

Request for Funding

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council Fiscal Year 2016 / ML 2015

Program or Project Title: Camp Ripley ACUB Phase 4 - Buffering the Gull River WMA and protecting Mississippi/Crow Wing River forested areas.

Funds Requested: \$3,000,000

Manager's Name: Helen McLennan

Title:

Organization: Morrison SWCD

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Organization Web Site:

County Locations: Cass, Crow Wing, and Morrison.

Ecological Planning Regions:

- Northern Forest
- Forest / Prairie Transition

Activity Type:

- Protect in Easement

Priority Resources Addressed by Activity:

- Forest

Abstract:

Protect up to 1,320 acres of habitat for fish, game and wildlife with easements surrounding the Gull River WMA and along the Mississippi and Crow Wing Rivers and tributaries. Protection will reduce infringement and development and improve watershed function.

Design and Scope of Work:

This project builds on the existing Army Compatible Use Buffer (ACUB) partnership. We have completed 103 land transactions between the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), totaling over 13,000 acres. We currently have 29 contracts in process. Camp Ripley has leveraged over \$18 million dollars and is the leading ACUB program in the country. With state funds leveraging federal funds, we will meet the goal of securing 70,000 acres in easements and compatible use properties. The last LSOHC allocation successfully leveraged over \$4 million in 2013, almost all of which is allocated to active applications. All previous LSOHC grants have been encumbered within one year of receipt. Using the state funds to convey easements on valuable riparian and forested properties, and the ACUB dollars to secure the agricultural properties, this program will enable central MN to maintain its rural character. Limiting land use conversion protects fish and wildlife habitats and connectivity of two major watersheds which provides drinking water to the entire southern half of MN and states below. The easement dollars have contributed to the local economic development dependent on tourism from outdoor recreation activities.

How the request addresses MN habitats:

Protects habitat and connectivity for fish, game, migratory birds and mammals using conservation easements on strategic targeted riparian forest and flowage protection along the Gull, Mississippi, Crow Wing rivers and tributaries. Land conversion and development have a detrimental effect on habitat connectivity and aquatic

function on both land and water. MN DNR fish surveys on Crow Wing and Mississippi indicate high quality fish communities of all species of fish. This corridor includes an IBA and two high priority management areas for Blanding's turtle populations.

Please explain the nature of urgency:

Incompatible land uses threaten the states investment in the Gull River WMA and in the state Game Refuge (53,000 acres) of Camp Ripley. By leveraging federal dollars we hope to meet the goal of protecting 70,000 acres of land surrounding camp and the major rivers of the area.

Planning

MN State-wide Conservation Plan Priorities:

- H1 Protect priority land habitats
- H2 Protect critical shoreland of streams and lakes

Plans Addressed:

- Long Range Plan for Fisheries Management
- Long Range Plan for the Wild Turkey

Please describe the science based planning and evaluation model used:

Long Range Plan for Fisheries Management. Long Range Plan for Wild Turkey. MN Forest Resource Council LSP, Mississippi River Headwaters Comprehensive Plan, North American Waterbird and Waterfowl Management Plans. TNC Superior Mixed Forest Eco-regional Plan, and Upper Mississippi River and Great Lakes Region Joint Ventures Plans.

LSOHC Forest Prairie Transition Section Priorities:

- Protect, enhance, and restore migratory habitat for waterfowl and related species, so as to increase migratory and breeding success

LSOHC Northern Forest Section Priorities:

- Restore forest-based wildlife habitat that has experienced substantial decline in area in recent decades

Accelerates or Supplements Current Efforts:

This program accelerates the existing program and success. OHF dollars have secured 13,809 acres through easements and fee title acquisition. Two WMAs have been established providing public access for hunting and fishing. Over \$18,000,000 in federal funding has demonstrated the successful partnership between BWSR, DNR, the National Guard Bureau (NGB), Minnesota Forest Resources Council (MFRC), The Nature Conservancy (TNC), and Camp Ripley. Enrollment is voluntary and over 350 landowners have placed their properties on the list of interested landowners.

