

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

Fiscal Year 2018 / ML 2017 Request for Funding



Date: May 26, 2016

Program or Project Title: Restoration Evaluations (O2)

Funds Requested: \$150,000

Manager's Name: Wade Johnson
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County Locations: Not Listed

Regions in which work will take place:

- Not Listed

Activity types:

- Restoration Evaluation

Priority resources addressed by activity:

- Not Listed

Abstract:

This program annually evaluates a sample of up to twenty Outdoor Heritage Fund habitat restoration and enhancement projects, provides a report on the evaluations in accordance with state law and delivers communications on project outcomes and lessons learned in restoration practice.

Design and scope of work:

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) are jointly responsible for convening a Restoration Evaluation Panel (Panel) of technical experts to annually evaluate a sample of habitat restoration projects completed with Outdoor Heritage funding, as provided in M.S. 97A.056, Subd. 10. Primary goals of the restoration evaluations program are to provide on the ground accountability for the use of Legacy funds and to improve future habitat restorations in the State. Per statute, the Panel will evaluate the selected habitat restoration projects relative to the law, current science, and the stated goals and standards in the restoration plan. The program coordinator will identify projects to be evaluated, coordinate field assessments and provide a report to the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council (LSOHC) and the legislature determining if the restorations are meeting planned goals, any problems with the implementation of restorations, and, if necessary, recommendations on improving restorations.

Restoration evaluation reports are available: <http://www.leg.state.mn.us/edocs/edocs.aspx?oclcnumber=823766285>

The anticipated long-term outcomes of this program are the increased success of habitat restorations and an increased awareness among practitioners and decision-makers of common challenges associated with habitat restorations and recommended management options to improve future restorations. Outputs from this program for Fiscal Year 2017 include case studies of specific practices, project outcomes and lessons learned in the field from restoration practice.

This request supports a portion of the inter-agency Legacy Fund Restoration Evaluations Program, which provides for the evaluation of habitat restoration projects completed with funds from the Parks and Trails Fund (M.S. 85.53 Subd. 5), Outdoor Heritage Fund (M.S.97A.056 Subd.10), and Clean Water Fund (M.S. 114D.50 Subd. 6) as required by state law. Up to twenty initial Outdoor Heritage Fund project evaluations will be reported on in the Fiscal Year 2018 report, an additional three to five follow up evaluations of previously assessed sites will also be reported. Follow up assessments will provide valuable insight in tracking progress and estimating trajectory towards planned goals.

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

- Not Listed

Which other plans are addressed in this proposal:

- Not Listed

Describe how your program will advance the indicators identified in the plans selected:

Not Listed

Which LSOHC section priorities are addressed in this proposal:

Not Listed

Describe how your program will produce and demonstrate a significant and permanent conservation legacy and/or outcomes for fish, game, and wildlife as indicated in the LSOHC priorities:

Not Listed

Describe how the proposal uses science-based targeting that leverages or expands corridors and complexes, reduces fragmentation or protects areas identified in the MN County Biological Survey:

Not Listed

How does the proposal address habitats that have significant value for wildlife species of greatest conservation need, and/or threatened or endangered species, and list targeted species:

This program supports the habitat work of all evaluated projects through the assessment of implementation and progress towards planned goals.

Identify indicator species and associated quantities this habitat will typically support:

Not Listed

Outcomes:

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

It is anticipated that the evaluation program outputs will help to create a framework for continuous improvement in restoration practice. Direct work of the Legacy Fund Restoration Evaluation Program will be sustained for the period of funding.

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

Not Listed

What is the degree of timing/opportunistic urgency and why it is necessary to spend public money for this work as soon as possible:

Evaluation of project implementation is vital to establishing the efficacy of projects in meeting planned goals and improving future practice. The Restoration Evaluations Program represents the only formal, independent, on the ground, assessment of Outdoor Heritage Fund projects.

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

The restoration evaluation program formalizes and promotes the process of assessing restoration project performance. Site assessment teams will use project appropriate assessment measures to establish that current science based practices are being applied on the ground in selected Outdoor Heritage Fund restoration projects. This level of assessment goes beyond standard reporting requirements

and exceeds operational capacity of most programs. This program also increases the communication of specific project outcomes and lessons learned from restoration implementation. Reports will focus on improving future restorations by providing feedback to practitioners regarding challenging situations and viable solutions. Creation of this continuous learning environment provides an important tool for improving restoration practice throughout the state.

