Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council
Fiscal Year 2018 / ML 2017 Request for Funding

Date: June 15, 2016

Program or Project Title: DNR WMA and SNA Acquisition - Phase IX (PA01)

Funds Requested: $15,000,000

Manager's Name: Patrick Rivers
Title: Division of Fish and Wildlife Land Acquisition Supervisor
Organization: MN DNR
Address: 500 Lafayette Road
City: St. Paul, MN 55155
Office Number: 651-259-5209
Email: pat.rivers@state.mn.us

County Locations: Brown, Dodge, Freeborn, Jackson, Lac qui Parle, Lake, Murray, Norman, Redwood, Renville, Swift, Watonwan, Wilkin, and Yellow Medicine.

Regions in which work will take place:

- Northern Forest
- Southeast Forest
- Prairie

Activity types:

- Protect in Fee

Priority resources addressed by activity:

- Forest
- Prairie

Abstract:

Acquire 3,370 acres of high priority habitat for designation as Wildlife Management Area (Prairie Planning Section) or Scientific and Natural Area (Prairie, Northern Forest, and SE Forest Planning Sections) emphasizing Prairie Conservation Plan implementation and coordination with partners. All lands will be open for public hunting and fishing (where applicable). WMA accomplishment is based on $5,000 per acre and should be considered a minimum estimate.

Design and scope of work:

Approximately 3,370 acres of wildlife habitat will be protected through fee title acquisition and development as Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs, 1,700 acres) and Scientific & Natural Areas (SNAs, 1670 acres). While no match is indicated in this proposal, Outdoor Heritage appropriations to DNR for WMA and SNA acquisitions have been matched by donations, Reinvest in Minnesota Critical Habitat Match, and Surcharge (a $6.50 surcharge on small game license sales to be used in part for land acquisition) at approximately 25% (1 dollar of match to 4 dollars of OHF).

Wildlife Management Areas. WMAs protect lands and waters which have a high potential for wildlife production and develop and manage these lands and waters for public hunting, fishing and trapping, and for other compatible outdoor recreational uses such as wildlife watching and hiking. While highly successful, the current WMA system does not meet all present and future needs for wildlife habitat, wildlife population management, hunter access and wildlife related recreation. This is notably true in the Prairie Ecological planning section where public ownership in some counties is less than 2 percent. DNR Section of Wildlife uses a GIS- based tool to identify the highest priority tracts for potential WMA acquisitions. This quantitative approach scores and ranks acquisition proposals based on a set of weighted criteria and creates a standardized method for evaluating proposed acquisitions on a statewide level. Criteria and weights are periodically reviewed and adapted to changing conditions and priorities. This ensures that funds are used to

acquire available lands consistent with the statutory purpose of WMAs. The WMA acquisition program is guided by the 2002 Citizens' Committee report developed with a diverse group of eleven major stakeholder groups. Potential acquisition opportunities from willing sellers are coordinated with stakeholders and partners to eliminate duplication and identify concerns and support. Coordinating with partners has been successful to ensure we are working cooperatively and on priority parcels.

Scientific & Natural Areas. The SNA Program will increase public hunting and fishing opportunities while protecting sites with outstanding natural values. Protection is targeted at high priority areas identified in the SNA Strategic Land Protection Plan with emphasis on prairie core areas identified in the Minnesota Prairie Conservation Plan. A quantitative system scores and ranks acquisition proposals based on a weighted set of six criteria. Priority is given to sites of high and outstanding biodiversity significance by the Minnesota Biological Survey, high quality native plant communities and habitat for endangered and threatened species. Larger parcels which adjoin other conservation lands, improve habitat management, are under imminent threat and are partially donated are also rated highly.

Properties acquired through this appropriation require County Board of Commissioners' approval in the county of acquisition, will be designated as WMA or SNA through a Commissioner's Designation Order, brought up to minimum DNR standards, and listed on the DNR website. Basic site improvements will include boundary and LSOHC acknowledgement signs and may include any necessary site cleanup and restoration of agricultural fields and minimal parking area development.

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

- H1 Protect priority land habitats
- H3 Improve connectivity and access to recreation

Which other plans are addressed in this proposal:

- Minnesota DNR Scientific and Natural Area's Long Range Plan
- Minnesota Prairie Conservation Plan

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

The Minnesota Prairie Conservation Plan effective measures (p. 44) of acres of native prairie, grassland and wetland protected will be directly achieved through this proposal which will also increase protection of lands that achieve the Plan's ecosystem measures (p.47-48) of increasing populations of breeding mallards, greater prairie-chicken, meadowlark, sedge wren, prairie butterflies, and native prairie orchids, increased harvest of ring-necked pheasant, and stabilizing or increasing native plant diversity and condition, and wetland quality.

