

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

Laws of Minnesota 2017 Accomplishment Plan



Date: October 17, 2016

Program or Project Title: Goose Prairie

Funds Recommended: \$ 600,000

Manager's Name: Kevin Ruud

Title: Administrator

Organization: Wild Rice Watershed District

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Legislative Citation: ML 2017, Ch. X, Art. X, Sec. X

Appropriation Language:

County Locations: Clay

Regions in which work will take place:

- Prairie

Activity types:

- Enhance

Priority resources addressed by activity:

- Habitat
- Prairie
- Wetlands

Abstract:

The Goose Prairie Marsh Enhancement Project will give resource managers the capacity to manage water levels in Goose Prairie Marsh through installation of a water control structure and a new outlet channel from the marsh to the control structure. The primary purpose of the project is to improve habitat conditions within the shallow lake and the associated upland habitats within and adjacent to the existing WMA. Secondary benefits include additional protections of lands adjacent to the WMA and improved water quality and spring flood risk reduction downstream.

Design and scope of work:

The Goose Prairie Marsh Enhancement project is located approximately 2 miles northeast of Hitterdal, MN in Goose Prairie Township, Clay County. The marsh is part of the Goose Prairie Wildlife Management Area (WMA). Clay County Ditch 18 (CD 18) was constructed through this area in about 1915.

Water levels in Goose Prairie Marsh cannot currently be managed to improve wildlife habitat using the lake's natural outlet. Since the early 1990's the lake has been at historically high levels due to above average precipitation and constricted flow through the the historic outlet channel due to a buildup of sediment and cattails. These high water levels have resulted in substantially degraded habitat conditions in the marsh.

This request for funding includes funds for two components of the Goose Prairie Marsh Enhancement project: installation of a water control structure and realignment of the outlet channel from the marsh to the water control structure (Attachment 1).

1) Water control structure - A water control structure made of reinforced concrete with six, 5-foot stoplog bays will be constructed to allow water level manipulation between from 1203.6 and 1208.5 feet (NAVD 88). The water control structure will be located near the center of section 22, T141, R44 adjacent to 115th Ave N. A reinforced concrete outlet pipe will be installed to convey water leaving the structure under the road. The structure will also include a fish barrier to reduce the upstream movement of fish into Goose Prairie Marsh. A 1,900 foot segment of the township road will also be elevated in order to meet public safety standards.

2) Realignment of the existing outlet channel - The project will construct a new channel between the the Goose Prairie Marsh and the new outlet structure. The new channel will effectively convey water from the marsh to the new outlet and ensure water level management and will avoid wetland impacts and habitat loss associated with cleaning out the existing channel (CD18). The channel is needed to improve water level management and it will also provide improved recreational access to the WMA.

The project also includes selective repair of CD18 immediately downstream of the proposed project features. This maintenance work is needed in order to ensure efficient conveyance of water from the project downstream. This associated work will be completed by the watershed district with local funds under provisions of 103E.

How does the request address MN habitats that have: historical value to fish and wildlife, wildlife species of greatest conservation need, MN County Biological Survey data, and/or rare, threatened and endangered species inventories:

Goose Prairie Marsh is almost entirely contained within Goose Prairie WMA. The WMA is 490 acres and consists of approximately 318 acres of wetlands and 172 acres of upland grassland and forest. Native northern dry prairie has been identified on 23.5 acres of the WMA by MN DNR Division of Ecological and Water Resources. The WMA is part of a large habitat complex in the area, there are approximately 1,420 acres of WMA, 5,520 acres of WPA, and 120 acres of Reinvest in Minnesota (RIM) easements within five miles of the WMA. This project will protect an additional 270 acres of wetland and upland habitats adjacent to the WMA.

Native plant communities in the project area include northern mesic prairie, central mesic hardwood forest, and prairie mixed cattail marsh. Key habitats in the subsection include prairie, forest-lowland deciduous, wetland-non-forest, river-headwater to large and river-very large. Goose Prairie WMA is rated a moderate biodiversity significance rating by the Minnesota Biological Survey meaning that the site contains occurrences of rare species and/or moderately disturbed native plant communities, and/or landscapes that have a strong potential for recovery.

Less than 5% of pre-settlement wetlands remain in Clay County. Those that remain are stressed and degraded from intensive agricultural drainage, excessive sediment and nutrient loading, invasive species, and increased shoreline development pressure. Eighty-three SGCN are known or predicted to occur in the Red River Prairie subsection. Four of those 83 SGCN are unique to the Red River Prairie area. Shallow lakes and wetlands in the Red River Prairie provide habitat for 37 SGCN species.

