

Main Request for Funding Form
Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council
Fiscal Year 2012

Program or Project Title: Land Addition to Janet Johnson Memorial WMA

Funds Requested (\$000s)	Funding Request	OHF Out-Year Projections of Needs		
	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015
Outdoor Heritage Fund	\$ 576500	0	0	0

Manager's Name: *Jeff Fertig & Craig Mell*
Organization: Chisago County
Street Address: 313 North Main Street, Room 243
City: Center City, **State:** MN **Zip:** 55012
Telephone: 651-213-8378
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Organization Web Site: www.co.chisago.mn.us

County Location: *Chisago*

Ecological Planning Regions: [to](#)

Metro/Urban

Activity Type:

Protect

Priority Resources addressed by activity:

Wetlands Forests Prairie Habitat

Project Abstract

Acquire land adjacent to Janet Johnson Memorial WMA, gift to MNDNR. LSOHC's *Metro Urbanizing Section Vision* – include complexes of perpetually protected wetlands, prairies, forests, providing habitat benefits and access.

Project Narrative

Design and Scope

This parcel has recently been inherited by the siblings whose parents have passed away within the past five years. Due to the tax liability associated with inheritance the siblings are interested in selling the parcel as soon as possible. As a lasting legacy of their parents, they would prefer to see the land as part of the Janet Johnson Memorial WMA. However, it appears that they will sell the parcel for development should this application not be successful. The parcel is close to the urban cent of the City of North Branch and has direct access off of Chisago County 14, a paved road. If acquired, the land will provide the only public access from the north through this parcel to the Janet Johnson Memorial WMA. The parcel has great diversity and will provide excellent habitat for pheasant, turkey, deer, bear, sandhill cranes and the Blanding's turtle. As such, this parcel would be an excellent addition to the existing WMA. There are four other smaller parcels also presently available that in the future would round out the acquisition potential of the WMA. This acquisition of this parcel also provides an open space corridor linking the Janet Johnson Memorial WMA with the North Branch of the Sunrise River and by extension the main branch of the Sunrise River and ultimately the St. Croix River.

Priority Setting / Parcel Selection

Based on DNR analysis this parcel, receives high priority due to potential expansion the existing wma and overall enhancement of the wildlife habitat communities at that location.

Urgency and Opportunity

The parcel is for sale now and the sellers are rapidly approaching a must sell situation. The parcel could be lost to urban sprawl if not acquired now.

Specific Habitat Affected:

Multiple wetland communities, additional native prairie and a mature stand of red and white oaks

Actions Directly Restoring, Enhancing, Protecting

The initial goal of the acquisition is to protect the parcel from development. Future plans include native prairie restoration, oak wilt control and enhancement of wetland areas.

Level of stakeholder opposition and Involvement:

The Chisago Pheasants Forever Chapter, the Long Spurs of the Sunrise NWTF Chapter and the DNR are supporters and partners in the project. The continued

enhancement/expansion of the Janet Johnson Memorial WMA has been a community supported effort and there has not been any opposition to additional acquisition. The local conservation organizations, the local fire department and local government staff will be involved in the development of the area once acquired.

Planning

This acquisition is consistent with the Council's vision for the Metropolitan Urbanizing Section. The land is highly developable and if sold for development would significantly detract from the value and utilization of the Janet Johnson Memorial WMA. The land contains a number of wetlands, forested areas and agricultural lands. The agricultural lands will be planted to native prairie upon acquisition giving perpetual protection to this biologically diverse landscape. There will be excellent public access through this site to the existing WMA. In an urbanizing area good access that also provides great hunting for pheasants, turkey and deer is hard to come by. The acquisition will further the "Priority Actions for the Metropolitan Urbanizing Area: 1) Protect, enhance and restore habitats 2) Provide habitat corridors

A clear link exists to the following Published Resource Management Plans as well.

- **Minnesota Statewide Conservation and Preservation Plan, 2008** – This acquisition will address and advance the Habitat Recommendations of [1] Protect priority land habitats (p. 63), [3] Improve connectivity and access to outdoor recreation (p. 74), [5] Restore land, wetlands, and wetland-associated watershed (p. 80), and [7] Keep water on the landscape (p.84).
- **Metro Conservation Corridors:** Ensuring that people and nature in the Twin Cities Area can grow together for generations to come.

Accelerated, coordinated and efficient action: This project will accelerate protection and restoration of key natural lands in the metro area by:

- Focusing pro-actively on strategic areas. (See the map of focus areas)
- Efficiently leveraging private and public partners and resources
- Building upon prior investments in public lands, and
- Enhancing the cost-effectiveness of conservation

This WMA is within a designated Regional Significant Ecological Area of the Metro Conservation Corridors.

- **Tomorrow's Habitat for the Wild and Rare:** Lists the Blanding's Turtle as MN Threatened. The goal of stabilizing and increasing populations of species in greatest conservation need will be addressed.

A population of this threatened species does exist on this WMA.