The SNA Strategic Land Protection Plan (name of the current MnDNR SNA Long Range Plan) strategies (p.26) will be advanced to target protection of areas of greatest biodiversity significance, rare native plant communities, and habitat containing populations of rare species (i.e. endangered and threatened species as well as larger parcels which are part of interconnected conservation lands. These are primary characteristics given priority in acquisitions through this proposal.

Which LSOHC section priorities are addressed in this proposal:

Prairie:

- Protect, enhance, and restore remnant native prairie, Big Woods forests, and oak savanna

Northern Forest:

- Provide access to manage habitat on landlocked public properties or protect forest land from parcelization and fragmentation through fee acquisition, conservation or access easement

Southeast Forest:

- Protect, enhance, and restore habitat for fish, game, and nongame wildlife in rivers, cold-water streams, and associated upland habitat

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:

Acquisitions of WMAs and SNAs through this proposal are scientifically evaluated and prioritized in order to achieve LSOHC priorities. WMAs and SNAs are permanently in state ownership for public use and are managed in perpetuity to provide habitat for wildlife, fish,

and game, including controlling the introduction and spread of invasive species.

Acquisitions are primarily targeted to parcels in the Prairie Region which protect remnant native prairie and oak savanna, with some priority also given to protecting wetland/upland complexes, shallow lakes, and habitat for migratory waterfowl. Priority is given to acquisitions that will permanently protect high quality native prairie in the Minnesota Prairie Conservation Plan's Prairie Core areas which provide habitat for rare (including endangered and threatened) wildlife and plants as well as habitat for prairie chicken, pheasant and deer.

In the Northern Forest Region, acquisitions are targeted to parcels which protect forest from parcelization and fragmentation. The proposed SNA acquisition would protect land that is part of a 4,600-acre area of outstanding biodiversity significance including old growth forest.

In the Southeast Forest Region, acquisitions are targeted to protect habitat for fish, game, and non-game wildlife along rivers, cold-water streams, and associated upland habitat. The proposed SNA acquisition would protect four miles of river shore and largely unfragmented upland forest of outstanding biodiversity significance with endangered and threatened plants and animals.

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:

The DNR uses GIS-based scoring systems to objectively rank potential acquisitions and develop statewide priority lists. These systems incorporate scientific data giving priority to locations within: 1) an important habitat corridor or complex (such as identified by the Minnesota Prairie Conservation Plan, SNA Strategic Land Protection Plan, and the new Minnesota Wildlife Action Plan), 2) native plant communities and sites of outstanding and high biodiversity significance mapped by Minnesota Biological Survey (MBS), and 3) parcels that adjoin existing units or other conservation lands. In addition, scoring takes into account habitat containing endangered, threatened, and other rare species (see below), watershed/wetland qualities as well as habitat management considerations and suitability for public access, hunting and fishing.

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:

Potential acquisitions for WMAs and SNAs are objectively scored for their wildlife habitat value. The DNR uses weighted criteria and prioritizes high scoring parcels for acquisition. For example, candidates for WMAs score higher with a prairie grouse lek, presence of shallow lakes, and occurrence of deer wintering areas; candidates for WMAs and SNAs score higher which contain threatened, endangered, and other rare species and species of greatest conservation need and which are high quality native plant communities which support wildlife. As a focus on native prairie protection, parcels with native prairie are prioritized.

Native plant communities with exceptional value as wildlife habitat to be protected through this proposal include mesic prairie, dry hill prairie, northern wet prairie, rock outcrop (prairie), sugar maple-basswood (bitternut hickory) forest, floodplain forest, mesic and dry cliffs, and white cedar-yellow birch forest.