Describe the science based planning and evaluation model used:

Goose Prairie Marsh is a shallow lake which has historically provided quality wildlife habitat. Although the marsh is located outside of a currently designated MN Prairie Plan corridor area it is part of the agricultural matrix area and is critical to a large complex of wetlands and grasslands in this area. Approximately 1,420 acres of WMA, 5,520 acres of WPA, and 120 acres of Reinvest in Minnesota (RIM) easements are located within five miles of the Goose Prairie Marsh. This project will substantially improve habitat conditions within this degraded shallow lake to provide important open water habitats for this area.

According to Breeding Pair Accessibility Maps (Thunderstorm Maps) produced by the USFWS Habitat and Population Evaluation Team (HAPET). 41-50 pairs of upland nesting waterfowl could potentially nest in each 40 acre block around Goose Prairie Marsh. The purpose of the Thunderstorm Map is to identify priority sites for land managers to apply treatments such as grassland restorations. Goose Prairie Marsh is within the second highest priority level within the Thunderstorm Map criteria.

Which sections of the Minnesota Statewide Conservation and Preservation Plan are applicable to this program:

- H4 Restore and protect shallow lakes
- H5 Restore land, wetlands and wetland-associated watersheds

Which other plans are addressed in this program:

- Long Range Duck Recovery Plan

- Managing Minnesota's Shallow Lakes for Waterfowl and Wildlife

Which LSOHC section priorities are addressed in this program:

Prairie:

- Protect, restore, and enhance shallow lakes

Relationship to other funds:

- Not Listed

Describe the relationship of the funds:

Not Listed

How does this program include leverage in funds or other effort to supplement any OHF appropriation:

The Wild Rice Watershed District has invested approximately \$64,000 in project development, engineering, and permitting. The MN DNR has made considerable investments in staff time to complete the Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) for this project. These funds as well as additional watershed district and DNR wildlife program funds are anticipated to leverage LSOHC funds.

Describe the source and amount of non-OHF money spent for this work in the past:

Appropriation Year	Source	Amount
2014, 2015	Wild Rice Watershed District	64,000
2015	MN DNR staff time for EAW preparation and completion	

How will you sustain and/or maintain this work after the Outdoor Heritage Funds are expended:

The watershed district in cooperation with the MN DNR will be responsible for long term maintenance of this project. The watershed district is leading the land acquisition, project development, and engineering of this project. The Watershed District will complete this project using authorities granted in watershed district law (Minnesota Statutes 103D). Long term project maintenance will be authorized and funded through established watershed district construction and maintenance funds and DNR wildlife funds based on a joint powers agreement.

Explain the things you will do in the future to maintain project outcomes:

Year	Source of Funds	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3
2017	LSOHC	Construction	Establish vegetation in areas associated with construction	Begin water level management according to operating plan
2018	Watershed District Maintenance Fund/ DNR	Maintenance of infrastructure		

Activity Details:

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

Will there be planting of corn or any crop on OHF land purchased or restored in this program - **No**

Will restoration and enhancement work follow best management practices including MS 84.973 Pollinator Habitat Program - **Yes**

Is the activity on permanently protected land per 97A.056, subd 13(f), tribal lands, and/or public waters per MS 103G.005, Subd. 15 - **Yes (WMA, Public Waters)**

Accomplishment Timeline:

Activity	Approximate Date Completed
Final Engineering	Fall, 2017
Construction	Summer 2019

Date of Final Report Submission: 11/1/2022

Federal Funding:

Do you anticipate federal funds as a match for this program - **No**

Outcomes:

Programs in prairie region:

- Protected, restored, and enhanced shallow lakes and wetlands *This project will result in improved water level management and habitat conditions throughout the Goose Prairie WMA. Success will be measured by achieving desired water levels based on a shallow lake operating plan, through improvement in water clarity and the composition of the plant community within the marsh (species richness), and increased use of the WMA by waterfowl during nesting and migration.*

Budget Spreadsheet

Budget reallocations up to 10% do not require an amendment to the Accomplishment Plan

How will this program accommodate the reduced appropriation recommendation from the original proposed requested amount

Fee title acquisition will be eliminated from the project, and easement acquisition will be limited to flowage easements as per M.S. 130G.551 Subd. 2.

Total Amount of Request: \$ 600000

Budget and Cash Leverage

BudgetName	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	\$0	\$0		\$0
Contracts	\$550,000	\$90,000	Wild Rice Watershed District	\$640,000
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	\$50,000	\$137,000	Wild Rice Watershed District	\$187,000
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	\$0	\$0		\$0
DNR IDP	\$0	\$0		\$0
Total	\$600,000	\$227,000		\$827,000

Amount of Request: \$600,000

Amount of Leverage: \$227,000

Leverage as a percent of the Request: 37.83%

DSS + Personnel: \$0

As a % of the total request: 0.00%

Does the amount in the contract line include R/E work?

