

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

Fiscal Year 2018 / ML 2017 Request for Funding



Date: June 15, 2016

Program or Project Title: Prairie Chicken Habitat Partnership of the Southern Red River Valley - Phase III (PA08)

Funds Requested: \$8,138,000

Manager's Name: Eran Sandquist

Title: State Coordinator - MN

Organization: MN Prairie Chicken Society / Pheasants Forever, Inc.

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County Locations: Becker, Clay, Mahnomen, Norman, Red Lake, and Wilkin.

Regions in which work will take place:

- Forest / Prairie Transition
- Prairie

Activity types:

- Protect in Fee

Priority resources addressed by activity:

- Prairie

Abstract:

The Prairie Chicken Habitat Partnership will permanently protect, restore, and enhance 2,500 acres of prairie chicken habitat in the Southern Red River Valley of Northwest Minnesota. Land protected will become either WMA or WPA and open to public recreation.

Design and scope of work:

Grasslands of all types are disappearing at an alarming rate from the landscape. Further, fragmentation of existing grasslands is increasing, especially as the current Farm Bill reduced CRP acre authority by over 10 million acres leaving many producers no choice but to continue intensive agricultural conversion activity to the detriment of grasslands. Conserving Minnesota's remaining tracts of native prairie is one of the primary goals of the MN Prairie Conservation Plan (MPCP). This proposal focuses on protecting remnant prairies and core areas to the degree we can while cooperating with willing sellers. By protecting remnant prairies and restoring grasslands and wetlands, we will help achieve goals of the MPCP such as increasing the abundance and diversity of wildlife. Prairie chickens require large blocks of grassland, with a minimum 320 acres at any one site, but overall a grassland complex of 2,500-acres is recommended to sustain a population. In Minnesota, prairie chickens are now restricted to the beach ridges of the Glacial Lake Agassiz region. Providing secure habitat for prairie chickens also provides habitat for a host of other grassland species (including non-game wildlife, plants, and invertebrates) with less exacting acreage requirements. The MPCP is ideally suited for prairie chicken management with core areas containing large contiguous blocks of grassland and smaller grassland patches scattered across the landscape that allow birds to maintain populations outside the core areas as well as move across the regional landscape. In addition to grassland conservation, most tracts have extensive wetlands. Restoring and maintaining these wetlands will have several benefits including water storage, sequestering and storing carbon, water quality (wetlands are fantastic filters), diversity of flora and fauna, reducing erosion, etc. Projects are selected based upon a scoring priority with six criteria including: 1) distance to the nearest prairie chicken lek; 2) location in or outside of a core area from the MPCP; 3) distance to the nearest public hunting lands (WMA or WPA); 4) tract size; 5) current

grassland type (native prairie, restored prairie, brome, or row crop); 6) wetland density and requisite predicted waterfowl breeding pairs density.

Habitats affected – restored, enhanced, protected:

This proposal will protect native and restored prairies, sedge meadows, other types of grasslands, and wetlands. Some of these sites have existing grass on all or portions of the parcel, and most have a mix of row crop production, pasture, expired or expiring CRP, and existing wetlands. All projects acquired under this proposal will be fully restored as part of the grant activity. Funds will be used to do any immediate restoration or enhancement activities on the sites using local ecotype seed while following pollinator BMPs.

Stakeholder opposition and involvement:

Proposed tracts were placed on the list because the landowners are willing sellers and have an interest in preserving the wildlife value of those acres. This proposal is driven by the interest of MPCS and PF to maintain habitat, wildlife, and hunting traditions of this area. We will continue to coordinate and communicate with local governments on these tracts.

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:

- Grassland Conservation Plan for Prairie Grouse
- Minnesota Prairie Conservation Plan

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

Our results directly contribute to the primary goal of each identified plan; restoration and protection of additional wetland/grassland habitat complexes. The MN Prairie Conservation Plan's 25-year goal is to permanently protect through fee title acquisition 222,100-acres in core areas, 82,000-acres in corridors, and 547,300-acres elsewhere in the agricultural matrix. The Grassland Conservation Plan for Prairie Grouse has a goal of 65,250,955 acres of grassland restoration in 10 bird conservation regions across the great plains. Our partnership proposal will help contribute to these goals by permanently protecting 2,500-acres of high quality, priority grassland and wetland habitat.