Non-OHF Money Spent in the Past:

Appropriation Year	Source	Amount
2006	Department of Defense (DOD)	500,000.00
2007	DOD	1,000,000.00
2008	DOD/NGB	3,147,000.00
2009	DOD/NGB	3,485,500.00
2010	DOD	1,500,000.00
2011	DOD/NGB	1,260,000.00
2012	DOD/NGB	2,500,000.00
2013	DOD/NGB	569,500.00
2013/14	DOD/NGB	4,083,000.00

Sustainability and Maintenance:

BWSR easements are perpetual, monitored through the BWSR RIM easement monitoring system. Landowners are responsible for maintenance of properties and taxes, and maintaining their signed Conservation Plans. Monitoring follows the RIM guideline schedule.

Maintain Project Outcomes:

Year	Source of Funds	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3
2016-Ongoing	LSOHC-BWSR Stewardship Account	Compliance Checks first 5 years then every 3rd year.	Corrective actions of any violations.	Enforcement Action taken by MN Attorney Generals office.
2016-Ongoing	Landowner Obligation	Maintain compliance with easement terms.		

Applicable Criteria:

If funded, this proposal will meet all applicable criteria set forth in MS 97A.056? - Yes

Public Use:

Will the eased land be open for public use? - No

Permanent Protection:

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

Accomplishment Timeline

Activity	Approximate Date Completed
Secure easements on 1,320 acres	2017

Outcomes

Programs in the northern forest region:

- Forestlands are protected from development and fragmentation *Protect 2000 acres from land conversion sustaining existing habitat and aquatic function and values.*

Programs in forest-prairie transition region:

- Protected, restored, and enhanced nesting and migratory habitat for waterfowl, upland birds, and species of greatest conservation need *Lands under easement do not allow for drainage and all forestry management must be according to an approved management plan. Partnering with MFRC, efforts will be made to improve forest stands and revitalize oak regeneration. MFRC Landscape plan modeling and evaluation methods will be followed by work team and forestry position.*

Relationship to Other Funds:

- \$18,000,000 of ACUB Funding from DOD and NGB to date.

Budget Spreadsheet

Total Amount of Request: \$3,000,000

Budget and Cash Leverage

Budget Name	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	\$99,000	\$0		\$99,000
Contracts	\$0	\$0		\$0
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	\$0	\$0		\$0
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	\$0	\$0		\$0
Easement Acquisition	\$2,683,500	\$2,000,000	ACUB	\$4,683,500
Easement Stewardship	\$110,000	\$0		\$110,000
Travel	\$5,000	\$0		\$5,000
Professional Services	\$92,500	\$150,000	ACUB	\$242,500
Direct Support Services	\$0	\$0		\$0
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	\$0	\$0		\$0
Capital Equipment	\$0	\$0		\$0
Other Equipment/Tools	\$5,000	\$0		\$5,000
Supplies/Materials	\$5,000	\$0		\$5,000
DNR IDP	\$0	\$0		\$0
Total	\$3,000,000	\$2,150,000	-	\$5,150,000

Personnel

Position	FTE	Over # of years	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Program Management	0.20	3.00	\$60,000	\$0		\$60,000
Easement Processing	0.20	3.00	\$39,000	\$0		\$39,000
Total	0.40	6.00	\$99,000	\$0	-	\$99,000

Budget and Cash Leverage by Partnership

Budget Name	Partnership	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	BWSR	\$99,000	\$0		\$99,000
Contracts	BWSR	\$0	\$0		\$0
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	BWSR	\$0	\$0		\$0
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	BWSR	\$0	\$0		\$0
Easement Acquisition	BWSR	\$2,683,500	\$2,000,000	ACUB	\$4,683,500
Easement Stewardship	BWSR	\$110,000	\$0		\$110,000
Travel	BWSR	\$5,000	\$0		\$5,000
Professional Services	BWSR	\$16,500	\$150,000	ACUB	\$166,500
Direct Support Services	BWSR	\$0	\$0		\$0
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	BWSR	\$0	\$0		\$0
Capital Equipment	BWSR	\$0	\$0		\$0
Other Equipment/Tools	BWSR	\$5,000	\$0		\$5,000
Supplies/Materials	BWSR	\$5,000	\$0		\$5,000
DNR IDP	BWSR	\$0	\$0		\$0
Total	-	\$2,924,000	\$2,150,000	-	\$5,074,000

Personnel - BWSR

Position	FTE	Over # of years	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Program Management	0.20	3.00	\$60,000	\$0		\$60,000
Easement Processing	0.20	3.00	\$39,000	\$0		\$39,000
Total	0.40	6.00	\$99,000	\$0	-	\$99,000