Relationship to other funds:

- Clean Water Fund
- Parks and Trails Fund

Describe the relationship of the funds:

The Restoration Evaluation Program for Legacy Projects concurrently fulfills requirements to conduct restoration evaluations (M.L. 2013, Ch. 137) for projects completed with funds from the Clean Water Fund (M.S. 114D.50) and Parks and Trails Fund (M.S. 85.53).

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

Not Listed

Activity Details

Requirements:

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

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

Land Use:

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

Accomplishment Timeline

Activity	Approximate Date Completed
Evaluation Panel Establishes Annual Priorities	July 1, 2017
Program Coordinator Selects up to Fifteen Projects for Evaluation	July 1, 2017
Site Assessment Staff Conduct Field Surveys of Selected Sites	July 30, 2018
FY-17 Report Submitted to Legislature and LSOHC	December 31, 2018

Budget Spreadsheet

Total Amount of Request: \$150,000

Budget and Cash Leverage

Budget Name	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	\$92,000	\$0		\$92,000
Contracts	\$44,000	\$0		\$44,000
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	\$2,000	\$0		\$2,000
Professional Services	\$0	\$0		\$0
Direct Support Services	\$10,000	\$0		\$10,000
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	\$0	\$0		\$0
Capital Equipment	\$0	\$0		\$0
Other Equipment/Tools	\$2,000	\$0		\$2,000
Supplies/Materials	\$0	\$0		\$0
DNR IDP	\$0	\$0		\$0
Total	\$150,000	\$0	-	\$150,000

Personnel

Position	FTE	Over # of years	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Program Coordinator	0.55	1.00	\$48,000	\$0		\$48,000
Site Assessors (State Agency Staff)	0.55	1.00	\$44,000	\$0		\$44,000
Total	1.10	2.00	\$92,000	\$0	-	\$92,000

Amount of Request: \$150,000
 Amount of Leverage: \$0
 Leverage as a percent of the Request: 0.00%
 DSS + Personnel: \$102,000
 As a % of the total request: 68.00%
 Easement Stewardship: \$0
 As a % of the Easement Acquisition: -%

How did you determine which portions of the Direct Support Services of your shared support services is direct to this program:

MN DNR D&N Calculator

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

No

Does the amount in the travel line include equipment/vehicle rental? - No

Explain the amount in the travel line outside of traditional travel costs of mileage, food, and lodging:

Describe and explain leverage source and confirmation of funds:

Does this proposal have the ability to be scalable? - No

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	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0	0

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	\$0	\$0	\$0
Enhance	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

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	0	0	0	0	0
Enhance	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0

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	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Enhance	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

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	\$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	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Enhance	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Target Lake/Stream/River Feet or Miles

0

I have read and understand Section 15 of the Constitution of the State of Minnesota, Minnesota Statute 97A.056, and the Call for Funding Request. I certify I am authorized to submit this proposal and to the best of my knowledge the information provided is true and accurate.

Parcel List

Explain the process used to select, rank and prioritize the parcels:

Not Listed

Section 1 - Restore / Enhance Parcel List

No parcels with an activity type restore or enhance.

Section 2 - Protect Parcel List

No parcels with an activity type protect.