Which LSOHC section priorities are addressed in this proposal:

Prairie:

- Protect, enhance, or restore existing wetland/upland complexes, or convert agricultural lands to new wetland/upland habitat complexes

Forest / Prairie Transition:

- Protect, enhance, and restore wild rice wetlands, shallow lakes, wetland/grassland complexes, aspen parklands, and shoreland that provide critical habitat for game and nongame wildlife

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:

The outcome of this project would be an additional 2,500 acres of grasslands and wetlands that become a permanent part of the habitat base for many species of wildlife including non-game species and plants. Any lands acquired will be restored and transferred to the MN DNR as a Wildlife Management Area (WMA) or to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as a Waterfowl Production Area (WPA). These agencies will provide the long term management required to maintain the biological productivity of these lands. These lands are highly visible on the landscape and are utilized by many outdoor enthusiasts. These lands will be open to the public for many forms of recreation, including hunting.

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:

This proposal is fully integrated into the MPCS. Most of the tracts listed are within core areas, have native prairie on them, and are adjacent to existing WMA/WPA allowing us to build on past conservation efforts. Most tracts are within less than a half mile of known prairie chickens.

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:

There are a number of game, non-game, and Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN) that will benefit from all proposed projects. Grasslands are the most threatened habitat in Minnesota and the Midwest. The State of North America's Birds 2016 report (<http://www.stateofthebirds.org/2016/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/SoNAB-ENGLISH-web.pdf>) shows how many of our continent's grassland birds are in steep declines, and species dependent on grasslands are also threatened. SGCN for this region include eight mammals, 54 birds, three reptiles, and ten insects. Of those, all eight mammals and ten insects, as well as 38 of the bird species could potentially benefit from these activities. Additionally, almost every game species in the area will benefit, including deer, breeding and migratory species of waterfowl, woodcock, snipe, rails, pheasants and wild turkey. Many of these tracts have native prairie on them that have been mapped by the Biological Survey. Depending on the quality, these native tracts likely have a number of T&E prairie dependent species them.

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

Pheasant

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

Prairie Chickens

According to the research literature and personal observations in Minnesota, prairie chickens require a minimum of 320 acres of high quality grasslands with no areas hostile to grassland wildlife (woodlots, farmsteads, etc) near these grasslands. For every 320 acre patch of high quality grassland in the prairie chicken range in the northwest part of the state, we can expect there to be a lek, or booming ground. The average size of booming grounds in Minnesota is roughly 11 males.

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 to 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.

Outcomes:

Programs in forest-prairie transition region:

- Protected, restored, and enhanced nesting and migratory habitat for waterfowl, upland birds, and species of greatest conservation need *Number of acres of uplands protected and restored.*

Programs in prairie region:

- Key core parcels are protected for fish, game and other wildlife *Most parcels are within core areas as defined by the MPCP. Most parcels abut existing WMAs or WPA which will create larger blocks of contiguous habitat. Most tracts have some remaining native prairie on them meeting a second goal of the MPCP of protecting remaining native prairie. Percent increase of core protected areas measured.*

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

All lands will be enrolled into the state Wildlife Management Area system or the federal Waterfowl Production Area System and will be managed in perpetuity by the Minnesota DNR or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service respectively. All acquisitions will be restored and/or enhanced to as high quality as practicable, with the knowledge that quality and comprehensive restorations utilizing native species result in lower management costs. In addition, our local Pheasants Forever chapter members and volunteers maintain a high interest in seeing the habitat and productivity of acquired parcels are at high-quality levels. MPCP, PF, and partners including the DNR and USFWS will develop an ecological restoration and management plan for each parcel. Grant and partner dollars will be used to for the initial site development and restoration/enhancement work.

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

Year	Source of Funds	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3
Post Transfer - WMA	DNR - Game and Fish Funds	Standard long-term maintenance; fire, invasives control, etc		
Post Transfer - WPA	USFWS - Federal	Standard long-term maintenance; fire, invasives control, etc		

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

Proposed tracts continue to face threats of drainage, gravel mining, wind development, and conversion to row crops. Habitat conversion results in the elimination of prairie chicken leks, potentially rare native remnant Northern Tallgrass Prairie, and would be detrimental to the future viability of greater prairie chickens.

