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DEFINITION OF AN IDA DARK SKY PARK

An IDA Dark Sky Park (DSP) is a land possessing an exceptional or distinguished quality of starry nights and a nocturnal environment that is specifically protected for its scientific, natural, educational, cultural heritage, and/or public enjoyment. The land may be publicly owned, or privately owned provided that the landowner(s) consent to the right of permanent, ongoing public access to specific areas included in the IDA designation.

GOALS OF DARK SKY PARK CREATION

- To identify, restore, and protect public lands (national, state, provincial, and other parks and notable public lands), and publicly accessible private lands, with exceptional commitment to, and success in implementing, the ideals of dark sky preservation and outstanding night skies.
- To promote eco- and astro-tourism;
- To promote protection of nocturnal habitat and human health, public enjoyment of the night sky and its heritage, and/or areas ideal for professional and amateur astronomy;
- To encourage park administrators to recognize dark skies as a valuable resource in need of proactive protection;
- To provide international recognition for such parks;
- To encourage parks and similar public entities to become environmental leaders on dark sky issues by communicating the importance of dark skies to the general public and surrounding communities, and by providing an example of what is possible with proper stewardship.

BENEFITS

Achieving this designation brings recognition of the efforts a park has made towards protecting dark skies. It will raise the awareness of the park, staff, visitors, and the surrounding community. A DSP designation entitles the park to display the IDA DSP logo in official park publications and promotions, and use of this logo by commercial or other groups within the community when identifying the park area itself (e.g. an organization can say “located in Cherry Springs State Park, an IDA Dark Sky Park” or other words to the same effect). IDA will maintain a web page identifying and describing all DSPs. The park agency may also identify IDA as a park partner and must erect a public sign in the park announcing the Dark Sky Park status.

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for consideration as a DSP, a candidate Park must meet all of the following requirements:

A) All protected public lands, whether managed by national, state, provincial, or local agencies, are eligible. These may include parks, refuges, forests, wilderness areas, monuments, protected rivers, or other categories of protected lands; AND
B) Private lands whose owners consent to regular nighttime public access to designated areas of their property in perpetuity are also eligible. In order to ensure accessibility, the landowner(s) must allow the public to transit any part(s) of the property not included in the formally declared DSP as required to reach designated viewing areas. Public access to public or private lands may be subject to a nominal entry fee, but must not be contingent on the required paid use of any other product, service, program or facility available at the site. Collectively, all public or private lands contemplated in items (A) and (B) of this section are hereafter referred to as “parks;” **AND**

C) Regular visitation by the public is essential to meet the goals of the IDSP program. The Park must provide the opportunity for public nighttime access, with or without supervision. A portion of designated land may meet this requirement, or access must be available for a fraction of the length of the night. In some cases, such as when working with areas that protect endangered wildlife, this requirement may be adjusted; **AND**

D) The Park must provide an exceptional dark sky resource, relative to the communities and cities that surround it. Core night sky quality must fit in one of the three tier qualifications Gold, Silver, or Bronze. See Sky Quality Tiers Section.

**MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL PARKS**

A) A quality comprehensive Lightscape Management Plan (LMP) with the following minimum standards (see “Lightscape Management Plan Guidelines” section for more details):

i. New, current, and retrofitted lighting must meet the Park’s LMP (which must meet the “Lightscape Management Plan Guidelines” included in this document). The RASC/IDA Guidelines for Outdoor Lighting (GOL) should be consulted in creating the Park’s LMP. These guidelines may be found on IDA’s website [http://bit.ly/1NYjY9D](http://bit.ly/1NYjY9D); **AND**

ii. Included policy for determining whether an area should or should not be lighted, at what times an area should or should not be lighted, and appropriate illumination levels; **AND**

iii. Fully shielded fixtures are standard throughout the Park. Any lighting fixtures above 500 initial lumens are required to use fully shielded fixtures emitting no light at or above the horizontal. When unshielded fixtures are used, impacts to the lightscape must be minimized with the use of timers and/or curfews; **AND**

iv. Methods for determining the appropriate type of lamp (color, efficiency, technology) and fixture that should be used with goals to maximize energy efficiency and minimize impact to human vision dark adaptation/recovery time, wildlife, and the nocturnal ecology. The correlated color temperature (CCT) of lamps installed in the Park shall not exceed 3000 K, and a CCT of 2000 K or less is recommended to minimize the impact on most wildlife; **AND**

v. The LMP should conform to or surpass applicable policy in the appropriate local jurisdiction concerning lighting and dark sky protection as well as other applicable guidance and laws (e.g. environmental leadership programs, agency orders, wilderness act, energy management guidelines).

