner/method included with this application?** No

Proposals with a confirmed land protection partner are more competitive.

\*:

### **Project Location**

(Latitude/longitude required\*, other location info such as street address or tax parcel ID optional)

\*See [Google Maps Guide](#) for directions on using Google Maps or contact grants@vof.org to ask for help getting latitude/longitude coordinates.

**Project Location\*:** 36.8442N -82.6679W  
Latitude (00.00000) Longitude (-00.00000)

Please provide any additional information to help locate the project site.

**Other Location Information (such as street address or tax parcel ID):** Tax Parcel ID: 021145  
Other Location Info

The number of acres indicated below will be required to be protected in perpetuity should the proposal be awarded funding.

**Total Acres to Be Protected\*:** 252.00

AGIS boundary for the property is requested if available.

**GIS Boundary of Property/** No

**Project Area Available?**

**(shapefile/geodatabase/KML/KMZ)\*:**

Provide a brief summary of this project in the space below.

**Brief Summary\*:**

An outdoor development initiative at Big Cherry Lake is underway to create a day and overnight destination that will enhance the High Knob area experience. The Town of Big Stone Gap owns the 250-acre lake; with support from the federal, state the Town has secured funds to create walking trails around the lake and develop 18 campsites at Big Cherry Lake. The next phase, and the purpose of this funding request to VOF, is to install a concrete boat ramp, courtesy pier, dock and ADA fishing pier.

**Project Description**

Describe the property, including the existing conditions (size and composition of property, natural resource values, recreational, scenic, and cultural resources, and/or significant landscape features).

**Project Description\*:**

Friends of Southwest Virginia, a regional non profit is applying on behalf of Big Stone Gap Va for this funding opportunity, in order to expand capacity and regional support. The property at Big Cherry Reservoir is on 250 acres and owned by the Town of Big Stone Gap, and located in Wise County, Virginia. Big Cherry Lake rests amid a magnificent mountain basin, with elevations above sea level varying from 3000 feet downstream of Big Cherry Dam to 4223 feet at its head on High Knob. Big Cherry Lake is 8.5 miles west of Big Stone Gap's thriving downtown, a Virginia Main Street Affiliate Community. The Town hosts over 100 annual events each year and serves as the entertainment hub for Wise County. Currently, the area of the boat launch site at Big Cherry Lake is a gravel base that erodes easily and can scratch boats if paddlers do not land properly. Additionally, the lake does not have access to ADA supported fishing along the shore of the lake. Improving the boat ramp, installing a courtesy pier and dock for boat use, and developing an ADA-compliant fishing pier with accessible admission adjacent to the ramp will significantly enhance Big Cherry Lake's recreational opportunities in various ways. Friends of Southwest Virginia believes the proposed improvements will greatly enhance Big Cherry Lake's recreational opportunities in various ways. The addition of a fishing pier will allow increased fishing access for bank fishermen and boaters alike. The fishing pier will also allow ADA-compliant fishing access to individuals with decreased mobility. Additionally, the improvements listed in this project will enable the DWR easier access to the lake, giving them better opportunities to monitor and enhance the fisheries and recreation opportunities.

Describe the planned method of land protection for this project (i.e., how the PTF requirement for a conveyance of real estate interest to VOF or a locality will be met)

**Land Protection\*:**

The Town of Big Stone Gap owns the land for this project, through this opportunity the town council has elected to restrict developments to the lake in the interest of providing a pristine recreation experience, in perpetuity. This will be done by establishing a recreational easement to protect the land from development.

List the proposed goals and objectives of the project.

**Goals and Objectives\*:**

Goal #1: Increase outdoor recreation amenities at Big Cherry Lake. Objective #1: Install a concrete boat ramp and courtesy pier and dock for boat use to increase boating and water recreation on Big Cherry Lake. Objective #2: Install a 60-foot ADA-compliant fishing pier to increase fishing access for bank fishermen. Objective #3: Improvements will also allow the DWR easier access to the lake, giving them better opportunities to monitor and enhance the fisheries and recreation opportunities. Goal #2: Increase visitation to Big Cherry Lake to 3,000 new visitors and generate \$90,000 in additional local revenue by June 30, 2025. Objective #1: The concrete boat ramp, courtesy pier, and fishing pier will provide more access to visitors to enjoy Big Cherry Lake. Objective #2: Allow ADA-compliant fishing access to individuals with decreased mobility. Objective #3: The boat ramp and fishing pier improvements, along with the installation of the campsites and improved trails, will give visitors increased opportunities for hiking, backpacking, boating, fishing, and general outdoor recreation.

Is this project part of a larger movement (e.g. Have other projects of a similar nature happened near this one? Is this one of many that are ongoing in this area?)

**Part of a Larger Movement\*:**

Yes, this project is part of a larger movement, which includes the High Knob Recreational Initiative, which connects the Big Cherry Lake to Scott County's Devil's Bath Tub, Scott County Park campsites, Flag Rock Recreation Area, High Knob Observation Tower, High Knob Recreation Area, and the vast area of the Jefferson National Forest. Additionally, the full scope of the Recreational Initiative is to expand and connect the Town of Appalachia with the Town of Big Stone Gap and its existing trail networks, notably the Powell River Trail. It's also important to note that the Big Cherry Lake has been referenced in the Virginia Outdoor Plan and the High Knob Recreational Initiative as "priority projects."

How will this area be managed in the future?

