

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

Laws of Minnesota 2012 Accomplishment Plan

Date: October 19, 2011

Program Title: Protecting Mississippi River Corridor Habitat ACUB Partnership

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Funds Recommended: \$480,000

Legislative Citation: ML 2012, Ch. X, Art. X, Sec. X, Subd. 3 (a): *(to be completed when signed by Governor)*

Abstract:

Convey two ACUB/RIM Easement on 488.4 acres of high quality, riparian habitat in the Little Nokasippi WMA area of influence to enhance the project Phase 2, and provide lasting wildlife habitat.

Program Narrative

Design and Scope of Work

The easements will protect 11,400' (2.15 miles) of the Nokasippi River, 50.15 acres of deepwater aquatic habitat DNR protected lakes, 61.6 acres of prairie, 47.7 acres of undisturbed wetlands, and 327.95 acres of forested hardwoods and softwoods. These properties lie within the ACUB (Army Compatible Use Buffer) zone as it was reassessed. These easements continues the Phase 2 effort of buffering the Little Nokasippi WMA complex which is the largest public hunting opportunity adjacent to the Mississippi between Brainerd and Anoka. It will be the largest single owner parcel in the WMA buffering initiative, but also a unique opportunity to protect one parcel that has had only 2 owners in 120 years. The area would lend itself to prime development if not protected while there are willing landowners. The property is vulnerable for development because it is made up of the type of waters, hills, and forest that are highly desired for residential development. In addition the property is very near black top infrastructure of Co. Rd. 2 and MN State Hwy 371. The interagency interdisciplinary project review team ranked these parcels as having the highest habitat value.

There is no stakeholder opposition.

Planning

The landscape within which the projects are located is designated as one of the highest biodiversity landscapes in the state. The designation resulted from an eco-regional planning process through The

Nature Conservancy which defined the landscape as the most functional/intact landscape within the Prairie Forest Eco-region. Also unique to the project area is the position within a larger habitat complex that encompasses the Mississippi River Corridor including the Mississippi Flyway and the rugged Eastern Bluff shoreline. What's more the WMA includes the confluence of the Little Nokasippi River and the Nokasippi River which occupies 4,498 feet and 13, 161 feet of river shoreline, respectively. The confluence of the Nokasippi River with the Mississippi River is located about 1,000 feet west of the WMA. The habitat value of the project is reflected in the science based planning process that included the entire area as an Important Birding Area (IBA) in according to the Audubon Society. The Little Nokasippi River WMA expansion ranks 10 among all WMA projects for the MNDNR.

Relationship to Other Constitutional Funds

No direct relationship, but is directly related to LSOHC 2010 funding.

Relationship to Current Organizational Budget

Without LSOHC funding, we have no ability to convey easements on these parcels. RIM is not extended up here at the present time. There is no other source of funding for the project.

Sustainability and Maintenance

These easements are perpetual. Monitoring will occur every other year in perpetuity, by the Morrison SWCD in coordination with BWSR. Maintenance of the properties is the responsibility of the landowner but tied to a Conservation Plan describing the habitat as it is and restrictions of the easement.

Outcomes

These are protection easements prohibiting conversion of the high quality habitat or any future structure development.

Accomplishment Timeline

Activity	Milestone	Date completed
Applications (already prepared and signed by landowners)	Submitting to BWSR upon funding July 1, 2012	June 30, 2013

Table B-2. Other Outcome Table

Goal 1	Activity – P/R/E	Measure	Impact	Ecological Type
Preserving the rural and natural aesthetics of Crow Wing and Morrison Counties	Protection	Lower housing density, open space, water quality and habitat will be maintained.	Prevention of development activities that undermine or damage wildlife habitat	Primarily forest transition zone
Goal 2				

Long term protection within Audubon IBA	Protection	Maintenance of state's highest nesting density of red shouldered hawks	Prevention of disturbing flyway, large tract hardwood nesting sites maintained	Primarily forest transition zone
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Attachments (on spreadsheet workbook – 3 separate tabs):

- A. Budget
- B. Proposed Outcome Tables
- C. Parcel List

No Map is needed for the accomplishment plan

Attachment A. Budget Spreadsheet

Name of Proposal:	Protecting Mississippi River corridor Habitat ACUB Partnership
Legislative Citation:	
Date:	19-Oct-11

[Link HERE to definitions of the budget items below.](#)

Total Amount of Request \$ 480,000 *From page 1 on the funding form.*

Personnel

Position breakdown here	FTE	Over # of years	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Cash		Total
				Leverage	Cash Leverage Source	
<i>Manager of Programs</i>					\$	-
<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		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