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

Land acquisition and restoration have not kept pace with habitat restoration needs or the backlog of willing sellers within the pheasant range. Opportunity is not the limiting factor in implementing the pheasant plan. Available funding is the limiting factor. With the mass amounts of CRP acres expiring in the near future, our conservation efforts must be accelerated. Before the passage of the Legacy Amendment, PF would help acquire approximately 1,000 acres/year to become WMAs or WPAs in this area. This grant significantly accelerates our ability to acquire priority parcels and more than triples our historic yearly accomplishments. This is an impressive acceleration when considering the costs with increased land values. If funded, this proposal will accelerate the protection and restoration of valuable grassland habitat that benefit prairie chickens and other wildlife and provide additional public hunting areas.

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
Annual		None

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 - **No**

At minimum we will notify local government in writing of the intent to acquire and donate lands to the state and follow up with questions prior to acquisition. In cases where there is interest, we will also indicate our willingness to attend or ask to attend county or township meetings to communicate our interest in the projects and seek support.

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

Because we are working within priority habitat areas, it is possible that parcels could have perpetual easements on a portion of them. If a parcel has a perpetual easement and is deemed a high priority by the partners, we will follow guidance established by the Outdoor Heritage Fund to proceed, or use non-state funding to acquire the protected portion of the property.

Do you anticipate federal funds as a match for this program - **Yes**

Are the funds confirmed - **No**

What is the approximate date you anticipate receiving confirmation of the federal funds - **07/01/2017**

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. This proposal 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. In these restorations, PF's policy is to use non neonicotinoid treated seed and no herbicides other than glyphosate. 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. There are no immediate plans to use farming for winter food on any of the parcels in this proposal.

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**

No variation from State of MN regulations for WMA acquisitions.

All WPA acquisitions will be open to the public taking of fish and game during the open season according to the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act, United States Code, title 16, section 668dd, et seq.

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
Identify priority acquisitions	07/01/2017
Contract appraisals ordered	09/01/2017
Purchase agreements	02/01/2018
Re-evaluate tract priority	02/14/2018
Contract appraisals ordered	04/01/2018
Purchase agreements	09/01/2018
Close on tracts	01/01/2020
Restorations completed	06/30/2022

Budget Spreadsheet

Total Amount of Request: \$8,138,000

Budget and Cash Leverage

Budget Name	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	\$65,000	\$0		\$65,000
Contracts	\$1,000,000	\$0		\$1,000,000
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	\$5,150,000	\$50,000	Federal, Private, PF, MPCS	\$5,200,000
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	\$1,600,000	\$50,000	Federal, Private, PF, MPCS	\$1,650,000
Easement Acquisition	\$0	\$0		\$0
Easement Stewardship	\$0	\$0		\$0
Travel	\$3,000	\$0		\$3,000
Professional Services	\$211,000	\$0		\$211,000
Direct Support Services	\$19,000	\$0		\$19,000
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	\$90,000	\$0		\$90,000
Capital Equipment	\$0	\$0		\$0
Other Equipment/Tools	\$0	\$0		\$0
Supplies/Materials	\$0	\$0		\$0
DNR IDP	\$0	\$0		\$0
Total	\$8,138,000	\$100,000		\$8,238,000

Personnel

Position	FTE	Over # of years	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
State Coordinator - MN	0.07	3.00	\$20,000	\$0		\$20,000
PF Field Staff	0.13	3.00	\$20,000	\$0		\$20,000
PF Grants Staff	0.13	3.00	\$25,000	\$0		\$25,000
Total	0.33	9.00	\$65,000	\$0		\$65,000

Amount of Request: \$8,138,000

Amount of Leverage: \$100,000

Leverage as a percent of the Request: 1.23%

DSS + Personnel: \$84,000

As a % of the total request: 1.03%

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:

1.5% rate on \$1,279,000 (Personnel, Contracts, Travel, Professional Services)

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

We anticipate that all of the contract funding will be used for restoration, enhancement and initial development of the protected acres. This could include but is not limited to wetland/grassland restoration, tree removal, prescribed fire, building removal, parking lots, signage, and other development activities.

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:

n/a

Describe and explain leverage source and confirmation of funds:

Leverage is expected from multiple sources including but not limited to federal sources, land value donations, contractor donations, MPCS and PF. Not every source is 100% confirmed at this point. However, PF has an exemplary track record of delivery and over-

achievement of match commitments that further stretch OHF funding.

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 proposal if scaled back would be reduced proportionately across all categories of the budget and output tables.

