

At the State of North Dakota, our mission is to empower people, improve lives and inspire success. The State of North Dakota has over 70 state agencies which, along with the North Dakota University System, employ approximately 15,000 team members. We are committed to providing exceptional service to the citizens of North Dakota. We make a difference by working to keep citizens safe, supporting the vulnerable, educating our future leaders, serving as responsible stewards of our resources, assisting with public policy, improving the quality and length of life, and much more!

Director of North Dakota Parks and Recreation

Summary:

As a member of the Governor's Cabinet, the Director provides vision and direction for the State's Parks and Recreation Department whose mission is to offer a diversity of recreation opportunities and sustainably manage resources. The department manages 15 parks and recreation areas that have statewide or regional significance. In addition, the department has responsibility for the off-highway vehicle planning and safety program, snowmobile safety programs and trails, Nature Preserves Act, outdoor recreation grants and statewide recreation planning. The department contributes to the State's economic vitality and ensures citizens and visitors of all generations have a memorable experience in North Dakota's parks and recreation areas.

Responsibilities include:

- Set overall vision and direction for the department. Provide leadership in developing the strategic plan and budget. Annual operating budget exceeds \$16 million.
- Plan, direct, and evaluate programs and services of the department. Provide direction and guidance to department managers in the implementation and interpretation of programs and services.
- Lead high impact team that supports an innovative, citizen/customer focused culture that aligns with the state's mission and core values. Team includes more than 60 FTEs and increases to nearly 300 team members with seasonal employees.
- Monitor and evaluate the efficiency and effectiveness of service delivery methods and procedures; recommend, within departmental policy, appropriate service and staffing levels for the anticipated usage of facilities.
- Establish and implement operating policies of the department.
- Develop and administer policies and procedures to ensure compliance with state and federal laws and regulations.
- Oversee marketing and publicity of state recreation programming.
- Represent the department to internal and external public and private organizations by serving on committees and boards; provide expertise and information.
- Develop relationships with State Legislators. Prepare and present legislative testimony on behalf of the department
- Develop proposals and grant applications.

Key Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree in parks and recreation management, natural resource management, business administration or related fields plus 5-7 years senior management experience. Parks and recreation experience preferred.
- Track record of building a culture of innovation with high performing teams, systems and strategic thinking and risk management.
- Strong financial acumen.
- Highly effective communication and collaboration skills.
- Ability to plan, organize, lead, and guide all aspects of department administration including strategic planning, budget development and management, leadership development and succession planning.
- Knowledge of the legislative process and government operations is desirable.