Main Request for Funding Form

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council
Fiscal Year 2012

Program or Project Title: **Lake Zumbro Restoration Project**

	Funding Request	OHF Out-Year Projections of Needs		
Funds Requested ($000s)	**FY 2012**	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015
Outdoor Heritage Fund	**$ 7,000**	0	0	0

Manager's Name: Terry Lee
Organization: Olmsted-Wabasha Lake Zumbro Joint Powers Board
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City Rochester State MN Zip: 55904
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Organization Web Site: co.olmsted.mn.us/departments/docs/Lake_Zumbro_JPB

County Location: ***Olmsted and Wabasha Counties***

Ecological Planning Regions*:* *[check all that apply – to]*

☐ Northern Forest ☐ Forest/Prairie Transition X Southeast Forest

☐ Prairie ☐ Metro/Urban

Activity Type: *[check all that apply]*

☐ Protect X Restore ☐ Enhance

Priority Resources addressed by activity: *[check all that apply]*

☐ Wetlands ☐ Forests ☐ Prairie X Habitat

Project Abstract

Funding will be managed by the Olmsted-Wabasha Counties Joint Powers Board to remove accumulated sediment from Lake Zumbro to restore public recreational access and to restore aquatic habitat.

Project Narrative

Lake Zumbro provides a unique recreational opportunity for residents and visitors in southeastern Minnesota. The 715-acre lake is located just six miles north of Rochester and within 15 miles of 12 small cities. It has the largest population-to-lake-area ratio of any Greater Minnesota area.

Design and scope of work

Approximately half of the volume of Lake Zumbro has been lost to sedimentation. Although current sedimentation rates are only 10% of historic rates, the accumulation is having a disproportionately large impact on recreation and aquatic habitat because it is layered on top of historic deposits. Historic deposits underlie approximately 180 acres of lakebed. The most threatened areas include the County's boat launch, the handicapped-accessible public fishing pier, the only marina, two restaurants, and 110 homes and cabins. Because these areas also suffer high turbidity levels, aquatic habitat is highly degraded. Losing these areas to sedimentation is having an irreversible impact on the recreational economy that had flourished on the lake since its creation in 1919. Unless action is taken soon, the lake's recreational economy will become too weak to justify and support a restoration project.

Lake Zumbro is used by a wide range of bird species including migratory waterfowl. The sport fishery includes sunfish, crappies, bass, channel catfish, northern pike, muskellunge, and stocked walleyes. The lake corridor has been identified in the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources County Biological Survey as containing some of the most biologically diverse tracts of land in Olmsted County.

Preliminary engineering and design work for both the dredging and dredge spoil management has been completed by Barr Engineering, Inc. Approximately 30 years of sediment accumulation will be removed from 180 acres of lake area. Proposed dredge prisms have been developed in consultation with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR), the Lake Zumbro Improvement Association, and Lake Zumbro Forever, Inc. Project objectives include: restoring aquatic habitat, improving water quality, increasing public access, expanding recreational opportunities for boating, fishing, and swimming, and enhancing renewable hydropower production.

In early 2010, over 60% of lakeshore households signed a petition to establish a Lake Improvement District with the authority to assess up to $6,000 per residential property. While nearly all those speaking at multiple public hearings expressed support for rehabilitating the lake, some opposed the proposed tax assessment, while strongly supporting the dredging of the lake.

Planning

The objectives of restoring aquatic habitat, improving water quality, increasing public access, expanding recreational opportunities for boating, fishing, and swimming, and enhancing hydropower production are consistent with the goals of the Minnesota Conservation and Preservation Plan, particularly ***Recommendation 3 (page 373): Improve connectivity and access to outdoor recreation.*** The project targets areas of Lake Zumbro where public access is being lost. These include the County boat launch, the handicapped-accessible fishing pier, and the marina. As noted previously, the lake is located just north of Rochester and within 15 miles of 12 small cities. This results in Lake Zumbro having the highest population relative to lake area in all of greater Minnesota. There are no other lakes of this sort anywhere near Rochester, and the city continues to be one of the fastest growing in the state with a population increase of nearly 17% in just the last decade. As energy prices continue to increase, a rehabilitated Lake Zumbro will help the state's conservation plan goal of meeting critical demand for outdoor recreation opportunities while limiting the need to travel great distances.