Budget Name	Partnership	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	Morrison SWCD	\$0	\$0		\$0
Contracts	Morrison SWCD	\$0	\$0		\$0
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	Morrison SWCD	\$0	\$0		\$0
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	Morrison SWCD	\$0	\$0		\$0
Easement Acquisition	Morrison SWCD	\$0	\$0		\$0
Easement Stewardship	Morrison SWCD	\$0	\$0		\$0
Travel	Morrison SWCD	\$0	\$0		\$0
Professional Services	Morrison SWCD	\$76,000	\$0		\$76,000
Direct Support Services	Morrison SWCD	\$0	\$0		\$0
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	Morrison SWCD	\$0	\$0		\$0
Capital Equipment	Morrison SWCD	\$0	\$0		\$0
Other Equipment/Tools	Morrison SWCD	\$0	\$0		\$0
Supplies/Materials	Morrison SWCD	\$0	\$0		\$0
DNR IDP	Morrison SWCD	\$0	\$0		\$0
Total	-	\$76,000	\$0	-	\$76,000

Amount of Request: \$3,000,000

Amount of Leverage: \$2,150,000

Leverage as a percent of the Request: 71.67%

Output Tables

Table 1a. Acres by Resource Type

Type	Wetlands	Prairies	Forest	Habitats	Total
Restore	0	0	0	0	0
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	1,320	0	1,320
Enhance	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	1,320	0	1,320

Table 2. Total Requested Funding by Resource Type

Type	Wetlands	Prairies	Forest	Habitats	Total
Restore	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
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	\$3,000,000	\$0	\$3,000,000
Enhance	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total	\$0	\$0	\$3,000,000	\$0	\$3,000,000

Table 3. Acres within each Ecological Section

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	Northern Forest	Total
Restore	0	0	0	0	0	0
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	660	0	0	660	1,320
Enhance	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	660	0	0	660	1,320

Table 4. Total Requested Funding within each Ecological Section

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	Northern Forest	Total
Restore	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
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	\$1,500,000	\$0	\$0	\$1,500,000	\$3,000,000
Enhance	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total	\$0	\$1,500,000	\$0	\$0	\$1,500,000	\$3,000,000

Table 5. Average Cost per Acre by Resource Type

Type	Wetlands	Prairies	Forest	Habitats
Restore	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Easement	\$0	\$0	\$2,273	\$0
Enhance	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Table 6. Average Cost per Acre by Ecological Section

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	Northern Forest
Restore	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
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	\$2,273	\$0	\$0	\$2,273
Enhance	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Target Lake/Stream/River Feet or Miles

Parcel List

Section 1 - Restore / Enhance Parcel List

No parcels with an activity type restore or enhance.

Section 2 - Protect Parcel List

Cass

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
Parcel list will be submitted in final report	2	0	\$0			

Crow Wing

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
Parcel list will be submitted in final report	2	0	\$0			