B) The Park’s commitment to dark skies and lightscape management, as shown by:
The Park recognizes dark skies as an important natural, cultural, and/or scientific resource value as demonstrated by inclusion in approved management documents (e.g. General Management Plan, Resource Management Plan, Facility Development Plan), AND

At least two-thirds (67%) of existing outdoor lighting fixtures within Park boundaries conform to the Park’s LMP at the time of IDA DSP application (or an alternative fraction approved by the IDA Dark Sky Places Committee (DSPC)) AND;

Lighting Inventory and a plan to bring 90% of outdoor lighting into compliance with the Park’s LMP within five (5) years of receiving an IDA designation, as well as a written commitment to bring the Sanctuary into 100% compliance within ten (10) years of designation; AND

A measurement program must be maintained either by the Park, private landowner(s), or by another public or private organization (university, research center, IDA chapter, astronomy club, etc.) to follow the evolution of light pollution in the DSP and assert that the night sky quality does not degrade; AND

The Park has set a leadership example in the restoration of dark skies by implementing at least one of the following:

(1) Producing at least one “night sky friendly” lighting project that is publicly visible and interpreted, OR

(2) Involving at least two external partners in dark sky restoration efforts (e.g. chamber of commerce, power utility, university research, tribal nations, environmental groups, conservation groups, natural history association), OR

(3) Cooperation with at least two nearby municipalities that results in adoption of lighting codes that improve sky conditions in the Park, OR

(4) Inventorying and monitoring night sky quality and using results to educate the public, OR

(5) A combination of the above or an alternative restoration project may be suggested.

The Park’s commitment to public education.

The importance of dark skies/natural darkness and the benefits of good lighting should be part of Park interpretation/outreach programs. (Dark skies education refers not only to astronomy education but also education about wildlife, energy efficiency, safety, and human health.) If Park typically provides interpretive programs, then dark skies must be one of the central themes communicated through on-site interpretation. If interpretive programs are not typically offered, then extensive publications, flyers, press releases, media, social media, or other outreach are appropriate substitutes, AND

Dedicated programming must occur at least four times per year, however, more events are preferable. These events may highlight the dark night sky in any appropriate way (e.g. cultural or historic value, importance to wildlife, astronomical or stargazing events, and a portion of the event must include dark sky awareness or preservation specifically including reference to the IDA and what it means to be an DSP).
D) IDA reserves the right to request stronger or alternative requirements if deemed appropriate and deny DSP status if these requirements are not met. Any requests by IDA will be made through direct contact and communication with the Park.

E) Once established, the Park must erect and maintain a sign indicating the IDA Dark Sky Park designation along a roadway entrance, along a footpath entrance if no roadway exists, or a visitor contact center. Sign must include DSP text and logo. With Dark Sky Places Committee (DSPC) approval, an alternative wording may be used, such as Dark Sky Wilderness, Night Sky Refuge, or similar. The Park may include the awarded tier if desired. Once the sign is erected a picture documenting this sign must be taken and sent to IDA for records along with a description of its location.

F) A DSP designation is subject to regular review by IDA and possible revocation if minimum requirements are not maintained. More details may be found in the “Reassessment of IDA DSP designation” section.

G) The Park will submit an annual report to IDA by 1 October of each year detailing activities and progress towards fulfilling IDA DSP goals during the previous year. The report also serves to document that Parks continue to meet minimum program requirements, are sustaining partnership, outreach, and interpretive efforts, and are making adequate progress toward at least 90% compliance with LMPs. The report should include dates and brief descriptions of interpretive events, lighting retrofit projects, community outreach, etc. It should also provide information on any new lands acquired since designation and/or the most recent prior report, as well as any potential future sale of land that may result in reassessment of DSP status (see “Sale or Transfer of Land Ownership,” below). Samples of printed materials and press articles should also be included. The annual report should not require a lot of time to produce, as it should be a compilation of information generated during the previous year. A form will be provided to aid in the compilation of these details. Electronic submission of these documents is required in MS Word or PDF format. If the annual report is not sent in a timely fashion, IDA may suspend the IDA DSP’s status until the annual reporting requirements have been met.