Yes. All of the money for contract work will go toward enhancement of Goose Prairie Marsh, a degraded shallow lake.

Describe and explain leverage source and confirmation of funds:

WRWD will locally fund channel maintenance work downstream of project and secure conservation or flowage easements necessary for water level fluctuations. DNR will provide additional funds as available.

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	0	0	0
Enhance	318	24	0	148	490
Total	318	24	0	148	490

Table 1b. How many of these Prairie acres are Native Prairie?

Type	Native Prairie
Restore	0
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	0
Protect in Easement	0
Enhance	24
Total	24

Table 2. Total 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	\$0	\$0	\$0
Enhance	\$600,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$600,000
Total	\$600,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$600,000

Table 3. Acres within each Ecological Section

Type	Metro Urban	ForestPrairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N 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	0	0	0	0	0
Enhance	0	0	0	490	0	490
Total	0	0	0	490	0	490

Table 4. Total Funding within each Ecological Section

Type	Metro Urban	ForestPrairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N 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	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Enhance	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$600,000	\$0	\$600,000
Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$600,000	\$0	\$600,000

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	\$0	\$0
Enhance	\$1887	\$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	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Enhance	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1224	\$0

Target Lake/Stream/River Feet or Miles

0

Parcel List

For restoration and enhancement programs ONLY: Managers may add, delete, and substitute projects on this parcel list based upon need, readiness, cost, opportunity, and/or urgency so long as the substitute parcel/project forwards the constitutional objectives of this program in the Project Scope table of this accomplishment plan. The final accomplishment plan report will include the final parcel list.

Section 1 - Restore / Enhance Parcel List

Clay

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
A BRUCE PAAKH JR., TTEE	1414426	26	\$104,300	No
A BRUCE PAAKH JR., TTEE	1414426	27	\$108,900	No
ANDERSON EDMUND L & COLLENE M	1414423	32	\$129,800	No
DAHL JAMES E & KENNETH D & LE: ERVIN	1414427	28	\$114,100	No
G ERNER JOSEPH A & LAVERNE M	1414427	11	\$44,600	No
GINGER R PETERMANN REVOCABLE LIVING TRUST	1414426	25	\$100,600	No
G JEVRE JOHN A & MARJORIE A	1414422	9	\$35,400	No
G JEVRE JOHN & MARJORIE	1414427	3	\$13,700	No
HARDING LLOYD JR	1414427	8	\$32,100	No
JACOBSON KYLE & JESSICA	1414422	28	\$111,000	No
KJOS TODD M	1414422	3	\$11,000	No
OLEK ROBERT J	1414427	36	\$143,400	No
SAVIG AUDREY & DIANE BAKKE	1414423	33	\$131,100	No

Section 2 - Protect Parcel List

No parcels with an activity type protect.

