

Request for Funding

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council Fiscal Year 2015 / ML 2014

Program or Project Title: Praire and Oak Savanna Restoration along Mississippi and Rum Rivers

Funds Requested: \$470,000

Manager's Name: Karen Blaska

Title:

Organization: Anoka County

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Organization Web Site:

County Locations: No Counties Listed

Ecological Planning Regions:

- Metro / Urban

Activity Type:

- Restore
- Enhance

Priority Resources Addressed by Activity:

- Forest
- Prairie

Abstract:

This project will restore and enhance 165 acres of prairie & woodland habitat along the Mississippi and Rum Rivers. Outcomes will include increased plant diversity and habitat for game and non-game species and benefit the migratory waterfowl on the Mississippi River flyway.

Design and Scope of Work:

This project will restore and enhance 120 acres of native short dry and mixed height mesic prairie habitat and enhance riparian woodland along the Mississippi River. In addition, this project will continue a program of wildlife habitat restoration in the 984 acre "Rum River Central Regional Park/Cedar Creek Conservation Area complex." The scope of work is to restore 45 acres of prairie and oak savanna. The process of restoration will include prescribed burning, herbicide application, removal of invasive species and woody vegetation, seeding of native ecotype short dry prairie grasses and forbs, maintenance mowing, and planting of native trees and shrubs. The restoration along the Mississippi and Rum Rivers is consistent with the Minnesota Statewide Conservation and Preservation Plan to protect critical shorelands of streams and lakes, and protect priority land habitats of native prairie, as well as, Mississippi West Regional Park Master Plan, the 2030 Regional Parks Policy Plan, Tomorrow's Habitat for the Wild and Rare, and the statewide management plans for duck recovery, pheasants, and turkeys.

Planning

MN State-wide Conservation Plan Priorities:

- H1 Protect priority land habitats
- H2 Protect critical shoreland of streams and lakes
- H3 Improve connectivity and access to recreation
- H5 Restore land, wetlands and wetland-associated watersheds
- H7 Keep water on the landscape
- LU6 Reduce Upland and gully erosion through soil conservation practices

Plans Addressed:

- Minnesota DNR Strategic Conservation Agenda
- Tomorrow's Habitat for the Wild and Rare
- MN Statewide Conservation and Preservation Plan, Cedar Creek Greenway Corridor Plan, Metro Wildlife Corridor Plan, 2030 Regional Parks Policy Plan, Mississippi West Regional Park Master Plan, Rum River Central Master Plan,

LSOHC Statewide Priorities:

- Are ongoing, successful, transparent and accountable programs addressing actions and targets of one or more of the ecological sections
- Ensures activities for "protecting, restoring and enhancing" are coordinated among agencies, non profits and others while doing this important work; provides the most cost-effective use of financial resources; and where possible takes into consideration the value of local outreach, education, and community engagement to sustain project outcomes
- Leverage effort and/or other funds to supplement any OHF appropriation
- Produce multiple enduring conservation benefits
- Provide Minnesotans with greater public access to outdoor environments with hunting, fishing and other outdoor recreation opportunities
- Restore or enhance habitat on permanently protected land

LSOHC Metro Urban Section Priorities:

- Protect, enhance, and restore remnant native prairie, Big Woods forests, and oak savanna with an emphasis on areas with high biological diversity
- Protect habitat corridors, with emphasis on the Minnesota, Mississippi, and St. Croix rivers (bluff to floodplain)

Relationship to Other Constitutional Funds:

- No Relationships Listed

Accelerates or Supplements Current Efforts:

This project accelerates prairie and oak savanna native species composition within the project areas resulting in enhanced biological diversity and function.