H) Sky Quality Tiers

i. Once the minimum requirements have been met, an IDA DSP is designated by IDA at one of three levels – Gold, Silver, or Bronze indicating the estimated sky quality of the site.

ii. Gold corresponds to natural, non-polluted or near-natural night.

iii. Silver corresponds to nighttime environments that have minor impacts from light pollution and other artificial light disturbance, yet still display good quality night skies and has exemplary nighttime lightscapes.

iv. Bronze corresponds to areas not meeting the requirements of Silver, yet still offering people, plants, and animals a respite from an otherwise degraded nocturnal environment.

v. The determination of whether the minimum sky quality standard has been met and what tier will be awarded will be decided by IDA based on submitted information.

vi. For a breakdown of requirements for each tier designation, see the table on the next page:
# Golden, Silver, and Bronze Tier Designation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Gold</th>
<th>Silver</th>
<th>Bronze</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Philosophy</strong></td>
<td>Nighttime environments that have negligible to minor impacts from light pollution and other artificial light disturbance, yet still display outstanding quality night skies and have superior nighttime lightscapes.</td>
<td>Nighttime environments that have minor impacts from light pollution and other artificial light disturbance, yet still display good quality night skies and have exemplary nighttime lightscapes.</td>
<td>Areas not meeting the requirements of Silver, yet still offering people, plants, and animals a respite from a degraded nocturnal environment and suitable for communicating the issue of light pollution and connecting people with the many aspects of the night sky.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Artificial Light and Skyglow</strong></td>
<td>Typical observer is not distracted by glary light sources. Light domes are only dim and restricted to sky close to horizon.</td>
<td>Point light sources and glary lights do not dominate nighttime scene. Light domes present around horizon but do not stretch to zenith.</td>
<td>Areas with greater artificial light and skyglow than Silver, but where aspects of the natural sky are still visible.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Observable Sky Phenomena</strong></td>
<td>The full array of visible sky phenomena can be viewed—e.g. aurora, airglow, Milky Way, zodiacal light, and faint meteors.</td>
<td>Brighter sky phenomena can be regularly viewed, with fainter ones sometimes visible. Milky Way is visible in summer and winter.</td>
<td>Many sky phenomena cannot be seen. Milky Way is seen when pointed out to the average person, as is the Andromeda Galaxy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Nocturnal Environment</strong></td>
<td>Area is devoid of obvious lights that can cause wildlife disorientation. Artificial light levels are thought to be below the threshold for plant and animal impact. Ecological processes related to nocturnality are unaltered. No lighting atop towers or buildings within Park boundary.</td>
<td>Areas that have minor to moderate ground illumination from artificial skyglow. Lights that may cause disorientation to wildlife are distant. Disruption of ecological processes is minor with no impairment to plants or wildlife.</td>
<td>Areas with greater nocturnal impact than Silver, but where ecosystems are still functional.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Visual Limiting Magnitude</strong></td>
<td>Equal or greater than 6.8 under clear skies and good seeing conditions.</td>
<td>6.0 to 6.7 under clear skies and good conditions.</td>
<td>5.0 to 5.9 under clear skies and good seeing conditions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bortle Sky Class</strong></td>
<td>1-3</td>
<td>3-5</td>
<td>5-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Unihedron Sky Quality Meter</strong></td>
<td>&gt; 21.75</td>
<td>21.74-21.00</td>
<td>20.99-20.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**LIGHTING INVENTORY**

A) When there are numerous outdoor lights it is acceptable to group lights by facility or area. Whether the fixtures are fully shielded, are special purpose fixtures under 500 initial lumens, and what the lighting application is should be noted for each fixture or group of fixtures.

B) The Lighting Inventory should also include a plan or stated commitment to bring all outdoor lights into compliance with the Lightscape Management Plan (LMP).

C) Daytime photographs or manufacturer diagrams of each fixture type may also accompany the inventory.