**Future Management\*:**

The Town of Big Stone Gap will manage the Big Cherry Reservoir property as part of their Parks and Recreation Department. Relatively speaking, the impact of the improvements to the area will be minimal, with the boat launch and pier being sustainable infrastructure with minimal upkeep for

the next 15 years.

### **Plan and Policy Alignment**

**Local Comprehensive Plan or Master Plan\*:** Yes

**Date of Plan:** 06/05/2019

**Page #:** 6,7

Cut and paste the relevant plan excerpt below or provide the URL if you have one:

**Relevant Plan Excerpt:**

[http://www.lenowisco.org/uploads/3/0/6/6/30665363/2020\\_ceds.pdf](http://www.lenowisco.org/uploads/3/0/6/6/30665363/2020_ceds.pdf)

**Regional Plan\*:** Yes

**Name of Regional Plan:** High Knob Master Plan

**Date of Plan:** 06/05/2019

**Page #:** 58,58

Cut and paste the relevant plan excerpt below or provide the URL if you have one:

**Relevant Plan Excerpt:**

<https://friendsofswa.org/development/anchor-areas/high-knob-recreation-area/>

**Virginia Outdoors Plan\*:** Yes

**Year of Plan:** 2018

**Page #:** 13.5

Cut and paste the relevant plan excerpt below or provide the URL if you have one:

**Relevant Plan Excerpt:**

<https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/recreational-planning/document/vopall2018.pdf> "Expand Big Cherry Lake access"

Does this project meet stated economic goals of VEDP or another state agency? Examples include land focused economic development (Ag & Forestry Industries, brownfields redevelopment)

**VEDP or Another State Agency Plan\*:** Yes

**Year of Plan:** 2018

**Page #:** 29,41

Cut and paste the relevant plan excerpt below or provide the URL if you have one:

**Relevant Plan Excerpt:**

<https://vatc.org/drive-2-0-strategic-tourism-plan/>

**Additional State Plan  
(if applicable):**

**Year of Plan:**

Cut and paste the relevant plan excerpt below or provide the URL if you have one:

**Relevant Plan Excerpt:**

**Additional State Plan  
(if applicable):**

**Year of Plan:** 0

Cut and paste the relevant plan excerpt below or provide the URL if you have one:

**Relevant Plan Excerpt:**

Does project contribute to coastal resilience?

**Coastal Resilience\*:** No

Does project meet any other state defined policy goals? (Public Drinking Water, Carbon Sequestration, Nutrient Mitigation, Impaired Streams, etc.?)

**Other State Defined Policy Goals\*:** No

Use the space below to briefly describe any other plans that support this project, including relevant excerpts:

**Other Plans:**

Does this property have undocumented historic or cultural resources?

**Historic or Cultural Resources\*:** No

**Project Purpose**

Select the purpose that best fits the objectives of the project.

If you are uncertain which best summarizes your project, please contact grants staff (grants@vof.org).

**Purpose\*:** Provide public access

Please select which category best describes the project.

**Category:** Outdoor Recreation

**Public Access Characteristics**

**Calendar\*:** The project site will be open to the public daily (excluding nights/holidays).  
Please choose one.

**Additional Information:**

**Area\*:** At least 75% of the project site will be open to the public.  
Please choose one.

**Additional Information:**

**Accessibility\*:**

The project site has public parking.,The project site is accessible by foot, bike, scooter, etc. (connected to sidewalk or an existing public park).  
Select all that apply.

**Additional Information:**

**Community Description**

Describe the community being served by this project.

Describe the importance of this project to the community and address how this project will better serve the community.

**Community Description\*:**

The High Knob Region will benefit from this project from both quality of life and economic development components. The High Knob Region consists of the Lenowisco Planning District and includes Scott, Wise, and Lee Counties and the City of Norton. Regionally tourism in this region exceeds \$87 million in spending, with over \$2 million generated in local tax receipts. Each community works to meet the business and activity needs of its local population, but the High Knob Region as a whole is working to showcase its offerings collectively and connect to the visitor market. The Big Cherry Lake project will complement the existing water-based recreation assets and create an all-inclusive experience that will create greater accessibility for visitors to gain confidence in the outdoors and the High Knob Mountain range. The improvements to Big Cherry Lake will expand the client base for outdoor recreation businesses and uniquely enhance the High Knob experience.

Describe how the community has been involved in the development of this proposal and/or will be involved in the implementation of this project. Describe how community support is shown for this project.

**Community Involvement\*:**

The Town of Big Stone Gap and the entire LENOWISCO region have been actively involved with the planning of this project for several years. The Town of Big Stone Gap will be involved with overseeing the building and construction of the boat ramp, courtesy pier and dock for boat use, and an ADA-compliant fishing pier with accessible access. Community support is also high for this project. In 2019, when the High Knob Recreational Initiative and High Knob Master Plan were published, Friends of Southwest Virginia interviewed 124 local individuals who were engaged in developing the High Knox area. During the facilitated working session, participants identified Big Cherry Lake as one top three projects the region should pursue. Since then, Big Stone Gap has worked closely with local and regional partners to expand access, evaluate the opportunity, and break down barriers to entry to a fantastic experience. Additionally, the Town of Big Town Gap has taken steps to ensure safety measures at Big Cherry Lake. One key step includes installing solar powered cameras in key areas. Additionally, the Town is looking to provide wi-fi access during future development buildout. Finally, local law enforcement will have this amenity on their patrol route.