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	1,908	0	0	1,908
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	0	592	0	0	592
Protect in Easement	0	0	0	0	0
Enhance	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	2,500	0	0	2,500

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

Type	Native Prairie
Restore	0
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	75
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	0
Protect in Easement	0
Enhance	0
Total	75

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	\$6,210,900	\$0	\$0	\$6,210,900
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	\$0	\$1,927,100	\$0	\$0	\$1,927,100
Protect in Easement	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Enhance	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total	\$0	\$8,138,000	\$0	\$0	\$8,138,000

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	200	0	1,708	0	1,908
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	0	0	0	592	0	592
Protect in Easement	0	0	0	0	0	0
Enhance	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	200	0	2,300	0	2,500

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	\$651,200	\$0	\$5,559,700	\$0	\$6,210,900
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,927,100	\$0	\$1,927,100
Protect in Easement	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Enhance	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total	\$0	\$651,200	\$0	\$7,486,800	\$0	\$8,138,000

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	\$3,255	\$0	\$0
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	\$0	\$3,255	\$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	\$3,256	\$0	\$3,255	\$0
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,255	\$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:

Parcels are identified and strategically prioritized using the best science and decision support tools (e.g. HAPET Thunderstorm Maps) available. Preference is given to project sites that help deliver the goals of other recognized conservation initiatives and plans. Data layers (i.e. MN Biological Survey, Natural Heritage Database, MN Prairie Plan, Wellhead Protection Areas, Pheasant Action Plan, existing protected land, etc.) are used to help justify projects and focus areas as well as to inform decisions on top priorities for protection and restoration efforts.

Section 1 - Restore / Enhance Parcel List

No parcels with an activity type restore or enhance.

Section 2 - Protect Parcel List

Becker

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
Kent WPA addition	14241215	240	\$500,000	No	Full	Not Applicable

Clay

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
Clay County WMA addition	13845222	160	\$512,000	No	Full	Not Applicable
Clay County WMA addition	13845228	155	\$496,000	No	Full	Not Applicable
Hatchet Lake WPA addition	14145229	615	\$1,968,000	No	Full	Not Applicable
Hoykens WPA addition	14044230	160	\$544,000	No	Full	Not Applicable
Hoykens WPA addition	14045225	282	\$958,800	No	Full	Not Applicable

Mahnomen

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
Coburn WMA addition	14342231	160	\$416,000	No	Full	Not Applicable
Jason Barker WPA addition	14542224	116	\$371,200	No	Full	Not Applicable
Jason Barker WPA addition	14542225	230	\$598,000	Yes	Full	Not Applicable
Nelson WPA addition	14642205	78	\$249,600	No	Full	Not Applicable
Santwire WMA addition	14341205	280	\$728,000	No	Full	Not Applicable
Skoog WPA addition	14342212	80	\$120,000	No	Full	Not Applicable
Vanose WMA addition	14641225	309	\$575,000	No	Full	Not Applicable

Norman

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
Agassiz Olson WMA addition	14645233	120	\$240,000	No	Full	Not Applicable
Dalby WMA addition	14345210	160	\$320,000	No	Full	Not Applicable
Dalby WMA addition	14345210	320	\$1,024,000	No	Full	Not Applicable
Dalby WMA addition	14345211	200	\$400,000	No	Full	Not Applicable
Faith WMA addition	14443225	80	\$120,000	No	Full	Not Applicable
Faith WMA addition	14443226	200	\$400,000	No	Full	Not Applicable
Frenchmans Bluff WPA addition	14343207	60	\$150,000	No	Full	Not Applicable
Neal WMA addition	14344218	320	\$960,000	No	Full	Not Applicable
Neal WMA addition	14344219	20	\$80,000	No	Full	Not Applicable
Prairie Dunes WMA addition	14644221	160	\$320,000	No	Full	Not Applicable
Rockwell WMA addition	14445234	160	\$512,000	No	Full	Not Applicable
Twin Valley WMA addition, Tract 2	14344229	40	\$80,000	No	Full	Not Applicable
Vagsness WMA addition, Tract 5	14344202	40	\$40,000	No	Full	Not Applicable
Vagsness WMA addition, Tract 8	14344202	60	\$100,000	No	Full	Not Applicable

Red Lake

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
Crane WMA addition	15140213	319	\$340,000	No	Full	Not Applicable
Marco ux WMA addition	15043223	38	\$183,000	No	Full	Not Applicable

Wilkin

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
Rothsay WMA addition	13545205	150	\$495,000	No	Full	Not Applicable
Rothsay WMA addition	13545207	160	\$512,000	No	Full	Not Applicable
Rothsay WMA addition	13545217	480	\$1,536,000	No	Full	Not Applicable
Rothsay WMA addition	13545221	40	\$128,000	No	Full	Not Applicable
Rothsay WMA addition	13546214	320	\$1,024,000	No	Full	Not Applicable

Section 2a - Protect Parcel with Bldgs

No parcels with an activity type protect and has buildings.