Sustainability and Maintenance:

Maintenance for this site will consist of spot mowing and herbicide treatments to control non-native species of plants and woody vegetation. Prescribed fire management will be conducted on a 3-5 year rotation as part of the Anoka County Prairie Restoration and Management Plan. Treatments of herbicide and spot mowing will be conducted throughout the growing season and be based on the target species flowering schedule in order to prevent non-native species from generating seed. Prescribed fire management will be conducted from April thru early June timed to restrict the growth of non-native cool season grasses and promote the growth of native warm season grass species. Funding for the maintenance of this site will be from Anoka County capital budget in the

amount of \$2500 per year for mowing and herbicide management and \$3700 every 3-5 years for prescribed fire management.

Permanent Protection:

Is the activity on permanently protected land and/or public waters per MS 103G.005, Subd. 15? - **Yes (County/Municipal)**

Accomplishment Timeline

Activity	Approximate Date Completed
Inventory and assesment of site	October 2014
Design of restoration and monitoring program	March 2015
Site Preparation	April 2015
Seeding and Planting	May - October 2015
Maintenance	April 2016 - June 2019

Outcomes

Programs in metropolitan urbanizing region:

- Core areas protected with highly biologically diverse wetlands and plant communities, including native prairie, Big Woods, and oak savanna *The 165 acres restoration area will be inventoried to ensure a mininum of 30 native plant species are present and succussfully established.*

Budget Spreadsheet

Total Amount of Request: \$470,000

Budget and Cash Leverage

Budget Name	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	\$0	\$30,000		\$30,000
Contracts	\$220,000	\$20,000	Anoka County	\$240,000
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	\$0	\$0		\$0
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	\$0	\$0		\$0
Easement Acquisition	\$0	\$0		\$0
Easement Stewardship	\$0	\$0		\$0
Travel	\$0	\$0		\$0
Professional Services	\$0	\$0		\$0
Direct Support Services	\$0	\$0		\$0
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	\$0	\$0		\$0
Capital Equipment	\$0	\$0		\$0
Other Equipment/Tools	\$0	\$0		\$0
Supplies/Materials	\$250,000	\$0		\$250,000
DNR IDP	\$0	\$0		\$0
Total	\$470,000	\$50,000	-	\$520,000

Personnel

Position	FTE	Over # of years	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Natural Resource Technician	2.00	3.00	\$0	\$15,000	Anoka County	\$15,000
Seasonal Resource Technicians	4.00	3.00	\$0	\$15,000	Anoka County	\$15,000
Total	6.00	6.00	\$0	\$30,000	-	\$30,000

Output Tables

Table 1. Acres by Resource Type

Type	Wetlands	Prairies	Forest	Habitats	Total
Restore	0	95	0	0	95
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Easement	0	0	0	0	0
Enhance	0	45	25	0	70
Total	0	140	25	0	165

Table 2. Total Requested Funding by Resource Type

Type	Wetlands	Prairies	Forest	Habitats	Total
Restore	\$0	\$335,000	\$0	\$0	\$335,000
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Easement	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Enhance	\$0	\$65,000	\$70,000	\$0	\$135,000
Total	\$0	\$400,000	\$70,000	\$0	\$470,000

Table 3. Acres within each Ecological Section

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	Northern Forest	Total
Restore	95	0	0	0	0	95
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	0	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Easement	0	0	0	0	0	0
Enhance	70	0	0	0	0	70
Total	165	0	0	0	0	165

Table 4. Total Requested Funding within each Ecological Section

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	Northern Forest	Total
Restore	\$335,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$335,000
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Easement	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Enhance	\$135,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$135,000
Total	\$470,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$470,000

Table 5. Target Lake/Stream/River Miles

1 miles

Parcel List

Section 1 - Restore / Enhance Parcel List

Anoka

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
Mississippi West RP	03225228	70	\$135,000	Yes
Mississippi West RP	03225233	50	\$135,000	Yes
Rum Rlver Central RP	03224231	45	\$200,000	Yes

Section 2 - Protect Parcel List

No parcels with an activity type protect.

Section 2a - Protect Parcel with Bldgs

No parcels with an activity type protect and has buildings.

Section 3 - Other Parcel Activity

No parcels with an other activity type.