

# Becoming an International Dark Sky Park (IDSP)

## What is an International Dark Sky Park?

An IDSP is an area of public or private land that is recognized for and dedicated to preserving its exceptional views of the night sky. Becoming an IDSP promotes the sky without light pollution and educates the public on why it is harmful. IDSPs also protect the nocturnal environment. Many species rely on dark skies to maintain sleep and migration patterns. As for the park itself, benefits of the IDSP designation include an increase of visitation due to astrotourism and a decrease in energy costs.



## Requirements for Full IDSP Status

Refer to the IDA 2018 Guidelines for more detailed requirements.

- Must be protected public or private with regular nighttime public access**
  - Must create a Lighting Management Plan
- Milky Way is Visible to the naked eye**
  - Minimal light glare is present and any light domes are close to the horizon
- Commitment to preserving Dark Skies**
  - Must be able to set a leadership example in the conservation community

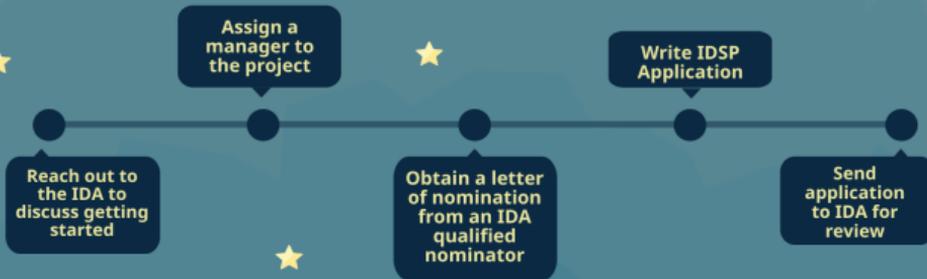
## Requirements for Provisional IDSP Status

This designation is intended to help the park gain resources and support until full IDSP status can be achieved

- Sky quality criteria is met**
- Must create a Lighting Management Plan**
- Must have made outreach efforts**
- Must create a lighting inventory**

## The Application Process

Refer to the IDA 2018 Guidelines for what to include in the application.



## Post Designation Requirements

Write a small annual report to show progress towards meeting the goals of the Lighting Management Plan

**Thank you for celebrating the night sky and protecting our planet's resources!**

### References:

International Dark Sky Association. (2018). International Dark Sky Association Dark Sky Park Program Guidelines. Retrieved Apr. 9, 2020, from <https://www.darksky.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/IDSP-Guidelines-2018.pdf>