

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

Laws of Minnesota 2015 Final Report

General Information

Date: 11/05/2020

Project Title: Wild Rice Shoreland Protection Program - Phase IV

Funds Recommended: \$1,600,000

Legislative Citation: ML 2015, First Sp. Session, Ch. 2, Art. 1, Sec. 2, Subd. 4(c)

Appropriation Language: \$131,000 in the first year is to the commissioner of natural resources for the acquisition of land in fee and \$1,469,000 is to the Board of Water and Soil Resources to acquire permanent conservation easements on wild rice lake shoreland habitat for native wild rice bed protection. Of this amount, up to \$90,000 to the Board of Water and Soil Resources is for establishing a monitoring and enforcement fund as approved in the accomplishment plan and subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 17. A list of proposed fee land acquisitions must be included as part of the required accomplishment plan by the Department of Natural Resources and a list of permanent conservation easements must be provided as part of the final report by the Board of Water and Soil Resources.

Manager Information

Manager's Name: Dan Steward Title: Board Conservationist

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Location Information

County Location(s): Todd, Aitkin, Itasca and Becker.

Eco regions in which work will take place:

- Northern Forest
- Forest / Prairie Transition

Activity types:

- Protect in Easement
- Protect in Fee

Priority resources addressed by activity:

Forest

Narrative

Summary of Accomplishments

12 easements have been recorded on 1,127.0 acres.

The Bird's Eye Lake AMA acquisition has been completed. A portion of the land cost had come from this appropriation, the 2016 Aquatic Habitat OHF appropriation, and by gifts matched with RIM Critical Habitat. This tract consists of 52 acres, of which 5 acres are being reported on under this appropriation, as to not double count acreage.

Process & Methods

A local technical team used the scoring and ranking sheet to decide which easements to fund. SWCD staff work with BWSR staff to complete the easement. DNR staff used the normal DNR acquisition process for the Bird's Eye Lake AMA acquisition.

How did the program address habitats of significant value for wildlife species of greatest conservation need, threatened or endangered species, and/or list targeted species?

More than 17 species of wildlife listed in MNDNR's Tomorrow's Habitat for the Wild and Rare as "species of greatest conservation need" use wild rice areas as habitat for reproduction and / or foraging. Also, wild rice is some of the most important habitat for wetland-dependent wildlife species in Minnesota as noted in the MNDNR's Natural Wild Rice in Minnesota report to the legislature (2008).

How did the program use science-based targeting that leveraged or expanded corridors and complexes, reduced fragmentation, or protected areas in the MN County Biological Survey.

Potential lakes were identified in "Natural Wild Rice in Minnesota". CrowWing County recently prioritized lakes in the County, a similar process will likely be used in other counties. Each potential project is ranked and scored using the attached score sheet.

Explain Partners, Supporters, & Opposition

There is widespread local support for this ongoing program. BWSR partners with SWCD's and landowners to accomplish easement acquisitions. DNR works with landowners for fee title purchases.

Exceptional challenges, expectations, failures, opportunities, or unique aspects of program None. This phase went smoothly.

What other funds contributed to this program?

What is the plan to sustain and/or maintain this work after the Outdoor Heritage Funds are expended?

BWSR collects a stewardship fee which will fund perpetual monitoring and enforcement. DNR has incorporated the Bird's Eye AMA into its normal AMA management program.

Actions to Maintain Project Outcomes

Year	Source of Funds	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3
First 5 years	LSOHC funded	Annual monitoring	-	-
	stewardship account			
Every 3rd year	LSOHC funded	Monitoring	-	-
thereafter	stewardship account			