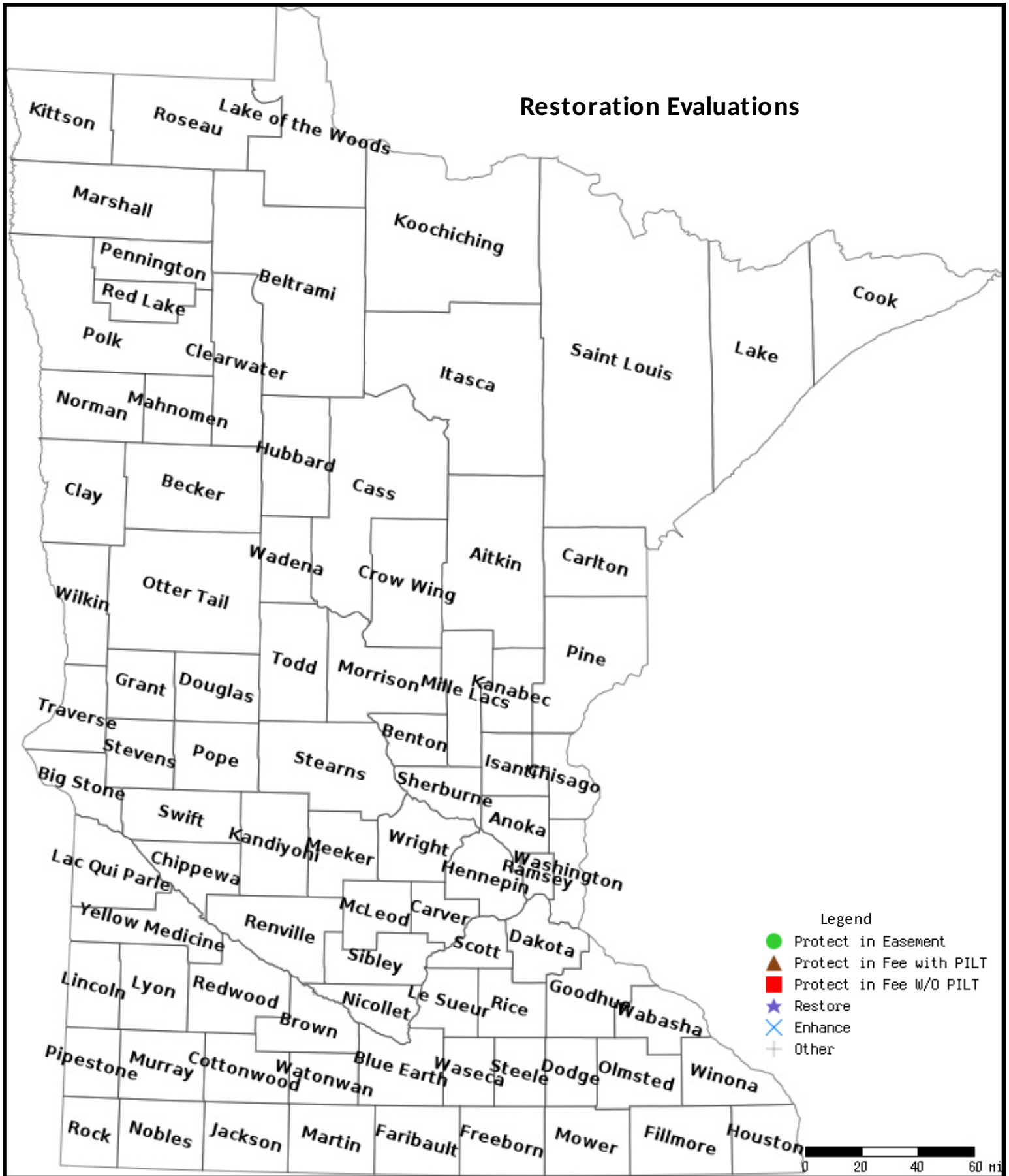
Section 2a - Protect Parcel with Bldgs

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



May 26, 2016

Proposal Illustration

ML 17 Outdoor Heritage Fund, Restoration Evaluations

Goals

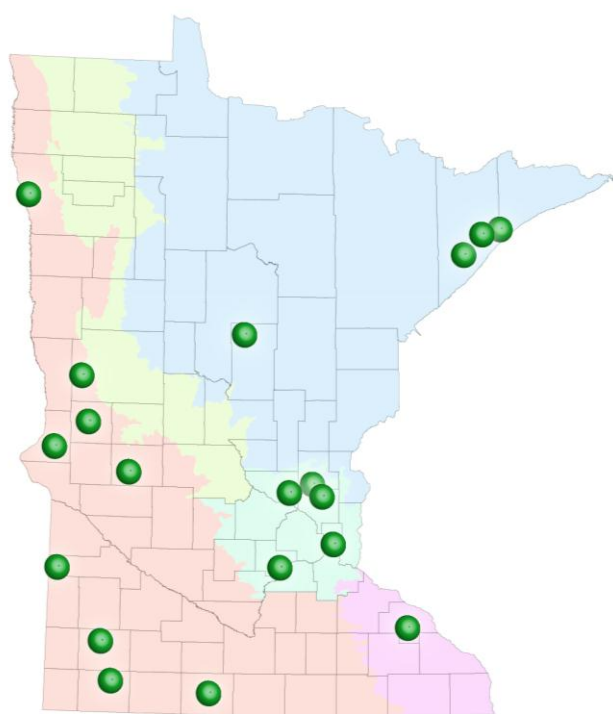
- Provide on the ground accountability for the use of Legacy funds
- Improve future habitat restorations in Minnesota

Process

- Up to 20 new and 3-5 revisit project sites selected for field assessment
- Site assessors use project appropriate assessment measures to establish 1. current science based practices are being applied and 2. project trajectory. Answer the following questions:



- Expert evaluation Panel reviews field evaluations
- Evaluation outcomes and Panel recommendations for improving future restorations reported annually to LSOHC and Legislature



42 Outdoor Heritage Fund Project Sites evaluated to date, 2012-2015

Note: Single dot may represent more than one project site

LEGACY FUND RESTORATION EVALUATIONS
 Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
 Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Evaluation Program Logic Model