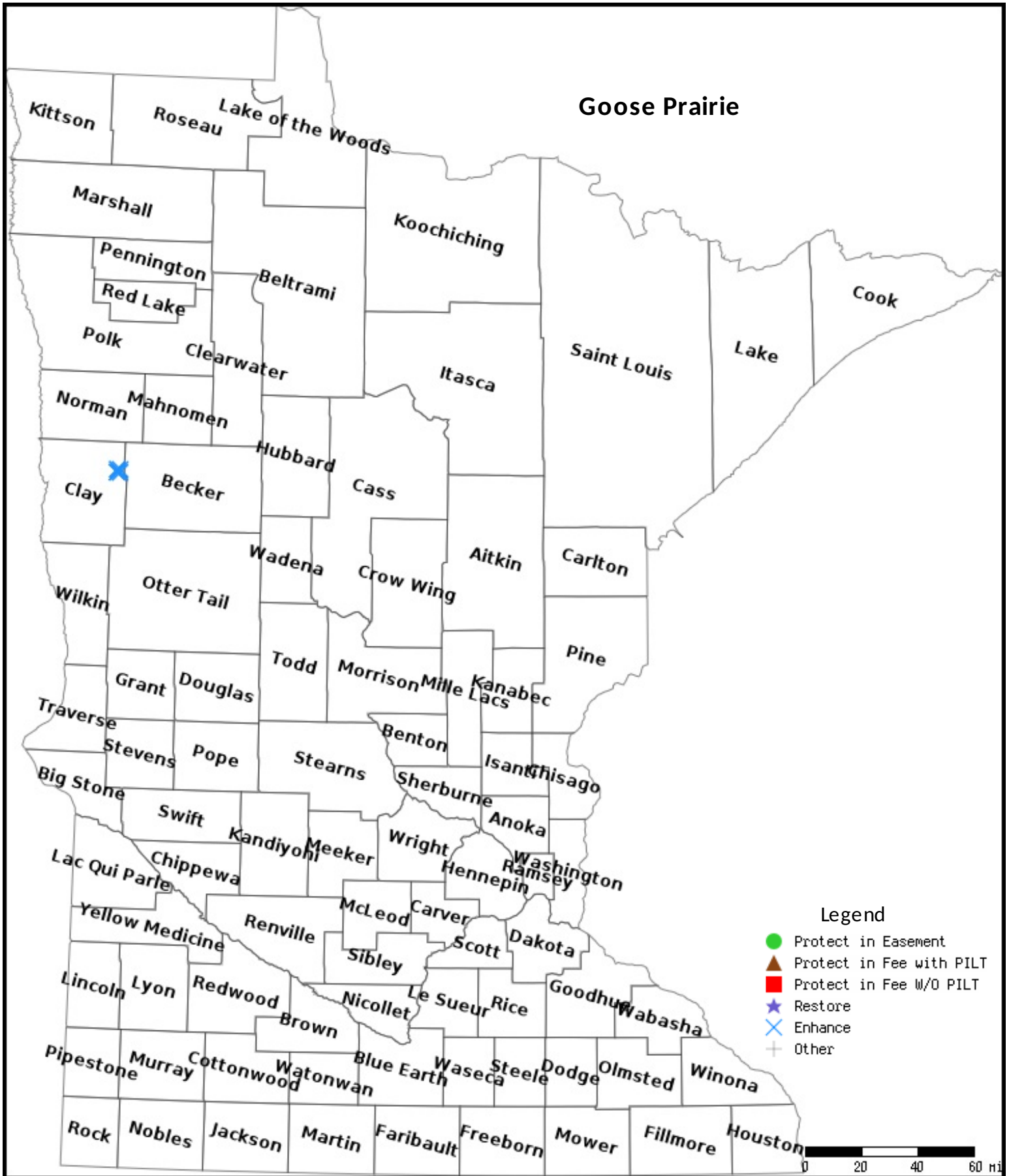
Section 2a - Protect Parcel with Bldgs

No parcels with an activity type protect and has buildings.

Section 3 - Other Parcel Activity

No parcels with an other activity type.

Parcel Map



Data Generated From Parcel List

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council Comparison Report

Program Title: 2017 - Goose Prairie
Organization: Wild Rice Watershed District
Manager: Kevin Ruud

Budget

Requested Amount: \$1,820,000
 Appropriated Amount: \$600,000
 Percentage: 32.97%

Budget Item	Total Requested		Total Appropriated		Percentage of Request	
	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Appropriated Amount	Anticipated Leverage	Percentage of Request	Percentage of Leverage
Personnel	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	-	-
Contracts	\$600,000	\$40,000	\$550,000	\$90,000	91.67%	225.00%
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	-	-
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	\$450,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%	-
Easement Acquisition	\$630,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%	-
Easement Stewardship	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	-	-
Travel	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	-	-
Professional Services	\$140,000	\$47,000	\$50,000	\$137,000	35.71%	291.49%
Direct Support Services	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	-	-
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	-	-
Capital Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	-	-
Supplies/Materials	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	-	-
DNR IDP	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	-	-
Total	\$1,820,000	\$87,000	\$600,000	\$227,000	32.97%	260.92%

How will this program accommodate the reduced appropriation recommendation from the original proposed requested amount?

Fee title acquisition will be eliminated from the project, and easement acquisition will be limited to flowage easements as per M.S. 130G.551 Subd. 2.

Output

Table 1a. Acres by Resource Type

Type	Total Proposed	Total in AP	Percentage of Proposed
Restore	0	0	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	90	0	0.00%
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	0	0	-
Protect in Easement	180	0	0.00%
Enhance	490	490	100.00%

Table 2. Total Funding by Resource Type

Type	Total Proposed	Total in AP	Percentage of Proposed
Restore	0	0	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	0	-
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	450,000	0	0.00%
Protect in Easement	630,000	0	0.00%
Enhance	740,000	600,000	81.08%

Table 3. Acres within each Ecological Section

Type	Total Proposed	Total in AP	Percentage of Proposed
Restore	0	0	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	90	0	0.00%
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	0	0	-
Protect in Easement	180	0	0.00%
Enhance	490	490	100.00%

Table 4. Total Funding within each Ecological Section

Type	Total Proposed	Total in AP	Percentage of Proposed
Restore	0	0	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	0	-
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	450,000	0	0.00%
Protect in Easement	630,000	0	0.00%
Enhance	740,000	600,000	81.08%