Morrison

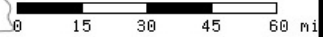
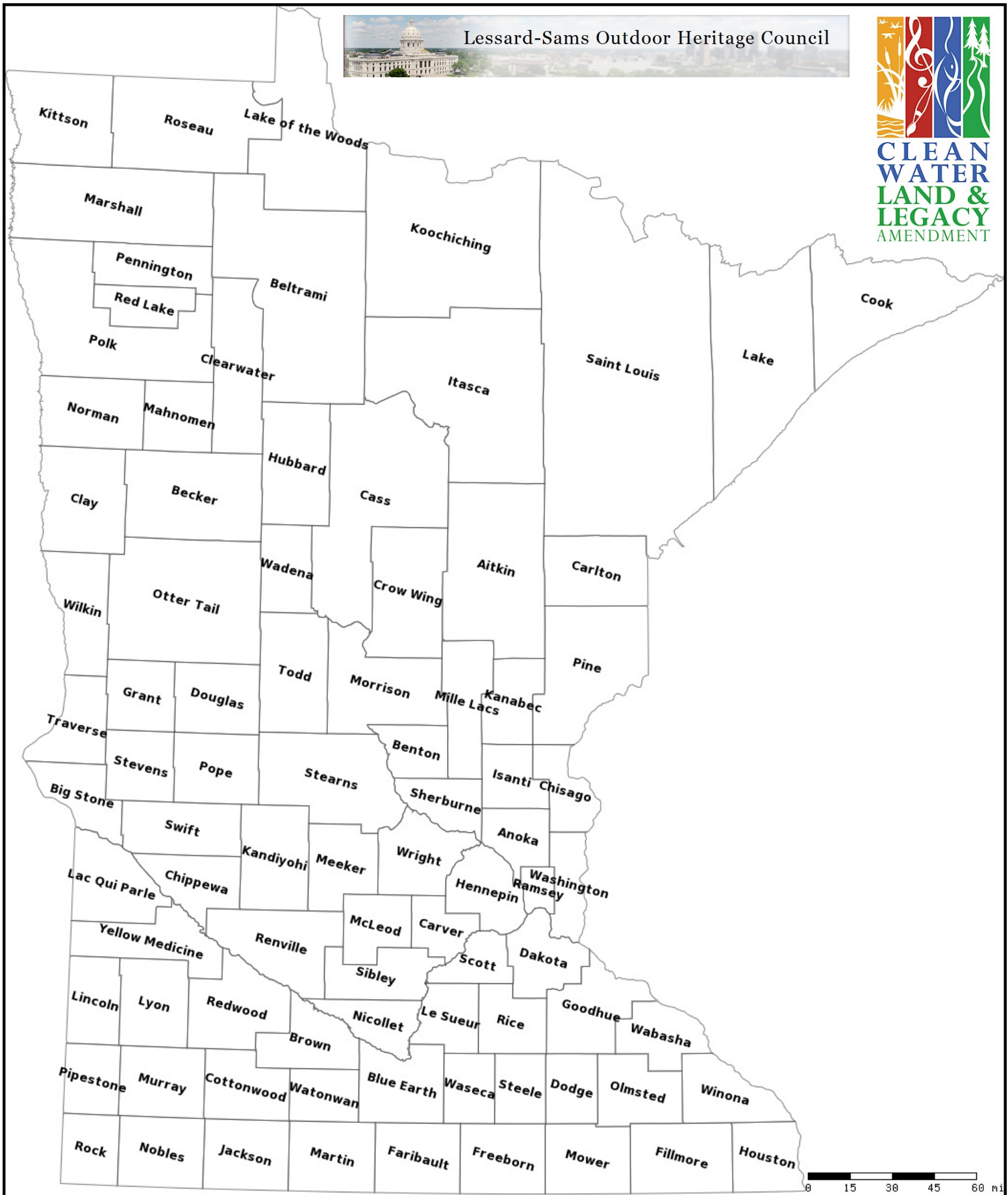
Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
Parcel list will be submitted in final report	2	0	\$0			

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.