- **MNDNR, A Strategic Conservation Agenda, 2009-2013**

Trend: Changes in Outdoor Recreation Participation

Strategic Direction: Connecting people to Minnesota's great outdoors (p. 13, long term desired outcomes regarding Minnesotan's outdoor recreation needs and increasing participation and opportunities in nature-based outdoor recreation.)

This additional access to public conservation lands will help meet these needs

Trend: Landscape Changes from Growth and Development

Strategic Direction: Integrated Public and Private Land Management (p. 29, Key Measure of number of acres protected in WMAs)

This project will add WMA lands to the system.

- **Minnesota's Wildlife Management Area Acquisition (2002) – The Next 50 Years – Habitat is the Key** -- This project will help meet goals of additional WMA acres in Ecological Section 6 : Deciduous Transition (pp 11-12)

Relationship to Other Constitutional Funds

There is not direct relationship to other Constitutional Funds. The Project Managers in consultation with Area Wildlife Manager will ensure this project is compatible and complimentary to the Council's statewide and section priorities. Of the available Constitutional Funding sources the OHF is best suited because it is habitat based and land protection oriented.

Relationship to Current Organizational Budget

Chisago County and Chisago SWCD do not have specific existing budget that could be used for this acquisition and protection of this critical tract. This is a one time opportunity and does not substitute for traditional funding sources.

Sustainability and Maintenance

The proposed parcel will become part of the WMA system @ the Janet Johnson Memorial WMA and will be sustained via maintenance and management conducted/administered by local DNR Area Wildlife staff involved in this partnership, following the period of grant funding. This partnership: consisting of Chisago County, SWCD and local NGO membership (i.e. PF, NWTF, and MDHA etc.) will also provide assistance in the long-term maintenance of the area by participating in noxious weed management and periodic burning of the site to enhance native vegetation. These partners funds will come through either DNR budget and/or partner funding secured from grants i.e. LSOHC, CPL or Heritage Enhancement Grant program.

Types of Projects

Fee Acquisition Projects

Will local government approval be sought prior to acquisition?

Yes No, please explain not applicable

If no, please explain here: although County Board approval is not required for conservation partners to acquire land and gift to MNDNR for WMA, local government(s) will be contacted for their support.

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

X Yes No, please explain 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?

Yes No, please explain X not applicable

If no, please explain here: Restoration and enhancement projects will occur after the land is acquired and protected.

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 No, please explain X not applicable

If so, please indicate which ones: This parcel is currently not part of the WMA, but will become so after it is acquired and gifted to MNDNR.

Accomplishment Timeline

Activity	Milestone	Date
<i>Funding ready</i>	Order Appraisal	July 2011
<i>Protection Completed</i>	Tract acquired and gifted to MNDNR	January 2012
<i>Enhancement/Restoration Underway</i>	Initial Site development completed	August 2012

Attachments:

- 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 \$ 576,500 *From page 1 on the funding form.*

Personnel

Position breakdown here	FTE	Over # of years	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Cash Leverage	Cash Leverage Source	Total
<i>Manager of Programs</i>	0.15	2	\$ -	\$ 15,000	<i>County</i>	\$ 15,000
<i>Admin Asst</i>						\$ -
<i>position 3</i>						\$ -
<i>position 4</i>						\$ -
<i>position 5</i>						\$ -
<i>position 6</i>						\$ -
<i>position 7</i>						\$ -
Total	0.15		\$ -	\$ 15,000	\$ -	\$ 15,000

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	\$ -	\$ 15,000	\$ -	\$ 15,000
Contracts				\$ -
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT <i>(breakout in table 6 & 7)</i>	\$ 550,000			\$ 550,000
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT <i>(breakout in table 6 & 7)</i>				\$ -
Easement Acquisition				\$ -
Easement Stewardship				\$ -
Travel (in-state)				\$ -
Professional Services	\$ 3,000			\$ 3,000
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	\$ 23,500			\$ 23,500
Other				\$ 1,500
Capital Equipment				\$ -
Other Equipment/Tools				\$ -
Supplies/Materials		\$ 1,500	<i>NGO volunteers</i>	\$ 1,500
	\$ 576,500	\$ 16,500	\$ -	\$ 593,000

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					0
Protect				108.5	108.5
Enhance					0
Total	0	0	0	108.5	

Total Acres (sum of Total column)

108.5

These two cells should be the same figure.

Total Acres (sum of Total row)

108.5

Table 2. Total Requested Funding by Resource Type

	Wetlands	Prairies	Forest	Habitats	Total
Restore					\$ -
Protect				\$ 550,000	\$ 550,000
Enhance					\$ -
Total	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 550,000	

Total Dollars (sum of Total column)

\$ 550,000

These two cells should be the same figure.

Total Dollars (sum of Total row)

\$ 550,000

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						0
Protect	108.5					108.5
Enhance						0
Total	108.5	0	0	0	0	

Total Acres (sum of Total column)

108.5

These three cells should be the same figure.

