

# TSK 457–a: Describing a Section 4(f) Property

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**See also:** [EM Chapter 457](#), PRO 457-a, Example Graphic

**Effective June 2011**

**Start task:** Region Environmental Coordinator, or a Consultant, is tasked with identifying all potentially impacted Section 4(f) properties that will be included in the Section 4(f) evaluation.

**End task:** Graphics necessary for Section 4(f) Evaluation are determined complete.

1. **Use** the project plan sheets to determine how each alternative effects potential 4(f) property.
  - a. Review the land use plans and maps to be sure that no potential Section 4(f) property has been overlooked. Consider both potential proximity impacts and right of way takes.
  - b. Consider all cultural and historic resources identified (through cultural resources surveys) within the project area.
  - c. Identify property purchased with Land and Water Conservation Fund Act money. Label this property, as appropriate.
  
2. **Create** a map, or drawing using ArcGIS, of sufficient scale to show the location of all existing and planned facilities.
  - a. An air photo overlaid with the parcel boundaries, or the ROW plan sheets may be used for the base map.
  - b. Facilities include all potential Section 4(f) properties such as ball parks, tennis courts, botanical gardens, dog parks, hiking trails, historic properties eligible for the National Register and wildlife refuges.
  - c. For an example map see Section 4(f) Example Graphic on the Section 4(f) webpage.
  
3. **Research** each parcel to determine:
  - a. Ownership data.
  - b. Size of potentially affected area in square feet or acres. Determine affected area for each feasible alternative.
  - c. Type of property (park, recreation area, historic resource, forest land, refuge).
  - d. Function of property and available activities (playing, swimming, bird watching).
  - e. Applicable State Recreation Master Plan, if any.
  - f. Location of pedestrian and vehicle accesses.
  - g. Estimated number of users/visitors.

- h. Relationship to other similarly used lands in the vicinity.
  - i. Clauses affecting ownership (leases, easements, covenants, restrictions, or conditions include forfeiture).
  - j. Unusual characteristics that reduce or enhance the value of all or part of the property (flooding, steep slopes, wetlands). Show the area of unusual conditions on the map (include photographs of affected areas if possible).
  - k. Documentation of purchase or improvement of the resource with Land and Water Conservation Fund Act money.
4. **Create** a table that lists all of the information collected in Step 3 for each parcel and reference it to the map created in Step 2.
5. **Incorporate** table and map, as appropriate, in Section 4(f) Evaluation.