The following species of greatest conservation need and rare species have documented occurrences on or near parcels targeted in WMA and SNA acquisition through this appropriation: mammals – white-tailed jackrabbit, Canada lynx, prairie vole, harvest mouse, northern grasshopper mouse, and western harvest mouse; birds – greater prairie chicken, chestnut-collared longspur (endangered), upland sandpiper, American bittern, marbled godwit, Nelson's sparrow, black-throated blue warbler; reptiles/amphibians: wood turtle (threatened) and mudpuppy; fish – redside dace, black redhorse, Topeka shiner and American brook lamprey; invertebrates – regal fritillary; and plants – butternut (endangered), golden-seal (endangered), yellow prairie violet (threatened), glade mallow (threatened), small white lady's-slipper, northern gentian, Hall's sedge, bunch speargrass, cutleaf ironplant, white prairie clover, Carolina spring beauty, and white baneberry.

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

Values below represent point in time estimates. Lands acquired will permanently protect habitat and provide long-lasting benefits.

PRAIRIE
Pheasant-By looking at the ratio of CRP acres in Minnesota to pheasant harvest, we estimate that every three acres of grassland habitat has the potential to produce one harvested pheasant rooster.

Bobolink and Grasshopper Sparrow-The breeding territory size of bobolinks and grasshopper sparrows is 1.7 and 2.1 acres respectively in high quality habitat in Wisconsin. If all of the habitat was occupied, a 100 acres of habitat could potentially hold approximately 60 and 48 pairs of bobolinks and grasshopper sparrows respectively.

Monarch Butterfly-Research from the University of Minnesota has shown that it takes approximately 30 milkweed plants result in one monarch butterfly contributing to the overwintering Mexican population. Grasslands can have between 100-250 milkweed stems per acre. An acre of restored or enhanced grassland could potentially contribute 3 to 8 monarchs to the population

FOREST
Ovenbird-An average of 16 pairs for every 40 acres may be expected in hiqh quality forest habitat.

White-tailed deer- The pre-fawn deer densities across forested deer permit areas is 13 deer per square mile of land (excluding water) . This translates to 0.02 deer per acre of forest land habitat or roughly 1 deer (pre-fawning) for every 50 acres of land. On average, densities within the Forest/Prairie Transition, Metropolitan Area, and Southeast Forest LSOHC planning sections will be higher than those in the Northern Forest.

Outcomes:

Programs in the northern forest region:

- Healthy populations of endangered, threatened, and special concern species as well as more common species *Outcomes are acres of high quality native forest (and acres of old growth forest) which provides habitat for endangered, threatened, and special concern species, such as Canada lynx, bats, black-throated blue warbler, Carolina spring beauty, and white baneberry and game species such as martin, fisher, bobcat, grouse, and deer.*

Programs in southeast forest region:

- High priority riparian lands, forestlands, and savannas are protected from parcelization and fragmentation *Outcomes are miles of undeveloped river shoreline protected and acres of high quality native forest which provides habitat for endangered, threatened, and special concern such as butternut, wood turtle, mudpuppy, redside dace, black redhorse, and American brook lamprey.*

Programs in prairie region:

- Key core parcels are protected for fish, game and other wildlife *Acres of native prairie and grassland protected.*

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

According to WMA/AMA Directive on development standards, WMAs are developed to at least minimum standards within two years of acquisition for facility and habitat development that will provide basic asset preservation, public access and safety, environmental and cultural resource protection and soil and water resource conservation. Often restoration efforts can extend 2-3 years beyond the “minimum standard” time table to establish high quality native plant community restorations. All new WMA acquisitions require a WMA Initial Development Plan (IDP) be completed by the Area Wildlife Supervisor responsible for land management and approved by the Region. SNAs have similar standards with site specific work being directed by each site’s Adaptive Management Plan. As part of the state outdoor recreation system, ongoing maintenance will be accomplished through routine management activities accomplished by our network of DNR offices. Periodic enhancements will be accomplished by existing staff, CCM crews, temporary project staffing, through vendor contract or by volunteers if appropriate.

Long-term management costs (e.g., invasive species treatments, prescribed fire, and monitoring/evaluation) will be covered by a combination funding sources, including, but not limited to the Game and Fish Fund, ENRTF, Outdoor Heritage Fund, federal grants, and small game surcharge, as approriate.

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

Year	Source of Funds	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3
2019	Outdoor Heritage, ML 2017	Post signs on all acquired lands	Initial site development	
2020	Outdoor Heritage, ML 2017	Native vegetation planted, wetlands restored (as needed)		
2021	Game and Fish, Surcharge, other	Standard management of acquired lands.		