A sample table from portion of a Lighting Inventory:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Fixture</th>
<th>Fully-Shielded</th>
<th>Special Purpose &lt;500 lumens</th>
<th>Application</th>
<th>Conformity with LMP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Visitor Center</td>
<td>12 fixtures on 14’ pole, 70 W HPS</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>Parking log, timer off at 10pm</td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 door lights, 100 W MH</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>Building egress</td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6 bollard (post) lights, 32 W CFL</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>Walkway</td>
<td>NO – see plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historic Cabin</td>
<td>2 carriage style lights at doorways, 40 W incandescent</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>Historic Preservation, egress</td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance Yard</td>
<td>6 wall packs, 250 W MH</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>Occasional night operations</td>
<td>NO – see plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8 Glarebusters, 11 W CFL</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>Egress, security</td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Lamps of 500 lumens output and less include: 33 watt incandescent and less; 25 watt tungsten (quartz) halogen and less; 8 watt linear fluorescent and less; 10 watt compact fluorescent and less.*

**LIGHTSCAPE MANAGEMENT PLAN GUIDELINES**

The LMP should embody good lighting ethics and recognized best practices such as:

A) Meet or exceed policies regarding outdoor lighting of the appropriate local jurisdiction.

B) Only use light when it is needed, where it is needed, and in the appropriate amount for a specific task.

C) Outdoor lighting fixtures should be fully shielded and make appropriate use of timers and motion sensors.
i. Lighting of less than 500 initial lumens may be unshielded for special purposes, such as historical preservation. The approved special uses should be stated in the LMP. IDA will scrutinize these uses to ensure that Park lighting is a suitable example of good lighting for the public and protects the nighttime environment to the maximum practical extent. IDA may request additional descriptions, photographs, or drawings of these lights. These lights are not exempt from the lighting guidelines, and must still be designed to minimize impact to the lightscape.

IDA has collaborated with the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada to develop the RASC/IDA Guidelines for Outdoor Lighting (GOL; http://bit.ly/1NYjY9D). The principles embodied in these guidelines should be adopted as part of the LMP for the Park. If there are provisions of the GOL that are not appropriate for the Park, the GOL may be amended or substituted with more suitable guidelines. IDA will review the modifications or substitution and determine on a case-by-case basis if the changes are acceptable for the individual Park.

**PROVISIONAL STATUS**

A) In some cases, a Park interested in being designated may lack the resources to make a successful application. If minimum sky quality criteria and appropriate outreach requirements have been met, a Park may apply for Provisional status. Provisional status recognizes the Park’s ongoing work to become an IDA DSP and is intended to be used as a leverage point to enable the necessary lighting upgrades or retrofits and policy changes.

B) To be considered for a Provisional status, send a nomination package to support the following needed information:

i. Initial sky quality measurements;

ii. The minimum quality night sky described under “Eligibility” must be met in order to attain at least a Bronze DSP designation.

iii. Documented intent to create and support a DSP;

iv. An action plan describing how the aspiring Park will meet minimum requirements.

C) Provisional status expires after three (3) years. At any time before the end of its Provisional status, a Park may reapply for full status. Material submitted for the removal of Provisional status may be an addendum to the initial application as long as the material includes a current assessment of night sky quality, goals, outreach, and programs listed in the original application.
GUIDELINES ON DSP PROCESS

NOMINATION

The nomination may be initiated by an IDA qualified nominator who has personally reviewed a Park’s outdoor lighting and commitment to natural lightscapes, or by a member of the Park staff who maintains an IDA membership. An IDA qualified nominator is an IDA member whose nominator status is approved in advance by the IDA Dark Sky Places Program Manager. The nomination may be a joint effort between Park administration/ownership and the qualified nominator. Nominators are encouraged to correspond with IDA staff and the Park throughout this process—from first consideration of a DSP through the final submission package.

DSP APPLICATION PROCESS

STEPS FOR APPLICANT

A) Initial contact with IDA by phone or email to discuss the process and make recommendations followed by regular contact to consult with IDA staff and to review progress;

B) A formal contact person is designated and their phone, address and email information is forwarded to IDA staff. Before and after designation, any changes to the designated contact person, or person’s contact information, must be communicated to IDA in order to ensure timely communication;

C) Upon completion, the Park sends the application to IDA staff for review of the document. IDA staff confirms that the application is complete and ready for submission. The application must be transmitted electronically to IDA in PDF and/or Microsoft Word format.