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		Total
		Leverage	Cash Leverage Source	
Personnel - <i>auto entered from above</i>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Contracts			\$	-
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT <i>(breakout in table 7)</i>			\$	-
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT <i>(breakout in table 7)</i>			\$	-
Easement Acquisition	\$ 461,200		\$	461,200
Easement Stewardship	\$ 4,800		\$	4,800
Travel (in-state)			\$	-
Professional Services	\$ 14,000		\$	14,000
Direct Support Services			\$	-
DNR Land Acquisition Costs			\$	-
Other			\$ 28,664	-
Capital Equipment <i>(auto entered from below)</i>			\$	-
Other Equipment/Tools			\$	-
Supplies/Materials			\$	-
	\$ 480,000	\$ -	\$ 28,664	\$ 480,000

Capital Equipment *(single items over \$10,000 - auto entered into table above)* 0

Item Name	LSOHC Request	Leverage
<i>Truck</i>		
<i>Item 2 enter here</i>		
<i>Item 3 enter here</i>		
<i>Item 4 enter here</i>		
<i>Item 5 enter here</i>		
<i>Item 6 enter here</i>		
<i>Item 7 enter here</i>		
<i>Item 8 enter here</i>		
Total	-	-

Attachment B. Output Tables

Name of Proposal:	Protecting Mississippi River Corridor Habitat ACUB Partnership
Legislative Citation:	
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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 Fee					0
Protect Easement	47.4	61.6	327.95	51.45	488.4
Protect Other					0
Enhance					0
Total	47.4	61.6	327.95	51.45	

Total Acres (sum of Total column)
Total Acres (sum of Total row)

488.4
488.4

These two cells should be the same figure.

Table 2. Total Requested Funding by Resource Type

	Wetlands	Prairies	Forest	Habitats	Total
Restore					\$ -
Protect Fee					\$ -
Protect Easement	\$ 43,682	\$ 53,782	\$ 331,047	\$ 51,489	\$ 480,000
Protect Other					\$ -
Enhance					\$ -
Total	\$ 43,682	\$ 53,782	\$ 331,047	\$ 51,489	

Total Dollars (sum of Total column)
Total Dollars (sum of Total row)
Check to make sure this amount is the same as the Funding Request Amount on page 1 of Main Funding Form.

\$ 480,000
\$ 480,000

These two cells should be the same figure.

Table 3. Acres within each Ecological Section

	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	Northern Forest	Total
Restore						0
Protect Fee						0
Protect Easement					488.4	488.4
Protect Other						0
Enhance						0
Total	0	0	0	0	488.4	

Total Acres (sum of Total column)
Total Acres (sum of Total row)
Total Acres from Table 1.

488.4
488.4
488.4

These three cells should be the same figure.

Attachment B. Output Tables

Table 4. Total Requested Funding within each Ecological Section

	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	Northern Forest	Total
Restore						\$ -
Protect Fee						
Protect Easement					\$ 480,000	
Protect Other						\$ -
Enhance						\$ -
Total	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 480,000	

Total Dollars (sum of Total column) \$ - *These two cells should be the same figure.*
 Total Dollars (sum of Total row) \$ 480,000
 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					0
Acquired in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	47.5	61.6	327.95	51.45	488.5
Permanent Easement PILT Liability <i>NO State</i>					0
	47.5	61.6	327.95	51.45	

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

	Wetlands	Prairies	Forests	Habitats	Total	
Acquired in Fee with State PILT Liability					\$ -	
Acquired in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	\$ 633	\$ 822	\$ 4,238	\$ 633	\$ 6,325	\$ -
Permanent Easement PILT Liability <i>NO State</i>					\$ -	
	\$ 633	\$ 822	\$ 4,238	\$ 633		

FYI: should match total in budget table that is auto entered below

Attachment C. Parcel List

Protecting Mississippi River Corridor Habitat ACUB Partnership

19-Oct-11

Name of Proposal:
Legislative Citation:
Date:

County	Township (25-258)	Range (01-51)	Direction most parcels are 2 with the exception of some areas of Cook County which is 1	Section (01 thru 36)	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 PF=Protect Fee PE=Protect Easement PO=Protect Other R=Restore E=Enhance	If Easement, what is the easement cost as a % of the fee acquisition?	Any existing protection? (yes/no)	Open to hunting and fishing? (yes/no)
Crow Wing	43	31	2	18	4331218	451.4	\$463,508.40	esmt pmt, recdrg fees, title ins., adm	PE	0.50	no	no
Crow Wing	43	32	2	24	4332224	37	16,491.60	esmt pmt, recdrg fees, title ins., adm	PE	0.5	no	no

Information provided will be used to map project locations. Incomplete or inaccurate information will result in that parcel or program not being mapped.