Total Acres (sum of Total row)

108.5

Total Acres from Table 1.

108.5

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						\$ -
Protect	\$ 550,000					\$ 550,000
Enhance						\$ -
Total	\$ 550,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	

Total Dollars (sum of Total column)

\$ 550,000

These two cells should be the same figure.

Total Dollars (sum of Total row)

\$ 550,000

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

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				108.5	108.5
Acquired in Fee without State PILT Liability					0
Permanent Easement NO State PILT Liability					0

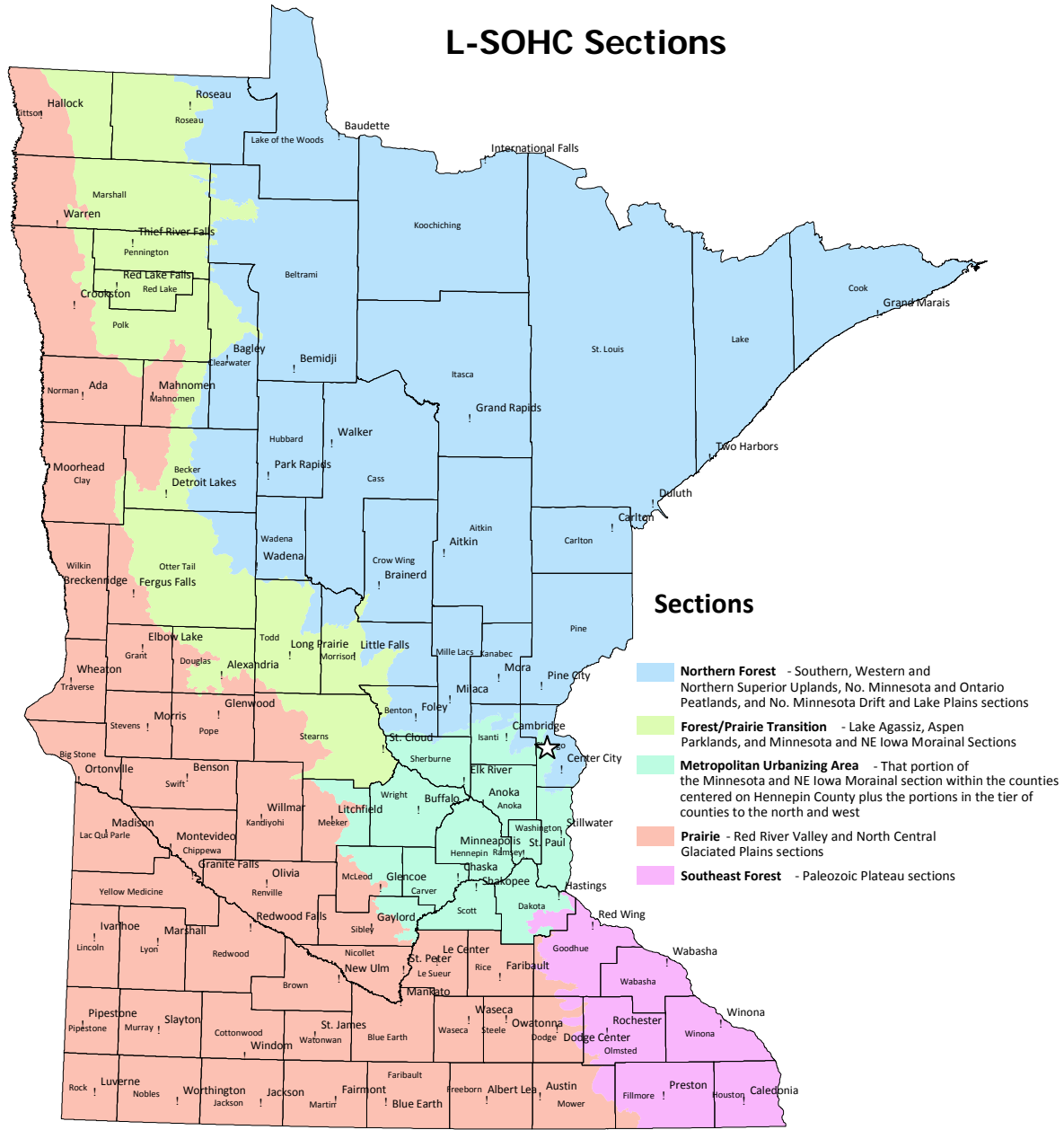
Table 7. Estimated Value of Acquisition by PILT Status (enter information in dollars)

	Wetlands	Prairies	Forests	Habitats	Total
Acquired in Fee with State PILT Liability				\$ 550,000	\$ 550,000
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: Janet Johnson Memorial WMA Addition - Chisago County LGUs

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)
<i>Janet Johnson Memorial WMA (V. & A. Johnson Estate tract)</i>	<i>Chisago</i>	<i>35</i>	<i>21</i>		<i>27</i>		<i>108.5</i>	<i>\$576,500</i>		<i>P</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>N</i>