Budget

Grand Totals Across All Partnerships

Item	Request	Spent	Antic.	Received	Leverage	Original	Final Total
			Leverage	Leverage	Source	Total	
Personnel	\$74,300	\$74,300	-	1	-	\$74,300	\$74,300
Contracts	-	ı	-	ı	-	-	-
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	\$120,000	\$124,000	-	-	-	\$120,000	\$124,000
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Easement Acquisition	\$1,243,200	\$1,202,500	-	-	-	\$1,243,200	\$1,202,500
Easement Stewardship	\$90,000	\$78,000	-	-	-	\$90,000	\$78,000
Travel	\$2,500	\$300	-	-	-	\$2,500	\$300
Professional Services	\$62,000	\$32,000	-	-	-	\$62,000	\$32,000
Direct Support Services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
DNR Land	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acquisition Costs							
Capital Equipment	-	ı	-	ı	-	-	-
Other	\$2,500	-	-	-	-	\$2,500	-
Equipment/Tools							
Supplies/Materials	\$2,500	-	-	ı	-	\$2,500	-
DNR IDP	\$3,000	-	-	-	-	\$3,000	-
Grand Total	\$1,600,000	\$1,511,900	-	ı	-	\$1,600,000	\$1,511,900

Partner: BWSR

Totals

Item	Request	Spent	Antic. Leverage	Received Leverage	Leverage Source	Original Total	Final Total
Personnel	\$74,300	\$74,300	-	-	-	\$74,300	\$74,300
Contracts	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	1	1	1	1	-	-	1
Easement Acquisition	\$1,243,200	\$1,202,500	ı	ı	-	\$1,243,200	\$1,202,500
Easement Stewardship	\$90,000	\$78,000	1	1	-	\$90,000	\$78,000
Travel	\$2,500	\$300	1	1	-	\$2,500	\$300
Professional Services	\$54,000	\$25,000	-	-	-	\$54,000	\$25,000
Direct Support Services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Equipment	-	ı	ı	ı	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	\$2,500	1	1	1	-	\$2,500	1
Supplies/Materials	\$2,500	-	ı	1	-	\$2,500	-
DNR IDP	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grand Total	\$1,469,000	\$1,380,900	-	-	-	\$1,469,000	\$1,380,900

Personnel

Position	Annual FTE	Years Working	Funding Request	Antic. Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Program	0.15	3.0	\$47,300	-	-	\$47,300
Management						
Easement	0.15	3.0	\$27,000	-	-	\$27,000
Processing						

Partner: DNR Wildlife

Totals

Item	Request	Spent	Antic. Leverage	Received Leverage	Leverage Source	Original Total	Final Total
Personnel	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Contracts	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	\$120,000	\$124,000	-	-	-	\$120,000	\$124,000
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Easement Acquisition	-	1	1	-	-	-	1
Easement Stewardship	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Travel	-	-	ı	-	-	-	-
Professional Services	\$8,000	\$7,000	-	-	-	\$8,000	\$7,000
Direct Support Services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Equipment	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Supplies/Materials	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
DNR IDP	\$3,000	-	1	-	-	\$3,000	-
Grand Total	\$131,000	\$131,000	-	-	-	\$131,000	\$131,000

Explain any budget challenges or successes:

The last status update contained an error in the easement acquisition line. The final report has been corrected to show \$17,000 less spent.

Total Revenue: \$0

Revenue Spent: \$0

Revenue Balance: \$0

Of the money disclosed above, what are the appropriate uses of the money:

• E. This is not applicable as there was no revenue generated.

Output Tables

Acres by Resource Type (Table 1)

Туре	Wetland (AP)	Wetland (Final)	Prairie (AP)	Prairie (Final)	Forest (AP)	Forest (Final)	Habitat (AP)	Habitat (Final)	Total Acres (AP)	Total Acres (Final)
Restore	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	0	0	0	13	5	0	0	13	5
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Easement	0	0	0	0	900	1,127	0	0	900	1,127
Enhance	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0	913	1,132	0	0	913	1,132

Total Requested Funding by Resource Type (Table 2)