How does this project address a specific need in the community or provide a unique service to the community?

**Community Need/Service\*:**

Big Cherry Lake (a non-motorized lake) is one of five mountain top lakes on High Knob, and the development of the recreational area at Big Cherry

Lake will have a positive economic impact on the entire High Knob region. The funds from this request will have an immense impact on the lake and will provide more accessibility to visitors with the boat ramp, courtesy pier and dock for boat use, and an ADA-compliant fishing pier with accessible access.

If yes, please describe what type of public access might be considered below.

**Please Describe\*:**

**Is the property an active, working farm?\***

**Describe Activity\*:**

Does the property have, or has the owner begun the process of obtaining, a farm management plan that specifies Best Management Practices (BMPs) that will be implemented in the daily operation of the farm?

**Farm Management Plan\*:**

Please list the type of farm management plans that will be followed (examples include conservation plan, nutrient management plan, resource management plan, etc.).

**Type of Plans\*:**

Have Best Management Practices (BMPs) been implemented on the farm?

**BMPs Implemented\*:**

Describe what practices are being utilized on the farm.

**Describe Practices\*:**

**Is the property in active timber production?**

\*:

**Describe Activity\*:**

Does the property have, or has the owner begun the process of obtaining a written forest stewardship management plan?

**Forest Stewardship Management Plan\*:**

Has the property been recognized by any programs or received any special designations? (Examples include clean water farm award, grand basin winner)

**Property Recognized\*:**

**Please List\*:**

Has the property been recognized as a Virginia Century or Bicentennial Farm?

**Virginia Century or Bicentennial Farm\*:**

**Additional Information:**

Has the property been recognized as a Virginia Century Forest?

**Virginia Century Forest\*:**

**Additional Information:**

**Partnerships**

<b>Partners</b>	<b>Type of Support/Involvement</b>
Big Stone Gap	Project Lead
City of Norton	Project Partners
Virginia Energy	Funding for campsites, general store, etc.
Tobacco Commission	Funding for camping and trails
DCR - Recreational Trails Program	Trail Development
Lenowisco Planning District Commission	Regional Partner
Wise County	Local Partner
Scott County	Trails
High Knob Enhancement Corporation	Local Partner

**Funding**

While the budget section of this application must be completed, which includes documentation of any matching funds, please use the space below to describe any details about the budget or funding that could not be captured in a chart format.

**How Will Funds be Budgeted\*:**

Friends of Southwest Virginia is seeking \$150,000 for enhancements to the Big Cherry Lake, including installing a concrete boat ramp and courtesy pier and dock for boat use and an ADA-compliant fishing pier with accessible access adjacent to the ramp. Total cost of the project: \$834,000 Other funding sources for Big Cherry Lake projects include: Virginia Energy \$115,000; Tobacco Commission - \$300,000 ; DCR- Rec Trails- \$99,417.60; Please reference budget table for details

Explain if the grant funding is a key component to getting the project started or completed.

**Grant Funding\*:**

Grant funding is a crucial component of getting this project completed. The development of the boat ramp, courtesy pier, and ADA-compliant fishing pier have been a dream deferred for a long time. The land is owned by the Town of Big Stone Gap, and the Town is currently overseeing improvements to the parking areas, adding camping amenities, and building a general store with funds from the Tobacco Commission, Virginia Energy's AMLER funds.

Address how reduced funding would impact the scope of the project. Please address viability and scope at 75% and 50% of the requested funding.

**Reduced Funding\*:**

The project is still viable, even if funded less than 100%. A reduction in funding would impact the speed of development for the boat launch and boardwalk. Priority would be given to the ADA-compliant fishing pier, as that element is a main feature of the recreational area and meets an unmet need for the community.

**Additional Information**

**Is there additional information to be shared about this project?\*** No

**Estimated Timeline/Plan of Work**

*Estimated Timeline/Plan of Work*

Start Date	Completion Date	Activity	Status	Responsible Party
07/01/2023	06/30/2024	Building a concrete boat ramp and courtesy pier and dock for boat use.	Not yet started	Town of Big Stone Gap
07/01/2023	06/30/2024	Building an ADA-compliant fishing pier accessible adjacent to the ramp.	Not yet started	Town of Big Stone Gap

**Budget**

*Budget*

Item	Expense Estimated or Actual Cost?
ADA Pier - Includes wooden pier per attached plans and details	\$55,000.00 Actual
Courtesy Pier - Includes wooden pier per attached plans and details	\$26,000.00 Actual
Boat Ramp & Access - Includes concrete boat ramp & ADA access route	\$69,000.00 Actual
	<b>\$150,000.00</b>

*Other Fund Sources*

Match Source	If other, please list	If Grant Program, please list Grant Funding Source Name	Funding Status	If requested, please list the anticipated award date	Match Type	If other, please list	Planned Use	Match Amount
Grant Program	Virginia Energy	Abandoned Mine Land Economic Revitalization Program	Secured		Cash		Funding for campsites, general store	\$115,000.00
Grant Program		Tobacco Regional Revitalization Commission	Secured		Cash		Funding for campsites and trails	\$300,000.00
Grant Program		DCR- Recreational Trails Program	Secured	05/01/2023	Cash		Trail connectivity	\$99,417.66
								<b>\$514,417.66</b>