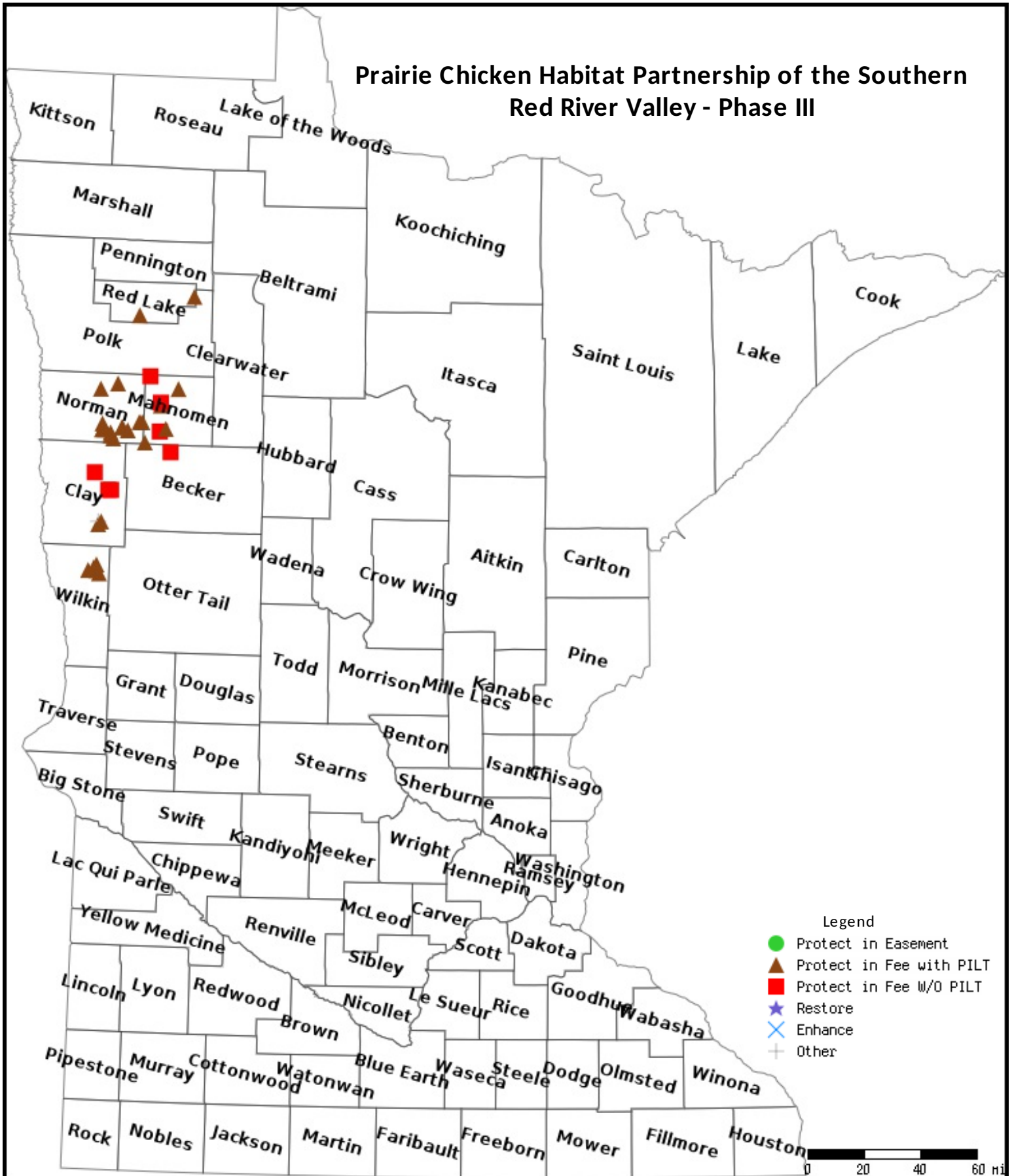
Section 3 - Other Parcel Activity

Clay

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
Clay County WMA addition	13845221	150	\$495,000	No	Full	Not Applicable