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

Once a state with more than 18 million acres of native prairie, Minnesota has less than two percent remaining. Each year native prairie is lost to agriculture and development, and retiring CRP acres further reduce grassland habitat. There is no better time than now to protect what remains of North America's most endangered habitat type. Furthermore, acquisition of quality native habitat is needed to

sustain those populations of game and non-game species, and species in greatest conservation need whose primary threat is destruction of habitat. Commodity prices have fallen from the peak levels of 2012 (e.g., $8.40 per bushel for corn) and we are finding many landowners are willing to sell.

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

Historically, Outdoor Heritage Fund appropriations to DNR for WMA and SNA acquisitions have been matched by donations, Reinvest in Minnesota Critical Habitat Match, and Surcharge (a $6.50 surcharge on small game license sales to be used in part for land acquisition) at approximately 25% (1 dollar of match to 4 dollars of OHF). While not being listed in this proposal, we anticipate this trend will continue and OHF dollars will be matched by 25% of other funds (see attachment). Many of the landowners that sell to the State do so out of a conservation ethic and are willing to donate value. In prioritizing parcels that have similar habitat value, a landowner willing to donate value will be the priority.

Our practice is to inform all landowners of the appraised value of their respective property. It is up to them if they want to donate a portion of the value.

Relationship to other funds:

- Not Listed

Describe the relationship of the funds:

Not Listed

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

Appropriation Year	Source	Amount
2008	WMA Bonding	$5000000
2010	SNA ENRTF	$1096400
2011	SNA ENRTF	$403000
2011	WMA Surcharge	$1830000
2011	WMA Reinvest in MN Critical Habitat Match	$824259
2012	WMA Reinvest in MN Critical Habitat Match	$864750
2012	SNA Reinvest in MN Critical Habitat Match	$720000
2013	SNA ENRTF	$1500000
2013	WMA Surcharge	$1968000
2014	WMA Bonding Reinvest in MN Critical Habitat Match	$2000000
2014	SNA ENRTF	$1115450
2008	SNA ENRTF	$1000000
2014	WMA Surcharge	$1860000
2015	SNA ENRTF	$2440800
2015	WMA ENRTF	$400000
2015	WMA Surcharge	1615000
2016	SNA ENRTF (Pending)	2613980
2008	SNA Bonding	$2700000
2008	WMA Reinvest in MN Critical Habitat Match	$1684262
2008	WMA ENRTF	$1000000
2009	WMA Reinvest in MN Critical Habitat Match	$3072138
2009	SNA ENRTF	1026000
2010	WMA Reinvest in MN Critical Habtat Match	$2308358
2010	WMA Bonding	$500000

Activity Details

Requirements:

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

Will local government approval be sought prior to acquisition - **Yes**

Is the land you plan to acquire free of any other permanent protection - **No**

Some lands proposed for acquisition may contain a portion of protected land (e.g., a 160 acre Redwood county parcel has 7.6 acres of protection). In these cases, we will appraise protected acres separately and seek to have that value donated or pay for them using non-OHF funds.

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 - **Yes**

Explain

The primary purposes of WMAs are to develop and manage for the production of wildlife and for compatible outdoor recreation. To fulfill those goals, the DNR may use limited farming specifically to enhance or benefit the management of state lands for wildlife.

Lands proposed to be acquired as WMAs may include initial development plans or restoration plans to utilize farming to prepare previously farmed sites for native plant seeding. This is a standard practice across the Midwest to prepare the seedbed for native seed planting. On a small percentage of WMAs (less than 2.5%), DNR uses farming to provide a winter food source for a variety of wildlife species in agriculture-dominated landscapes largely devoid of winter food sources.

Are any of the crop types planted GMO treated - **Yes**

Is this land currently open for hunting and fishing - **No**

Will the land be open for hunting and fishing after completion - **Yes**

All lands to be acquired will be open for hunting and fishing with no variations from State of Minnesota regulations.

Are there currently trails or roads on any of the acquisitions on the parcel list - **No**

Will new trails or roads be developed as a result of the OHF acquisition - **No**

Accomplishment Timeline

Activity	Approximate Date Completed
Acquire in fee 1700 acres for designation as Wildlife Management Area	06/30/2019
Acquire in fee 1670 acres for designation as Scientific and Natural Area	06/30/2019
Prepare acquired lands at least to minimum development standards, including signage, parking areas, and native vegetation planting, if necessary	06/30/2021