*Budget Summary*

**Total Requested Amount:** \$150,000.00  
**Total Match Amount:** \$514,417.66  
**Total Project Cost:** \$664,417.66  
**Match Percentage:** 77.42%

## Supplemental Material

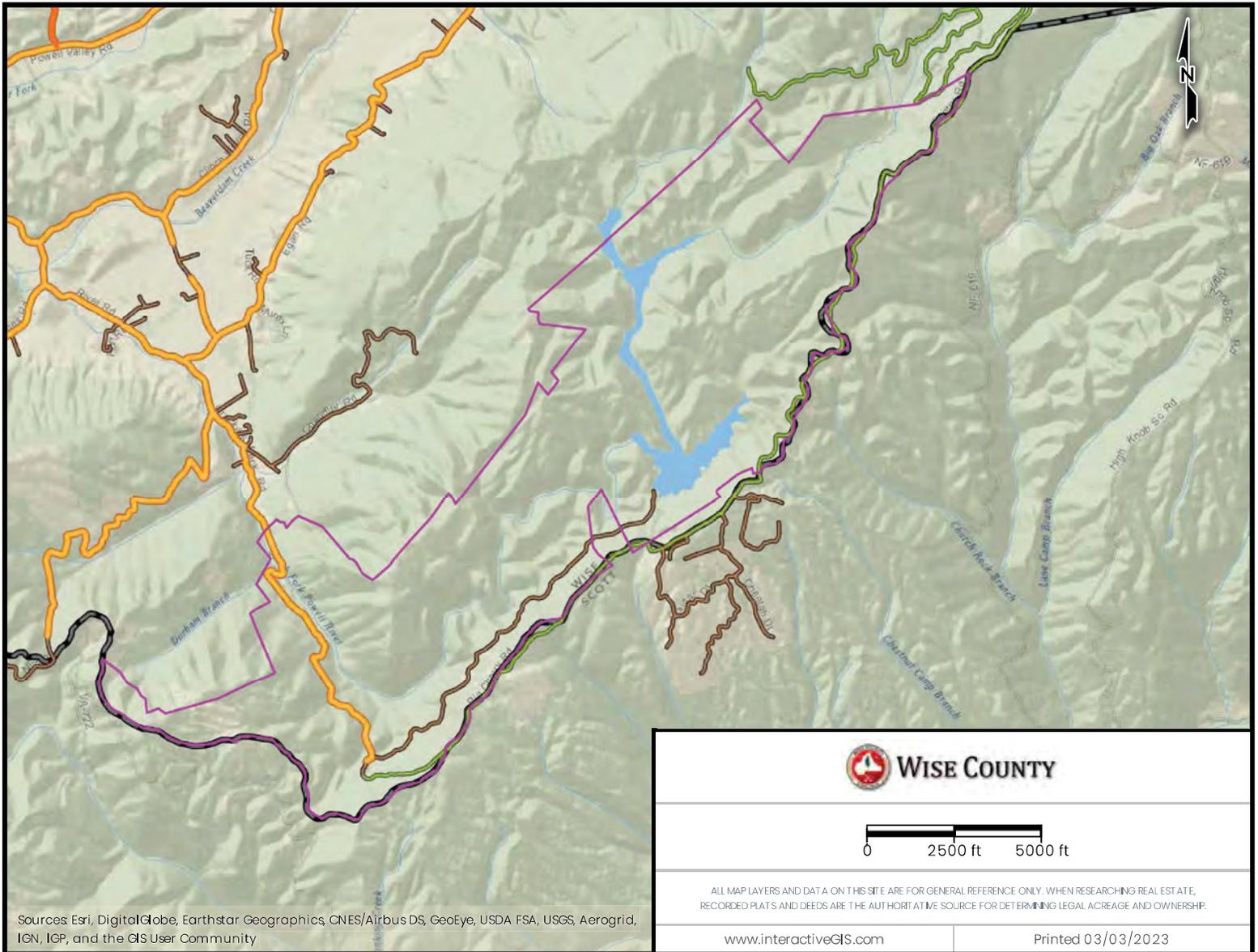
### Required Supplemental Material

Named Attachment	Required	Description	File Name	Type	Size	Upload Date
Aerial photograph with property boundary shown	✓	Property line overlay	<a href="#">property line overlay- google maps.pdf</a>	pdf	1 MB	03/07/2023 10:30 AM
Locality tax map with parcel highlighted	✓	Big Cherry Lake Property line- tax map	<a href="#">Big Cherry Tax map- compressed.pdf</a>	pdf	255 KB	03/07/2023 09:54 AM
Photographs showcasing the property, community, or project	✓	Photos of lake and project site	<a href="#">Big Cherry Photos- condensed .pdf</a>	pdf	16 MB	03/07/2023 10:46 AM

### Optional Supplemental Material

Description	File Name	Type	Size	Upload Date
City of Norton Letter of Support	<a href="#">Letter of Support from City of Norton - 3-3-23.pdf</a>	pdf	195 KB	03/07/2023 08:46 AM
Engineer documents- budget, map, rendering, boat dock plan	<a href="#">Budget and rendering_Big Cherry Lake -compressed.pdf</a>	pdf	487 KB	03/07/2023 10:40 AM
LENOWISCO PDC Letter of Support	<a href="#">LENOWISCO_VOFFriendsAppLetterofSupport.pdf</a>	pdf	171 KB	03/07/2023 08:46 AM
Letter of Support from Congressman Griffith	<a href="#">Congressman Griffith_FSWVA Support Letter 3.3.2023.pdf</a>	pdf	376 KB	03/07/2023 08:46 AM
Letter of Support from Delegate Kilgore	<a href="#">Delagate Kilgore_Big Cherry Lake VA Outdoors Foundation Support Letter _compressed.pdf</a>	pdf	164 KB	03/07/2023 10:54 AM
Wise County Tourism Letter of Support	<a href="#">Wise County Toursim- letter of support.pdf</a>	pdf	473 KB	03/07/2023 08:46 AM