The project supports the LSOHC Southeast Forest Section Priority 1 by preserving and restoring public recreation access to Lake Zumbro and Priority 2, by reducing turbidity and restoring fish habitat. The proposal is also consistent with the Section's priority of establishing wildlife habitat in large corridors of restored and protected, biologically diverse habitat. Lake Zumbro is located within a large natural corridor created by the significant topographic relief of the Zumbro valley. The DNR Biological Survey identifies large tracts of oak forest, maple basswood forest, floodplain forest and dry prairie in the immediate area of the Zumbro River corridor that contains Lake Zumbro. That corridor extends to the southwest into the Oronoco Prairie Scientific & Natural Area.

This project also supports the LSOHC statewide priority criteria by 1)ensuring Minnesotans have greater public access to outdoor environments for fishing and boating, 2)coordinating and leveraging the work and funding of non-profits and local government, and 3)ultimately addressing a conservation opportunity that will be lost if not acted upon in the very near future.

Relationship to Other Constitutional Funds

Olmsted and Wabasha Counties are currently using Clean Water Legacy funds to complete a Straight Pipe Inventory and clean-up on Lake Zumbro. The Zumbro Watershed Partnership is requesting funds from LCCMR for targeting conservation investments designed to reduce sediment and nutrient loadings in the area that drains into Lake Zumbro. The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency is using Clean Water Legacy funds to develop TMDL Plans for the Zumbro River and Lake Zumbro. All of these projects are supportive of the proposed restoration project for which LSOHC funding is being requested.

Relationship to Current Organizational Budget

There are no traditional funding sources for projects like the restoration of Lake Zumbro; therefore none of the requested Outdoor Heritage Funding will substitute for traditional funding sources.

Sustainability and Maintenance

Olmsted and Wabasha County have established a Joint Powers Board with the authority needed to sustain and maintain the Lake Zumbro restoration work. Additionally, the non-profit organization, *Lake Zumbro Forever, Inc.,* was created to assist in the initial lake restoration, and to provide an organization dedicated to funding the long term maintenance of the restoration work. In addition to ongoing work to reduce sedimentation in the watershed upstream of Lake Zumbro, maintenance dredging would be done in 2032 to assure sustainability and long term value of the initial dredging investment.

The Turbidity TMDL Plan for the Zumbro River identifies the need to reduce sediment levels in the river by 80% to meet federal Clean Water Act requirements. This will be accomplished using precision conservation planning such as is underway at the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, Olmsted and Dodge Counties have already begun active enforcement of shoreland buffer setback requirements, and ongoing work by the Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

The preliminary engineering completed by Barr Engineering Co. Inc. includes features specifically designed for collecting sediment in areas that are easily accessible to minimize future maintenance costs. The Zumbro Watershed Partnership's targeting of conservation practices using LiDAR is expected to significantly improve the efficiency and effectiveness of soil and water conservation practices.

With maintenance and improvements in erosion and sedimentation control in the upstream watershed area, the Lake Zumbro restoration project benefits for recreation and aquatic habitat improvements are projected to last at least 50 years.

Types of Projects

Fee Acquisition Projects

Will local government approval be sought prior to acquisition?

X Yes ☐ No, please explain ☐ not applicable

If no, please explain here:

Is the land you plan to acquire free of any other permanent protection?

☐ Yes ☐ No, please explain X not applicable

If no, please explain here:

Easement Acquisition Projects

Will the eased land be open for public use?

☐ Yes ☐ No, please explain X not applicable

If no, please explain here:

Will the conservation easement be permanent?

☐ Yes ☐ No, please explain X not applicable

If no, please explain here:

Restoration and Enhancement Projects

Is the activity on permanently protected land and/or public waters?

X Yes ☐ No, please explain ☐ not applicable

If no, please explain here:

Does the activity take place on an Aquatic Management Area (AMA), Scientific and Natural Area (SNA), Wildlife Management Area (WMA), or State Forests?

☐ Yes, which ones X No, please explain ☐ not applicable

The Lake Zumbro restoration work will take place within Minnesota Public Waters.

If so, please indicate which ones:

Accomplishment Timeline

Activity	Milestone	Date
Final Design & Permitting	Local, State and Federal Permit approvals	December 15, 2012
Bidding	Let bid for construction	February 15, 2013
Dredging & Spoils Management	Complete construction	Dec 30, 2013

Attachments: *[Attach these documents to the web application form.]*

A. **Budget**
B. **Proposed Outcome Tables 1-5**
C. **Map**
D. **Parcel List**

Attachment A. Budget Spreadsheet

[Link Here to definitions of the budget items below.]