Budget Spreadsheet

Total Amount of Request: $15,000,000

Budget and Cash Leverage

Budget Name	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	$191,000	$0		$191,000
Contracts	$1,125,000	$0		$1,125,000
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	$13,210,000	$0		$13,210,000
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	$0	$0		$0
Easement Acquisition	$0	$0		$0
Easement Stewardship	$0	$0		$0
Travel	$10,000	$0		$10,000
Professional Services	$350,000	$0		$350,000
Direct Support Services	$34,000	$0		$34,000
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	$0	$0		$0
Capital Equipment	$0	$0		$0
Other Equipment/Tools	$0	$0		$0
Supplies/Materials	$80,000	$0		$80,000
DNR IDP	$0	$0		$0
Total	$15,000,000	$0	-	$15,000,000

Personnel

Position	FTE	Over # of years	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
SNA Acquisition Coordinator	0.16	3.00	$38,000	$0		$38,000
SNA Field Staff	0.27	3.00	$78,000	$0		$78,000
WMA Acquisition Coordinator	0.50	0.00	$75,000	$0		$75,000
Total	0.93	6.00	$191,000	$0	-	$191,000

Amount of Request:	$15,000,000
Amount of Leverage:	$0
Leverage as a percent of the Request:	0.00%
DSS + Personnel:	$225,000
As a % of the total request:	1.50%
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:

Direct Support Services is determined using the standard DNR Direct & Necessary Cost Calculator. Landowner payments and real estate transaction costs are deleted from the top before other parts of the calculator are applied.

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

The contract line includes initial site development costs such as for installation of signs, minimal parking areas, and if needed restoration of agricultural fields.

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:

Travel charges are up to about 30% for fleet charges for equipment such as tractors, mowers, etc needed for initial site development

Describe and explain leverage source and confirmation of funds:

The largest leverage source is value landowners are willing to donate. Some donations are equally matched by Reinvest in Minnesota Critical Habitat match (DNR, not BWSR) funds. That value is unknown at this time, yet historical leverage for WMA and SNA acquisitions

is 25%

Does this proposal have the ability to be scalable? - Yes

Tell us how this project would be scaled and how administrative costs are affected, describe the "economy of scale" and how outputs would change with reduced funding, if applicable:

This project is fully scalable. If the project dollars are reduced, the cost line items and outputs would change in direct proportion, with the possible exception of personnel (currently at 1.3%).

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	2,400	970	0	3,370
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	2,400	970	0	3,370

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

Type	Native Prairie
Restore	0
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	670
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	0
Protect in Easement	0
Enhance	0
Total	670

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	$12,390,000	$2,610,000	$0	$15,000,000
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	$12,390,000	$2,610,000	$0	$15,000,000

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	730	2,400	240	3,370
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	730	2,400	240	3,370

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	$2,269,000	$12,390,000	$341,000	$15,000,000
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	$2,269,000	$12,390,000	$341,000	$15,000,000

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	$5,163	$2,691	$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	$3,108	$5,163	$1,421
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:

The DNR uses GIS-based scoring systems to objectively rank potential acquisitions and develop statewide priority lists. These systems incorporate scientific data giving priority to locations within: 1) an important habitat corridor or complex (such as identified by the Minnesota Prairie Conservation Plan, SNA Strategic Land Protection Plan, and the new Minnesota Wildlife Action Plan), 2) native plant communities and sites of outstanding and high biodiversity significance mapped by Minnesota Biological Survey (MBS), and 3) parcels that adjoin existing units or other conservation lands. In addition, scoring takes into account habitat containing endangered, threatened, and other rare species (see below), watershed/wetland qualities as well as habitat management considerations and suitability for public access, hunting and fishing.

Each DNR regional wildlife manager works with his/her staff to rank known parcels with willing landowners by LSOHC planning section based in part on the habitat values of parcels (GIS score), and in part on management implications of a given tract (e.g., providing access to state land with no access, a parcel's ability to manage a shallow lake's water level, etc). Parcels with native prairie, within a Prairie Conservation Plan core or corridor area are highest priority. This priority setting process occurs two times per year, however parcels with exceptional habitat may be added to a priority list as they become available.

Section 1 - Restore / Enhance Parcel List

No parcels with an activity type restore or enhance.