D) Submit in plenty of time for IDA staff to review and prepare your application to make the bi-monthly deadline that you prefer, as found on http://darksky.org/idsp/parks/. Requests to rush applications will NOT be accepted; planning ahead is essential if the Park wishes to meet a specific deadline.

TO BE INCLUDED IN AN IDA DSP SUBMISSION

A) Map(s) of area to be designated. (For larger parks with a minimum total size of 1,000 square km, a smaller portion of the Park may be designated with special permission. A description explaining why this subset of the larger Park was chosen must be approved in advance by the Program Manager.)

B) Letter of nomination from a qualified IDA member nominator.

C) Letter of support from appropriate Park administrator.

D) Any management documents supporting dark skies and/or natural lightscapes as a valued resource.

E) If it exists, agency/departmental/municipal policy on outdoor lighting and dark sky
Dark Sky Park Designation Guidelines, IDA

F) Documentation of sky quality, light pollution measures, satellite pictures, maps, photographs, or other evidence that demonstrates the noteworthiness of the resource. Measurements of night sky brightness using an approved night sky brightness meter (NSBM), such as the Unihedron Sky Quality Meter or Dark Sky Meter iPhone app, showing at least twelve (12) locations within the Park. Measurements should document the approximate darkest and brightest areas of the Park. Data included in the application must contain an updated survey of the Park completed no more than two years before the application’s submission along with any other relevant surveys. Learn more about creating a night sky quality survey on IDA’s website http://darksky.org/idsp/sky-quality-survey/.

G) Lightscape Management Plan.

H) Documentation signed by Park administrator showing a Lighting Inventory of the Park and a plan to bring 90% of outdoor lighting into compliance with the IDA-DSP-GOL within five (5) years.

I) Description of a restoration project (e.g. lighting project, community outreach, etc.).

J) Description of interpretive program or interpretive products related to dark skies/natural darkness. Any related examples of successful education (photos, documentation of student projects, etc.)

K) Future plans

L) Proposed alternative wording for DSP (e.g. Dark Sky Wilderness, Dark Sky Refuge, etc.), if desired.

M) If the candidate DSP is a privately held property, documentary evidence of legal covenants ensuring public access and transit outlined in the section “Eligibility”, Item (B).

Examples of completed, successful past applications are available on http://darksky.org/idsp/parks/.

**IDA REVIEW PROCESS**

A) Applications are sent to the DSPC on a bi-monthly basis. Applications not ready for submission by the current deadline for committee consideration will be considered at the following regular committee meeting.

B) IDA staff forwards application to the DSPC for review at the deadline. Approval of application by DSPC is by a 2/3-majority vote, or denial with reasons and recommendations. The DSPC committee may consider the application for up to two months after a regularly scheduled meeting before releasing a decision.

C) Determination of sky quality tier (Gold, Silver, Bronze) takes place in consultation with the DSPC.

D) The decision of the DSPC on a pending DSP application is forwarded to the IDA Board of Directors and is subject to a 10-day period in which the Board has the formal right to veto the designation should it perceive a problem with the application. Failure of the Board to act
within 10 days shall constitute tacit endorsement of the DSPC recommendation. This effect shall be binding on all parties involved.

E) If approved by the DSPC the location will be notified and the Program Manager will develop a media announcement plan with the location. The Park has the right to choose when DSP designation is made public but must organize its announcement to coincide with IDA’s unless otherwise discussed and agreed upon by both parties.

F) If approved, the Park is awarded the DSP designation and listed along with their application on the IDA website. By submitting the application the Park consents to have their complete application and all supporting materials posted to IDA’s website unless otherwise stated. IDA realizes that certain circumstances surrounding a DSP application may cause some potential authors of letters of support (or opposition) to feel uneasy about publicly declaring their opinions about the IDA designation. In the interest of providing the Dark Sky Places Committee with as full a picture of community sentiment about applications as possible, it is possible for some letters to be suppressed from online publication if it is felt that making the letters publicly available will subject their authors to retaliation or harassment. A prospective DSP seeking this protection for letter writers must make a formal written request to that effect. The Program Manager must approve suppression of publication of any part of an application. Note that suppression of online publication does not prevent either the Committee or the IDA Board of Directors from reading all submitted letters.