Туре	Wetlan d (AP)	Wetlan d (Final)	Prairi e (AP)	Prairi e (Final)	Forest (AP)	Forest (Final)	Habita t (AP)	Habita t (Final)	Total Funding (AP)	Total Funding (Final)
Restore	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT	-	-	-	-	\$131,000	\$131,000	-	-	\$131,000	\$131,000
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easemen t	-	-	-	-	\$1,469,000	\$1,380,900	-	-	\$1,469,000	\$1,380,900
Enhance Total		•	-	-	\$1,600,00 0	\$1,511,90 0	-	-	\$1,600,00 0	\$1,511,90 0

Acres within each Ecological Section (Table 3)

Туре	Metro / Urban (AP)	Metro / Urban (Final)	Forest / Prairie (AP)	Forest / Prairie (Final)	SE Forest (AP)	SE Forest (Final)	Prairie (AP)	Prairie (Final)	N. Forest (AP)	N. Forest (Final)	Total (AP)	Total (Final)
Restore	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	5	13	5
Protect in	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Fee w/o State PILT Liability												
Protect in	0	0	0	378	0	0	0	0	900	749	900	1,127
Easement												
Enhance	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	378	0	0	0	0	913	754	913	1,132

Total Requested Funding within each Ecological Section (Table 4)

Туре	Metro / Urban (AP)	Metro / Urban (Final)	Fores t/ Prairi e (AP)	Fores t / Prairi e (Final)	SE Fores t (AP)	SE Fores t (Final	Prairi e (AP)	Prairi e (Final)	N. Forest (AP)	N. Forest (Final)	Total (AP)	Total (Final)
Restore	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$131,000	\$131,000	\$131,000	\$131,000
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easeme nt	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$1,469,00 0	\$1,380,90 0	\$1,469,00 0	\$1,380,90 0
Enhance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$1,600,00 0	\$1,511,90 0	\$1,600,00 0	\$1,511,90 0

Average Cost per Acre by Resource Type (Table 5)

Type	Wetland (AP)	Wetland (Final)	Prairie (AP)	Prairie (Final)	Forest (AP)	Forest (Final)	Habitat (AP)	Habitat (Final)
Restore	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	\$10,076	\$26,200	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	\$1,632	\$1,225	-	-
Enhance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Average Cost per Acre by Ecological Section (Table 6)

Туре	Metro / Urban (AP)	Metro / Urban (Final)	Forest / Prairie (AP)	Forest / Prairie (Final)	SE Forest (AP)	SE Forest (Final)	Prairie (AP)	Prairie (Final)	N. Forest (AP)	N. Forest (Final)
Restore	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Protect in	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$10,076	\$26,200
Fee with										
State										

PILT										
Liability										
Protect in	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fee w/o										
State										
PILT										
Liability										
Protect in	-	-	-	\$0	-	-	-	-	\$1,632	\$1,843
Easement										
Enhance	•	•	-	•	•	-	-	•	•	-

Target Lake/Stream/River Feet or Miles

6 miles of shoreline were protected

Outcomes

Programs in the northern forest region:

• Healthy populations of endangered, threatened, and special concern species as well as more common species ~ *We use number of miles of shoreline and number of acres protected.*

Parcels

Sign-up Criteria?

No

Protect Parcels

Name	County	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing
					Protection
01-05-17-13	Aitkin	04626221	63	\$164,000	No
01-01-17-13	Aitkin	04924223	99	\$131,700	No
01-01-18-13	Aitkin	04924223	36	\$66,900	No
01-07-17-13	Aitkin	04527208	192	\$205,600	No
01-06-17-13	Aitkin	04824216	16	\$19,100	No
03-01-18-13	Becker	14241224	221	\$158,000	No
31-01-16-13	Itasca	14827208	109	\$119,900	No
31-01-17-13	Itasca	14827204	128	\$144,800	No
77-04-16-13	Todd	13232228	101	\$64,000	No
77-02-16-13	Todd	13333208	68	\$58,300	No
77-01-16-13	Todd	13333207	60	\$94,700	No
77-03-16-13	Todd	13135207	34	\$32,400	No