Section 2 - Protect Parcel List

Brown

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
Coal Mine Creek WMA	10936215	235	$2,000,000	No	Full	Full
Wood Lake WMA	10833229	160	$800,000	No	Full	Full

Dodge

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
Middle Fork Zumbro River SNA	10816218	730	$2,190,000	No	Full	Full

Freeborn

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
Magaksika WMA	10222212	26	$130,000	No	Full	Full

Jackson

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
North Heron WMA	10437232	144	$100,000	No	Full	Full
Oxbow WMA	10438231	130	$1,100,000	No	Full	Full
Oxbow WMA	10438235	174	$1,300,000	No	Full	Full

Lac qui Parle

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
Baxter WMA	11742204	80	$400,000	No	Full	Full
Yellow Bank Hills SNA	11845204	15	$60,000	No	Full	Full

Lake

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
Art Lake Hardwood Ridges SNA	05807215	150	$60,000	No	Full	Full

Murray

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
Hovno WMA	10541215	90	$511,000	No	Full	Full

Norman

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
Twn Valley WMA	14344229	40	$80,000	No	Full	Full

Redwood

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
Coal Mine Creek WMA	10936209	160	$1,120,000	Yes	Full	Full
Phyllis Voosen WMA	11238220	314	$1,100,000	Yes	Full	Full

Renville

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
Beaver Falls Rock Outcrop SNA	11335220	20	$80,000	No	Full	Full

Swift

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
Camp Kerk WMA	12237218	24	$50,000	No	Full	Full

Watonwan

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
Younger Brothers WMA	10731223	69	$330,000	No	Full	Full

Wilkin

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
Dow Prairie SNA	13545217	506	$1,337,900	No	Full	Full

Yellow Medicine

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
Mound Spring Prairie SNA	11546218	160	$800,000	No	Full	Full