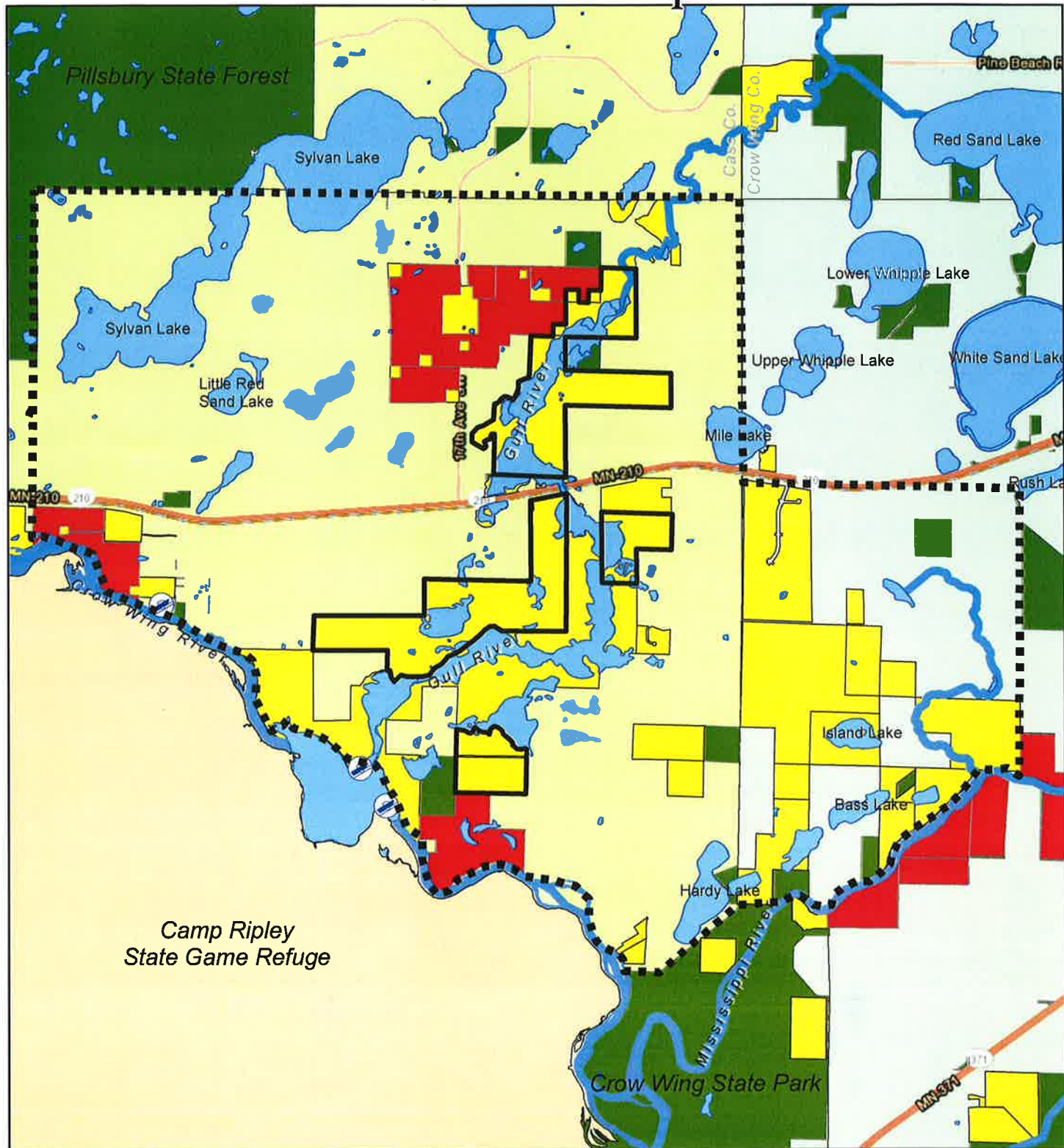


Legend

- Protect in Easement
- ▲ Protect in Fee with PILT
- Protect in Fee w/o PILT
- ★ Restore
- ✕ Enhance
- + Other

Camp Ripley ACUB Phase 4 - Buffering the Gull River WMA and protecting Mississippi/Crow Wing River forested areas.

Gull River WMA Work Area Map



- Proposed Gull River WMA
- Gull River WMA Work Area
- Camp Ripley (State Game Refuge)
- Completed Easements or Aquisitions via ACUB
- Interested/Targeted Parcels
- Compatable Lands - State or County Managed
- Public Access

0 0.5 1 2 Miles

1 in = 1 miles



Mans are for granhical nurposes only. They do not represent a legal survey.

Criteria for selecting land parcels and establishing funding priorities within the Camp Ripley Army Compatible Use Buffer (ACUB)

The Cooperative Agreements between the DNR, BWSR and NGB states that parcels acquired under the agreement must be located within the three-mile buffer area surround Camp Ripley. Furthermore, the parcels will be pursued in accordance with the prioritization process presented in the Camp Ripley Army Compatible Use Buffer (ACUB) proposal including, but not limited to, proximity to Camp Ripley, size of parcel(s), potential for development, land owner willingness, availability, and cost.














The primary purpose of the Camp Ripley ACUB is to create and enhance a natural buffer around Camp Ripley to ensure that the military training mission of Camp Ripley is not impeded by the impacts of encroachment. Secondly, the ACUB will greatly benefit the natural resources of central Minnesota by minimizing the fragmentation of surrounding lands and subsequent loss of valuable habitat for sensitive species. Lastly, ACUB will contribute to preserving the local heritage by maintaining the rural character of the area that residents cherish.