G) If denied, a letter is sent to applicant outlining elements of the application that need improvement and specific recommendations for ways to remedy them. Applications can be resubmitted for future consideration after remediation is complete. Prior rejection shall not prejudice an applicant against future consideration by IDA for the same or an alternate category of Dark Sky Places designation.

H) IDA will make periodic checks after the designation is granted in order to ensure that the minimum Program standards are being upheld by the DSP and to ensure adequate progress is made toward the end of achieving the Program objectives.

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**REASSESSMENT OF IDA DSP DESIGNATIONS**

A DSP designation is intended to represent the beginning of an ongoing relationship between the Park and IDA to our mutual benefit. IDA will periodically review the nature of that relationship in the required annual reports (see “Minimum Requirements For All Parks”, Item G). From time to time, IDA also receives comments from visitors to DSPs that raise concerns about the veracity and timeliness of information provided to IDA by DSPs. IDA may, at its discretion, investigate claims in which it is alleged that DSPs are not living up to commitments made to IDA and the public in their applications to the Program. This section details the IDA procedure for carrying out such investigations, and the rights of DSPs in such matters.

**Investigation and Due Process**

An allegation of impropriety concerning any of the elements of participation in the Program outlined in this document is subject to IDA investigation and potential remedial action including temporary suspension and/or permanent revocation of the DSP designation. IDA staff shall perform due diligence in gathering facts concerning such allegations it deems credible, and will
prepare a report of its findings for consideration by the DSPC. The DSPC commits to weighing the evidence fairly and impartially, and to seek to resolve disputes whenever possible through dialog. A DSP subject to an investigation shall be notified in a timely manner and solicited for evidence contrary to the specifics of the allegation at hand. The resolution manner of dialog shall be emphasized from the beginning, and the DSP will be given an opportunity to correct any deficiencies with regard to the Program guidelines established by the IDA investigation within a reasonable time period to be prescribed by the DSPC.

Failure to achieve consensus through these means risks a DSPC recommendation for suspension or revocation of the DSP designation. If made, such a recommendation will be forwarded to the IDA Board of Directors for formal ratification before coming into force. The Board’s decision on any disciplinary matters involving a DSP shall be considered definitive and binding.

Any DSP so investigated has the right to review the allegations against it and all factual information collected by IDA pertinent to the allegations.

Reinstatement Following Suspension

If the DSPC recommends a suspension of a DSP’s IDA designation, and the Board ratifies the suspension, the DSP shall be immediately notified. The status of a suspended DSP shall be changed to “Provisional” in all IDA communications until the designation is reinstated or revoked; however, the process of obtaining reinstatement of a designation is not the same as that outlined in the “Provisional Status” section of these guidelines.

To obtain reinstatement of a suspended designation, the DSP must provide evidence to the DSPC’s satisfaction that the specific issues identified by the DSPC as grounds for the suspension have been corrected and that all Program guidelines are once again met. The DSPC will consider the evidence presented by the DSP and render a judgment to either

- Accept the reinstatement petition, OR
- Reject the petition and recommend revocation, OR
- Return the petition with further instructions and a defined deadline for a DSP response.

A suspension left unresolved after one (1) year from the date of the Board’s assent to the suspension automatically becomes a permanent revocation. Revocation entails removal of the DSP from IDA’s roll of approved Dark Sky Places, and from mention on the IDA website and in member and external communications. IDA reserves the right to take legal action against any former DSP whose designation is duly revoked but continues to use the IDA name/logo in advertising, communications, and/or signage.

Sale or Transfer of Land Ownership

IDA considers the rights and privileges outlined here in association with DSP status to be simultaneously permanent and revocable. Furthermore, IDA requires that the responsibilities and obligations of the landowner at the time DSP status is achieved are incumbent upon all future landowner(s) if a participating Park is sold or its title is otherwise transferred to any other public or private owner. A new owner or owners may unilaterally withdraw from participation in the program at any time by indicating these wishes in writing; otherwise, IDA will hold a new owner or owners accountable to the provisions of these guidelines in perpetuity. Any failure of
new ownership to abide by the conditions for continued participation in the program laid out in this document, whether indicated by withdrawal or abandonment of responsibilities, will cause IDA to take action as described above (‘Investigation and Due Process’) which may result in the permanent revocation of DSP status.