Sources Esri, DigitalGlobe, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, GeoEye, USDA FSA, USGS, AeroGrid, IGN, IGP, and the GIS User Community



ALL MAP LAYERS AND DATA ON THIS SITE ARE FOR GENERAL REFERENCE ONLY. WHEN RESEARCHING REAL ESTATE, RECORDED PLATS AND DEEDS ARE THE AUTHORITY SOURCE FOR DETERMINING LEGAL ACREAGE AND OWNERSHIP.

[www.interactiveGIS.com](http://www.interactiveGIS.com)

Printed 03/03/2023

# Big Cherry Lake

## Big Stone Gap Virginia



# Big Cherry Lake Big Stone Gap Virginia



**Feature Site  
of Handicap  
Accessibility  
Fishing Pier**

# Big Cherry Lake Big Stone Gap Virginia



City of Norton  
618 Virginia Avenue  
P. O. Box 618  
Norton, Virginia 24273-0618



(276) 679-1160  
fax: (276) 679-3510  
www.nortonva.gov  
email: cityhall@nortonva.gov

March 3, 2023

Virginia Outdoors Foundation  
900 Natural Resources Drive, Suite 800  
Charlottesville, VA 22903

Attn: Emily Nelson White, VOF Grant Program Manager

RE: Virginia Outdoors Foundation: Preservation Trust Fund Grant - Big Cherry Lake Improvements

Dear Ms. White:

I am writing this letter to express our full support for the Virginia Outdoor Foundation funding request that would install a concrete boat ramp and courtesy pier for boat use, and to install a fishing pier at Big Cherry Lake. The City of Norton believes that these projects align with the recent High Knob Master Plan, undertaken by High Knob Regional Initiative, which included the City along with Wise & Scott Counties and the Town of Big Stone Gap.

This initiative developed the High Knob Master Plan, a strategic plan offering recommendations for driving sustainable economic growth centered on outdoor recreation in the High Knob Region, which includes Wise, Scott, and Lee counties and the City of Norton.

Released in 2019, the High Knob Master Plan resulted from a four-year planning effort, partially funded by the Appalachian Regional Commission, that involved 22 partners, including communities, nonprofits, recreation user groups, state, federal, and local governmental agencies, and higher education institutions.

The High Knob Master Plan identifies as a signature project establishing a High Knob Destination Center to serve as a gateway to the High Knob Region, offering information about the region's outdoor and cultural offerings and natural history. The destination center will be in Norton and is projected to open in Fall 2023. This center will also help

*Visit Flag Rock - Norton's Mountain Masterpiece*

better connect the region's communities and recreational assets by providing information and directing visitors to the region's variety of outdoor recreation sites and experiences.

Efforts in the High Knob Region to grow outdoor recreation tourism also have economic benefits, as cited in research from Headwaters Economics that shows "counties with outdoor recreation economies are more likely to attract new residents with greater wealth and have faster-growing wages than their non-recreation counterparts." A separate study conducted by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, "Federal Outdoor Recreation Trends: Effects on Economic Opportunities (2014)," also notes how "outdoor recreation is an important driver of economic activity in rural communities." The report states that benefits from federal recreation resources include "business activity generated from spending by recreation visitors, increased property values, and business attraction because of natural amenities those resources provide, and health benefits from physical activity and stress reduction." Both the City of Norton's Flag Rock Recreation Area and Big Stone Gap's Big Cherry Reservoir adjoin the Jefferson National Forest on the U.S. Forest Service's Clinch Ranger District.

We appreciate your consideration and please accept this letter as an indication of the City of Norton's support for Friends of Southwest Virginia's application.

Sincerely,



Fred L. Ramey, Jr.  
City Manager

FLR



## Conceptual Cost Summary

### Big Cherry Lake Improvements Big Stone Gap, VA February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023

ITEM	COST
<b>General Conditions</b>	<b>\$ 98,000</b>
Includes supervision, mobilization, material transportation & handling, etc.	
<b>ADA Pier</b>	<b>\$ 55,000</b>
Includes wooden pier per attached plans and details	
<b>Courtesy Pier</b>	<b>\$ 26,000</b>
Includes wooden pier per attached plans and details	
<b>Boat Ramp &amp; Access*</b>	<b>\$ 235,000</b>
Includes concrete boat ramp, paving, retaining walls, & ADA access route	
<b>Dam Access</b>	<b>\$ 19,000</b>
Includes retaining walls and misc. site improvements	
<b>Clear Timber &amp; Debris</b>	<b>\$ 34,000</b>
Includes clearing shoreline debris as indicated on plans	
<b>Picnic Shelters</b>	<b>\$ 242,000</b>
Includes 4 ea 20'x20' shelters and pads per attached plans & details	
<b>Road Improvements</b>	<b>\$ 83,000</b>
Includes improvements to road for construction access and final use	
<b>Site Furnishings</b>	<b>\$ 42,000</b>
Includes misc. signage, bear proof trash receptacles, etc.	
<b>Total Conceptual Budget</b>	<b>\$ 834,000</b>
*Budget Line Details for Boat Ramp & Access: Concrete Boat Ramp & ADA Access - \$69,000 Paving & Retaining Walls - \$166,000	



