

**571—30.61(455A,461A,462A) Evaluation criteria.****30.61(1) *Water trails development program.***

*a.* The scoring committee shall evaluate grant proposals for water trails development program projects based on the following criteria:

- (1) Feasibility of the proposed project;
- (2) Level of private resources or local resources or both available to the project; and
- (3) The project's contribution to developing a designated water trail or designated wilderness water trail.

*b.* The scoring committee shall publish its ranking system, which shall be based on the criteria described above, with the application forms. The department shall post this ranking system on its website, [www.iowadnr.gov](http://www.iowadnr.gov), at least 30 days prior to proposal due dates.

*c.* Designated water trails.

(1) For purposes of this rule, designated water trails shall include those bodies of water with the following minimum treatment:

1. Provide signs to users about possible dangers and portages;
2. Possess adequate portage around obstructions and dams, or have modified obstructions and dams to make them safe to navigate, or ensure that the water trail begins or ends a safe distance upstream and downstream from the obstruction or dam;
3. Have accesses spaced and developed appropriately to the natural resource integrity of the water body from public roadways to the water trails;
4. Provide periodic kiosks with information for users;
5. Identify access to camping, lodging or other overnight accommodations; and
6. Have adequate promotion through maps, brochures and other media, which include information about the access points, difficult areas, distance between accesses, nearby cities, ADA amenity information, safety information, and other information related to use of the water trail.

(2) For purposes of this rule, designated wilderness water trails, because they are located in areas of special scenic, ecological, geological, habitat or wildlife value, shall be a type of designated water trail that encourages only low-impact human uses and keeps signage and accesses to a minimum, but still provides critical information and access.

**30.61(2) *Low-head dam public hazard program.*** The scoring committee shall consider the following criteria when evaluating cost-share proposals for low-head dam public hazard program projects:

- a.* Improvements to public safety;
- b.* Demonstrated beneficial impacts to the overall stream health, fish migration and habitat, aesthetics, and recreational impacts; and
- c.* Contribution of private resources or local resources or both beyond the minimum requirements provided by these rules.