Total Amount of Request	$	7,000,000	*From page 1 on the funding form.*

Personnel

Position breakdown here	FTE	Over # of years	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Cash Leverage	Cash Leverage Source	Total
Manager of Programs	*0.2*	*2*		*$ 15,392*		$ 15,392
Admin Asst						$ -
position 3						$ -
position 4						$ -
position 5						$ -
position 6						$ -
position 7						$ -
Total	0.2		$ -	$ 15,392	$ -	$ 15,392

Budget and Cash Leverage *(All your LSOHC Request Funds must be direct to and necessary for program outcomes.)*

Please describe how you intend to spend the requested funds.

Budget Item	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Cash Leverage	Cash Leverage Source	Total
Personnel - *auto entered from above*	$ -	$ 15,392	$ -	$ 15,392
Contracts	*$ 7,000,000*	*$ 3,000,000*	*LID & Local Govt.*	$ 10,000,000
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT ***(breakout in table 6 & 7)***				$ -
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT ***(breakout in table 6 & 7)***				$ -
Easement Acquisition				$ -
Easement Stewardship				$ -
Travel (in-state)				$ -
Professional Services				$ -
DNR Land Acquisition Costs				$ -
Other				$ -
Capital Equipment				$ -
Other Equipment/Tools				$ -
Supplies/Materials				$ -
	$ 7,000,000	$ 3,015,392	$ -	$ 10,015,392

Attachment B. Proposed Outcome Tables

Only enter data in the outlined cells

Table 1 and Table 3 column totals should be the same AND Table 2 and Table 4 column totals should be the same

If your project has lakes or shoreline miles instead of land acres, convert miles to acres for Tables 1 and 3 using the following conversion:
Lakeshore = 6 acres per lakeshore mile / Stream & River Shore = 12 acres per linear mile, if both sides

Table 1. Acres by Resource Type

Describe the scope of the project in acres (use conversion above if needed)

	Wetlands	Prairies	Forest	Habitats	Total
Restore				*180*	180
Protect					0
Enhance					0
Total	0	0	0	180	

Total Acres (sum of Total column)	180	*These two cells should be the same figure.*
Total Acres (sum of Total row)	180	

Table 2. Total Requested Funding by Resource Type

	Wetlands	Prairies	Forest	Habitats	Total
Restore				*$ 7,000,000*	$ 7,000,000
Protect					$ -
Enhance					$ -
Total	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 7,000,000	

Total Dollars (sum of Total column)	$ 7,000,000	*These two cells should be the same figure.*
Total Dollars (sum of Total row)	$ 7,000,000	

Check to make sure this amount is the same
as the Funding Request Amount on page 1 of Main Funding Form.

Table 3. Acres within each Ecological Section

	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	Northern Forest	Total
Restore			*180*			180
Protect						0
Enhance						0
Total	0	0	180	0	0	

Total Acres (sum of Total column)	180	*These three cells should be the same figure.*
Total Acres (sum of Total row)	180	
Total Acres from Table 1.	180	

Attachment B. Proposed Outcome Tables

Table 4. Total Requested Funding within each Ecological Section

	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	Northern Forest	Total
Restore			$ 7,000,000			$ 7,000,000
Protect						$ -
Enhance						$ -
Total	$ -	$ -	$ 7,000,000	$ -	$ -	

Total Dollars (sum of Total column) $ 7,000,000
Total Dollars (sum of Total row) $ 7,000,000
These two cells should be the same figure.

Check to make sure these amounts are the same as the Funding Request Amount on page 1 of Main Funding Form.