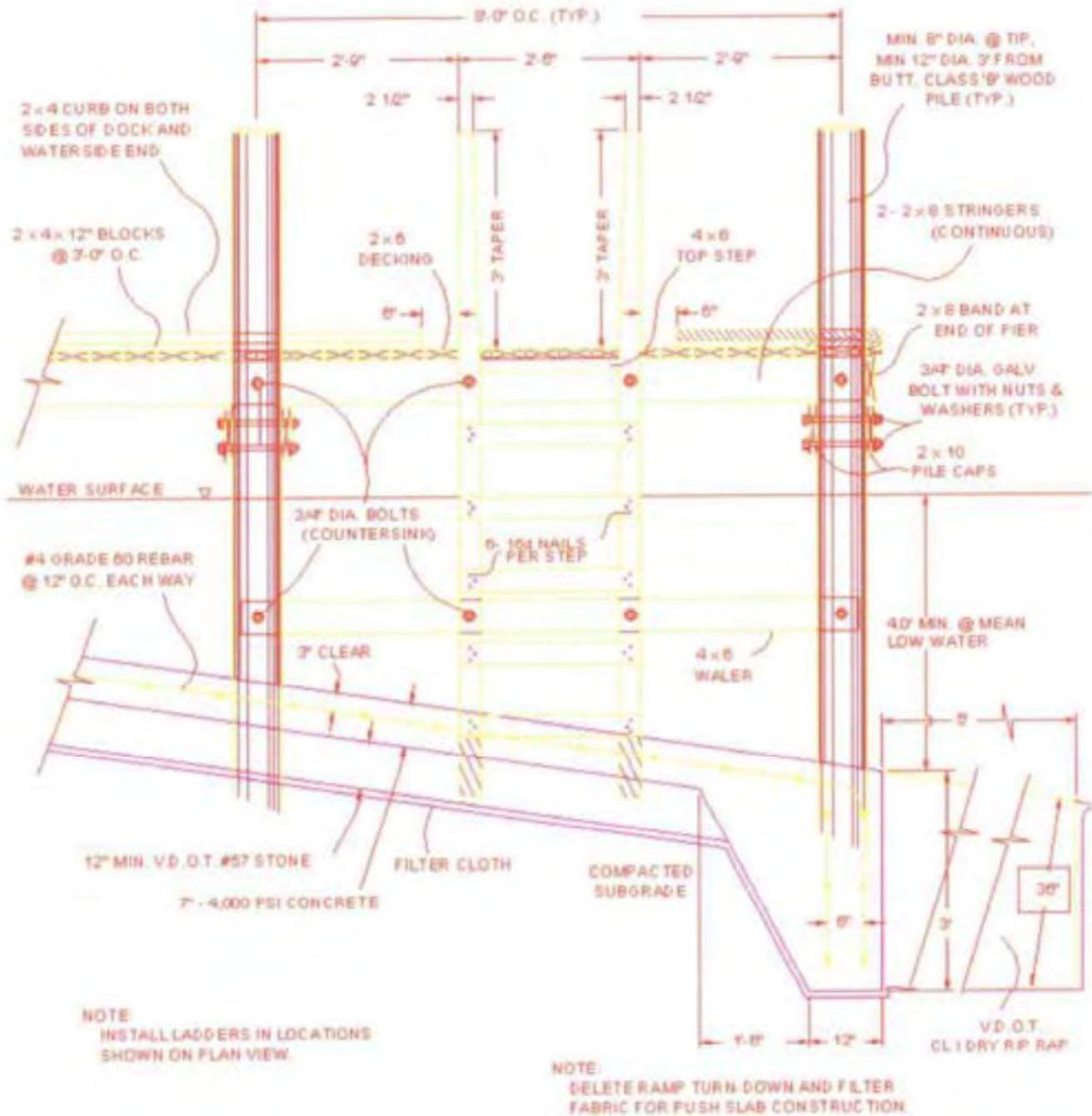
**BIG CHERRY LAKE IMPROVEMENTS**  
 BIG STONE GAP, VA

**CHERRYBERRY'S**  
 ENGINEERING & ARCHITECTURE  
 10000 WOODBRIDGE BLVD, SUITE 100  
 FARMERSVILLE, VA 22934

<b>SHEET</b>		<b>BOAT RAMP IMPROVEMENTS</b>	
TITLE	_____	SHEET NO.	2
JOB NO.	_____		
DATE	_____		



<b>BIG CHERRY LAKE IMPROVEMENTS</b> BIG STONE GAP, VA <small>© 2018 ARCADIS U.S. INC. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.</small>	
SHEET TITLE: <b>DAM AREA IMPROVEMENTS</b>	
SHEET NO.: _____ TITLE: _____ JOB NO.: _____ DATE: _____	SHEET NO. <b>3</b>