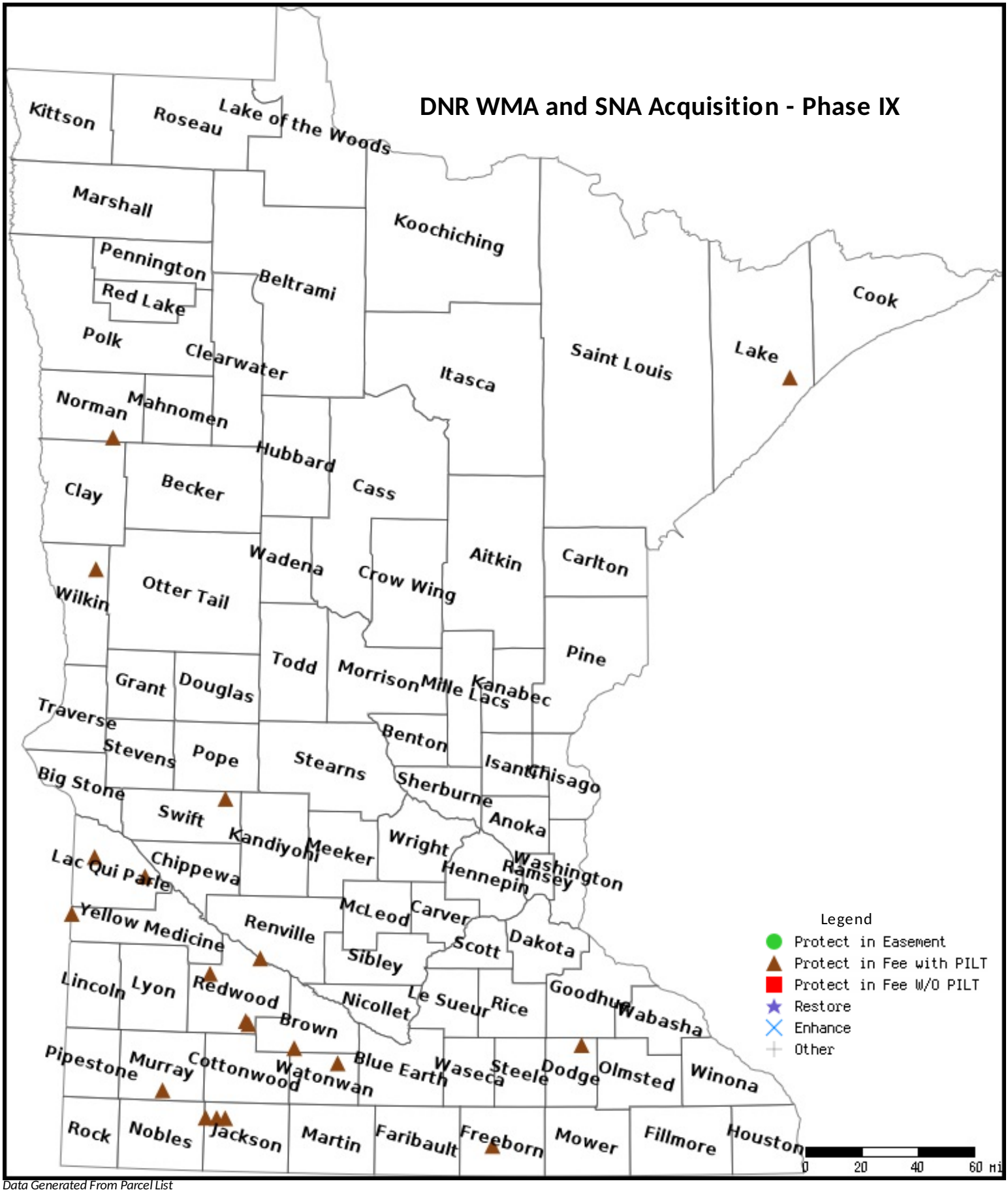
Section 2a - Protect Parcel with Bldgs

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

DNR Wildlife Management Area and Scientific & Natural Area Acquisition ~ Phase IX

Patrick Rivers, MN DNR 651-259-5224 pat.rivers@state.mn.us

$15M to Acquire, Designate & Develop 3,370 acres

WMA	$10M	1,700 acres
SNA	$5M	1,670 acres

Land payment	$13.21M	(88%)
Contracts (restoration)	$1.125M	(7.5%)
Personnel	$0.191M	(1.3%)
Direct & Necessary	$0.034M	(0.2%)

We protect the highest quality wildlife habitat

- Prairie & grassland are being plowed up & locked up
- Our science-based rating systems target key properties to achieve the Prairie Plan
- It's critical habitat for prairie wildlife & endangered & threatened species

We provide great public hunting opportunities

- Parcels are selected to provide the best hunting opportunities
- These sites produce pheasants, prairie chicken & waterfowl
- All parcels are fully open to public for taking game & fish

We have a proven track record

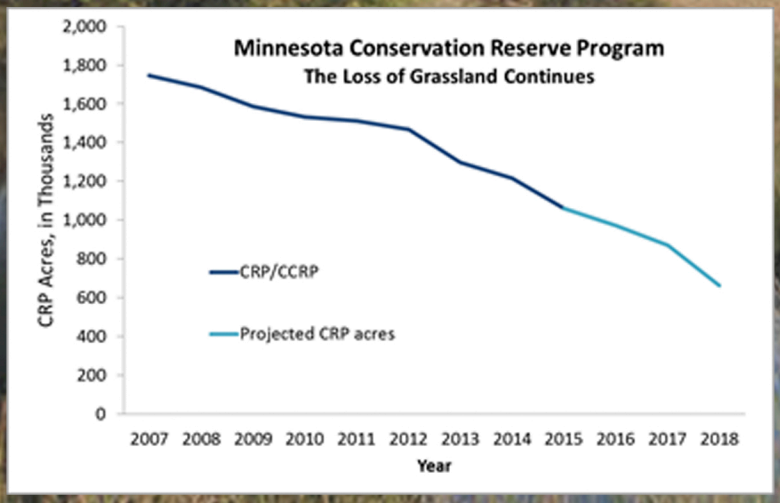
- Through OHF - we've permanently protected 9,200 acres of wildlife habitat to date
- Our 1st 4 OHF grants are successfully completed; the majority of recent $s are spent
- We've leveraged about $8 million

Outdoor Heritage Funding & Accomplishments

		in thousands			in acres	
		Acquisition Budget	Status	Leverage	Goal	Accomplished
ML 2009	WMA Prairie	$3,913	Closed	$428	800	810
	WMA Wetland	$2,900	Closed	$1,737	700	734
ML 2010	WMA, SNA, NPB	$3,566	Closed	$515	1,005	1,517
	WMA & SNA Forest	$970	Closed	$355	397	499
ML 2011	WMA, SNA, NPB	$3,931	No new acq.	$786	1,504	1,368
ML 2012	WMA	$2,900	No new acq.	$365	650	637
ML 2013	WMA, SNA, NPB	$4,940	Active projects	$606	2068	2,566
ML 2014	WMA & SNA	$8,145	Active projects	$2,695	1,113	916
ML 2015	WMA & SNA	$4,570	Active projects	$450	910	659

Prairie & grassland are being plowed under

Lands with expiring CRP should be acquired



Habitat for key species will be protected