Table 5. Target Lake/Stream/River Miles

Not applicable # miles of Lakes / Streams / Rivers Shoreline

Table 6. Acquisition by PILT Status *(enter information in acres)*

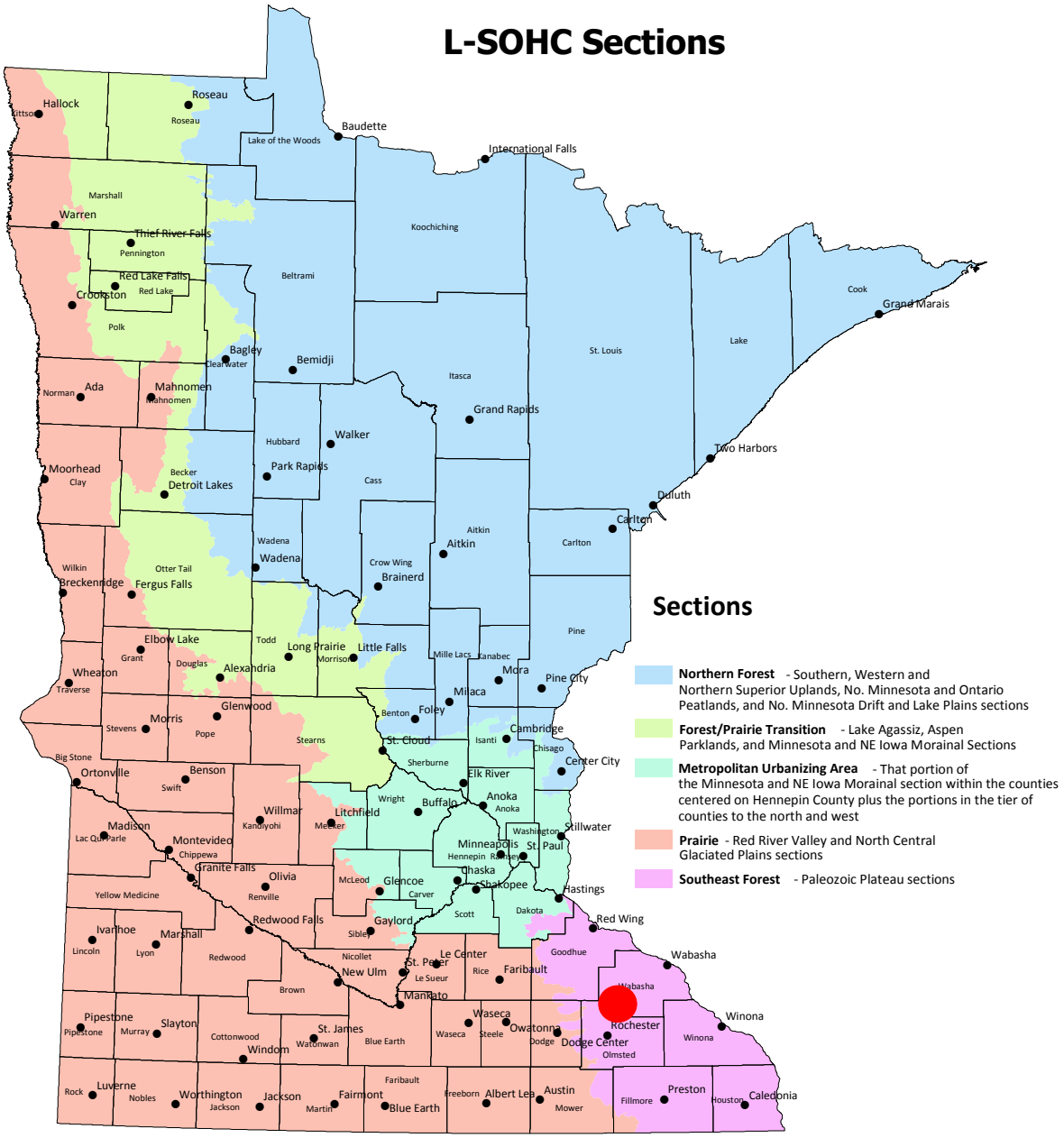
	Wetlands	Prairies	Forests	Habitats	Total
Acquired in Fee with State PILT Liability					0
Acquired in Fee without State PILT Liability					0
Permanent Easement NO State PILT Liability					0

Table 7. Estimated Value of Acquisition by PILT Status *(enter information in dollars)*

	Wetlands	Prairies	Forests	Habitats	Total
Acquired in Fee with State PILT Liability					$ -
Acquired in Fee without State PILT Liability					$ -
Permanent Easement NO State PILT Liability					$ -

Attachment C.

Instructions: Double left click to bring up the map editor. Symbols should be on the left side of the pop-up banner at the top of your screen or at the bottom left depending on your software.
If you can't bring up the interactive map editor: 1) Make a paper copy of the map, 2) By hand place symbols on the map corresponding to the location of the projects in your proposal, 3) Scan the marked map to a pdf, 4) Attach to web form.



Attachment D. Parcel List

Program Title

Parcel Name	County	Township	Range	Direction	Section	TRDS	# of acres	Budgetary Estimate (includes administrative, restoration or other related costs and do not include matching money contributed or earned by the transaction)	Description	Activity R=Restore P=Protect E=Enhance	Any existing protection? (yes/no)	Open to hunting and fishing? (yes/no)
Example Lamberton WMA Addition	*Redwood*	*109*	*37*	*2*	*13*	*10937213*	*114*	*$5,500,000*		*P*		

The project is not parcel specific.