LADDER FRAMING & CONCRETE RAMP

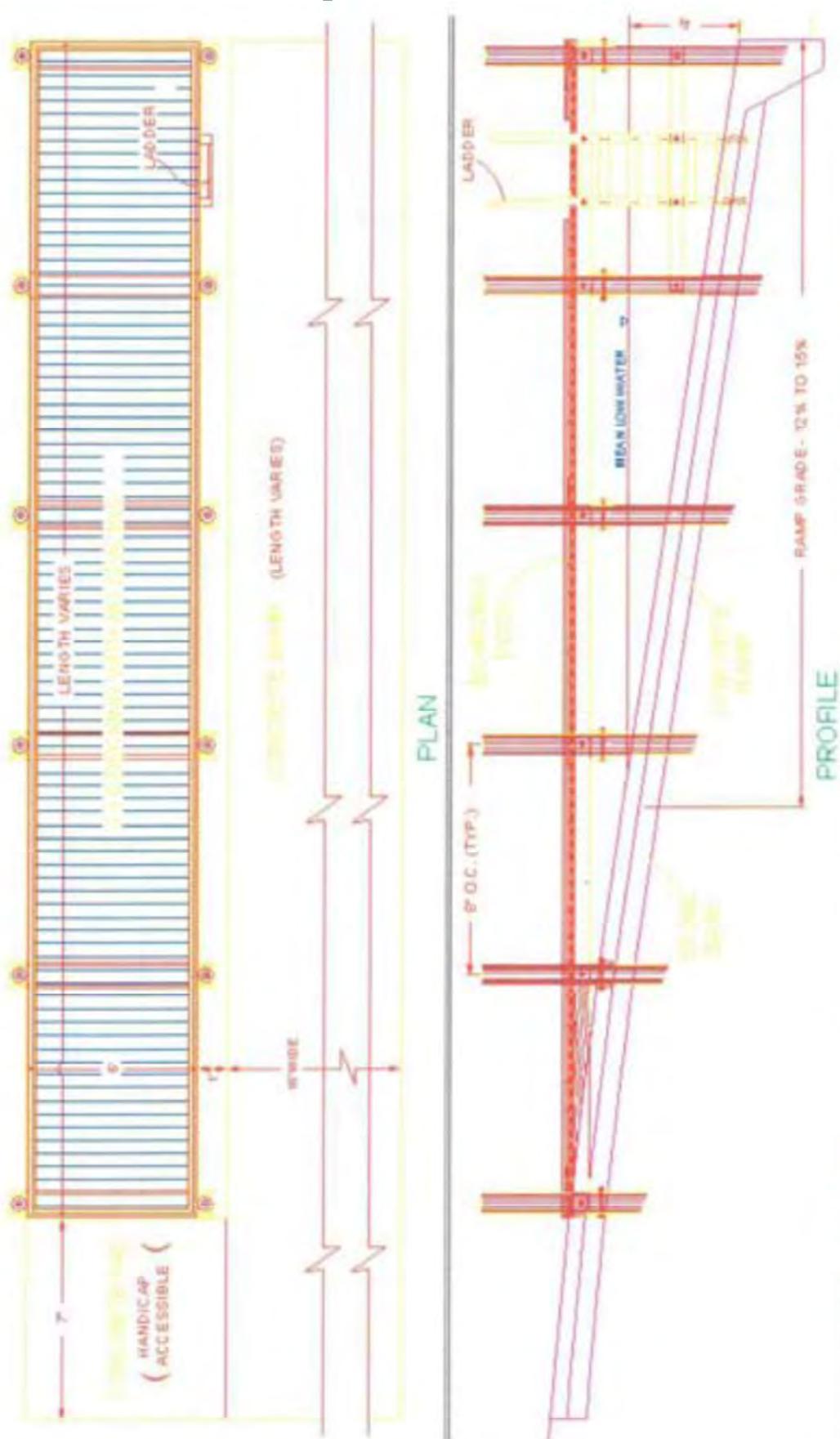


PROJECT NUMBER: 110001  
 DATE: 11/10/06  
 TELEPHONE: (804) 302-1000 FAX: (804) 302-6147

TYPICAL PLAN & DETAILS FOR  
 BOAT RAMP & BOARDING DOCK

DATE: 11/10/06

SCALE: 1/2"=1'



## TYPICAL PLAN & DETAILS FOR BOAT RAMP & COURTESY PIER



TELEPHONE: (804) 361-0000 FAX: (804) 361-0147

# LENOWISCO PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION

March 3, 2023

Ms. Emily Nelson White  
VOF Grant Program Manager  
900 Natural Resources Drive, Suite 800  
Charlottesville, VA 22903

**Re: Virginia Outdoors Foundation: Preservation Trust Fund Grant - Big Cherry Lake Improvements**

Dear Ms. White:

On behalf of the LENOWISCO Planning District Commission, I am writing to express support for the Friends of Southwest Virginia's application to the Virginia Outdoors Foundation for the development of outdoor recreation amenities at Big Cherry Lake.

Friends of Southwest Virginia is focused on preserving, developing, and promoting the natural and cultural assets of the region, and the development of the recreational area at the Big Cherry Lake will provide a tremendous economic impact throughout the LENOWISCO footprint.

This project supports ongoing regional efforts by providing new and unique offerings such as a concrete boat ramp and an ADA compliant fishing pier at Big Cherry Lake.

It is with great enthusiasm that I give my full support to the Friends of Southwest Virginia's application to the Virginia Outdoors Foundation for this project.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any additional questions.