The Camp Ripley ACUB proposal was approved in May 2004. Since then, the criteria for establishing priority one funding areas have been revised based on the experience of four years of program implementation. The following data base criteria are used to score candidate parcels of interest within the ACUB area:

Military Criteria (130 points possible)

Parcel Information	Military Criteria	Land Characteristic Criteria	Funding Zone Criteria	Supplemental Criteria	Parcel Status
Proximity to Camp Ripley: 0					
Border: 20					
1 - 1 mile: 15					
1.1 - 2 miles: 10					
2.1 - 3 miles: 5					
Priority Area: 0					
High 1: 20					
2: 15					
3: 10					
Low 4: 5					
Lot Size: 0					
Over 160 acres: 20					
80-159 acres: 15					
40-79 acres: 10					
<39 acres: 5					
Noise Contours (Blast): 0					
Zone 3: 20					
Zone 2: 10					
Zone 1: 5					
Noise Contours (Aircraft): 0					
Zone 3: 20					
Zone 2: 10					
Zone 1: 5					
Fly Neighborly: 5					
Flight Operations: 0					
Meets 3 Criteria: 15					
Meets 2 Criteria: 10					
Meets 1 Criteria: 5					
Potential Crash Zone: 0					
Falls in PCZ: 15					
Not in PCZ: 0					
Military Criteria Total:					0

Land Characteristics Criteria (34 Point Possible)

Parcel Information	Military Criteria	Land Characteristic Criteria	Funding Zone Criteria	Supplemental Criteria	Parcel Status
Cultural Site Present:	0				
Adjacent to Water:	0		Artificial Surface:	0	
Road Access:	0		Cropland:	0	
Rare or Endangered Species	0		Forest:	0	
Adjacent to Public Land:	0		Woodlands:	0	
MCBS:	0		Shrubland:	0	
			Grassland:	0	
			Water:	0	
Land Criteria Total:			0		

Supplemental Criteria (10 Possible Points)

Parcel Information	Military Criteria	Land Characteristic Criteria	Funding Zone Criteria	Supplemental Criteria	Parcel Status
<div> <div> <p>Adjacent to ACUB Parcel:</p> <p>Platted for Subdivision or Borders Subdivision:</p> </div> <div> <p>Percent Parcel Enrolled:</p> <p>Percent Enrolled Score:</p> </div> </div>					
<p>Supplemental Criteria Total:</p>				<p>0</p>	

The data base criteria are used to rank or score all candidate land parcels. In turn, each candidate land parcel must meet one or more of the seven funding criteria as follows:

- 1. Adjacent to Highway 371
- 2. Adjacent to the Camp Ripley Boundary
- 3. Greater than or equal to 160 acres in size
- 4. Borders a primary lake, river, or stream
- 5. Impacted by blast noise zone 2 or 3
- 6. Impacted by airfield noise
- 7. Located within airfield potential crash zone

The more funding criteria that a particular land parcel meets the higher the priority for consideration in the annual Readiness and Environmental Protection Initiative (REPI) submission to the Office of the Secretary of Defense. The total land area within the Camp Ripley ACUB, which encompasses about 110,000 acres, that meets one or more of the funding criteria is 84,605 acres. This is comprised of 1,963 land parcels and represents about 78% of the Camp Ripley ACUB. Following is a page from the data base and an overlay of each of the seven funding criteria when considered independently:

Parcel InformationMilitary CriteriaLand Characteristic CriteriaFunding Zone CriteriaSupplemental CriteriaParcel Status

Proximity to HWY 371: 0

Proximity to Camp Ripley: 0

Lot Size: 0

Figure No. 1

Figure No. 2

Figure No. 3

Adjacent to Water: 0

Noise Contours (Blast): 0

Noise Contours (Aircraft): 0

Potential Crash Zone: 0

Figure No. 4

Figure No. 5

Figure No. 6

Figure No. 7

Figure No. 8 is a compilation of all funding criteria

Funding Priority Total: 0

Figure No. 1
Funding criteria
Proximity to Highway 371
4,531 acres
492 parcels
14.7% of 3-mile buffer



Figure No. 2
Funding criteria
Proximity to Camp Ripley
12,741 acres
443 parcels
11.7% of 3-mile buffer



Figure No. 3
Funding criteria
Parcels greater than 100
acres
23,601 acres
85 parcels
21.6% of 3-mile buffer



Figure No. 4
Funding criteria
Proximity to Water Bodies
29,025 acres
2,548 parcels
26.6% of 3-mile buffer



Figure No. 5
Funding criteria
Blast Noise Zone
29,172 acres
1,800 parcels
27% of 3-mile buffer



Figure No. 6
Funding criteria
Airfield Noise Zone
31,133 acres
2,938 parcels
28.5% of 3-mile buffer



Figure No. 7
Funding criteria
Airfield Potential Growth Zone
2,720 acres
31 parcels
2.5% of 3-mile buffer



Figure No. 8
Compilation of all Funding
criteria

84,605 acres
1,963 parcels
78% of 3-mile buffer