Sincerely,



DUANE A. MILLER  
Executive Director



372 Technology Trail Lane, Suite 101 • Duffield VA 24244  
Phone (276) 431-2206 • Fax (276) 431-2208  
[LENOWISCO@LENOWISCO.org](mailto:LENOWISCO@LENOWISCO.org) • [www.LENOWISCO.org](http://www.LENOWISCO.org)

*Virginia Planning District One • Serving Lee-Norton-Wise-Scott*



H. MORGAN GRIFFITH  
9TH DISTRICT, VIRGINIA

COMMITTEE ON  
ENERGY AND COMMERCE  
SUBCOMMITTEES:

OVERSIGHT AND INVESTIGATIONS  
REPUBLICAN LEADER

ENERGY

HEALTH

[www.morgangriffith.house.gov](http://www.morgangriffith.house.gov)



Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-4609

2202 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
(202) 225-3861 PHONE  
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323 WEST MAIN STREET  
ABINGDON, VA 24210  
(276) 525-1405 PHONE  
(276) 525-1444 FAX

17 WEST MAIN STREET  
CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073  
(540) 381-5671 PHONE  
(540) 381-5675 FAX

March 3, 2023

Ms. Emily White  
Conservation Grant Program Manager  
Virginia Outdoors Foundation  
900 Natural Resources Drive  
Suite 800  
Charlottesville, VA 22903-3169

Dear Ms. White,

I am writing to express support for Friends of Southwest Virginia's proposed application to the Virginia Outdoors Foundation Preservation Trust Fund Grant for the development of amenities at Big Cherry Lake.

In preparing this grant application, Friends of Southwest Virginia cited many factors contributing to the need for this funding in my congressional district. Big Cherry Lake is one of five mountain top lakes on High Knob, and the development of the recreational area at Big Cherry Lake will have a positive economic impact on the entire High Knob region. Ultimately, this plan will link Big Cherry Lake to other regional features of interest, publicly accessible lands, and other destinations within the region while increasing outdoor recreation accommodation opportunities.

I appreciate your consideration and please accept this letter of support for Friends of Southwest Virginia's application. If there is any additional information that my office can provide, please contact Thatcher Stanley at my Abingdon office at (276) 525-1405.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. I look forward to hearing from you. I remain

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "H. Morgan Griffith".

H. MORGAN GRIFFITH  
Member of Congress



COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

**HOUSE OF DELEGATES**  
RICHMOND

**TERRY G. KILGORE**  
**MAJORITY LEADER**  
POST OFFICE BOX 669  
GATE CITY, VIRGINIA 24251

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:  
COMMERCE AND ENERGY (VICE-CHAIR)  
COURTS OF JUSTICE  
RULES

FIRST DISTRICT

March 3, 2023

Emily Nelson White  
VOF Grant Program Manager  
900 Natural Resources Drive, Suite 800  
Charlottesville, VA 22903

Dear Ms. White,

I am writing to express support for Friends of Southwest Virginia's proposed application to the Virginia Outdoors Foundation for the development of amenities at Big Cherry Lake.

For many years local and state governments have championed efforts to improve local economies through diversification in the face of a declining coal industry. Increasingly, these efforts have turned to promoting ecotourism in the region by embracing the area's natural beauty.

One of the region's most scenic experiences is Big Cherry Lake. As one of five mountain top lakes on High Knob, Big Cherry Lake has the opportunity to become a premier outdoor destination for the Southwest Virginia region. The Town of Big Stone Gap is already working to develop campsites and improve walking trails around Big Cherry Lake. This work will help connect and enhance regional outdoor destinations of the nearby Flag Rock Recreation Area, High Knob Recreation Area, High Knob Observation Tower, Devil's Bathtub, and throughout the vast Jefferson National Forest.

Support is needed by Virginia Outdoors Foundation to help the improvements at Big Cherry Lake continue. The projects included in this application include adding a concrete boat ramp and an ADA compliant fishing pier at Big Cherry Lake. These additional outdoor assets will not only allow increase fishing access to fisherman and boaters alike, but the project will also increase fishing access to individuals with decreased mobility.

The development of the recreational area at Big Cherry Lake will have a positive economic impact on the entire region, and it is with great enthusiasm that I give my full support to the Friends of Southwest Virginia's application to the Virginia Outdoors Foundation for Big Cherry Lake.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Terry G. Kilgore".

Delegate Terry G. Kilgore  
Majority Leader  
Virginia House of Delegates



March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023

Emily Nelson White  
VOF Grant Program Manager  
900 Natural Resources Drive, Suite 800  
Charlottesville, VA 22903

Re: Virginia Outdoors Foundation: Preservation Trust Fund Grant - Big Cherry Lake Improvements

Dear Ms. White,

In regard to Friends of Southwest Virginia's application to install a concrete boat ramp and courtesy pier, and an ADA-accessible at Big Cherry Lake in Big Stone Gap, the Wise County Tourism Committee is in full support of the proposed plans.

Big Stone Gap has been instrumental as a DMO in bringing tourism from all corners of the world to our county and our region. We continue to partner with the town as they work to provide more attraction options to our corner of the state. The Wise County Tourism Committee feels that Big Stone Gap has proven itself in it's out of box thinking, strategies, and creative concepts to help meet the needs of our region.

In closing, the Wise County Tourism Committee fully endorses and supports the efforts at Big Cherry Lake in Big Stone Gap

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kedric Meade". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kedric Meade  
Wise County Tourism Committee Chair