Parcel Map

Prairie Chicken Habitat Partnership of the Southern Red River Valley - Phase III



Data Generated From Parcel List

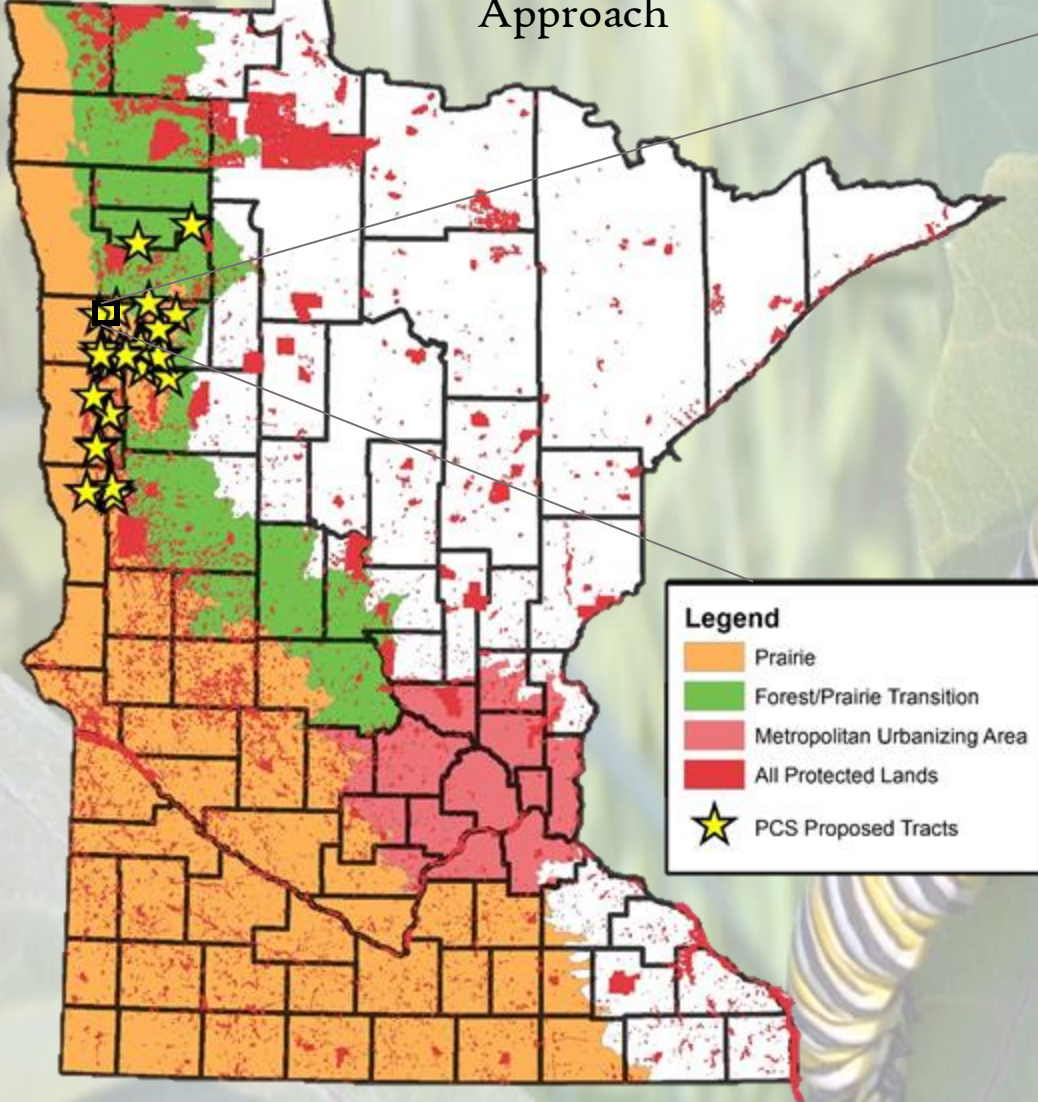
Prairie Chicken Habitat Partnership of the Southern Red River Valley Phase III



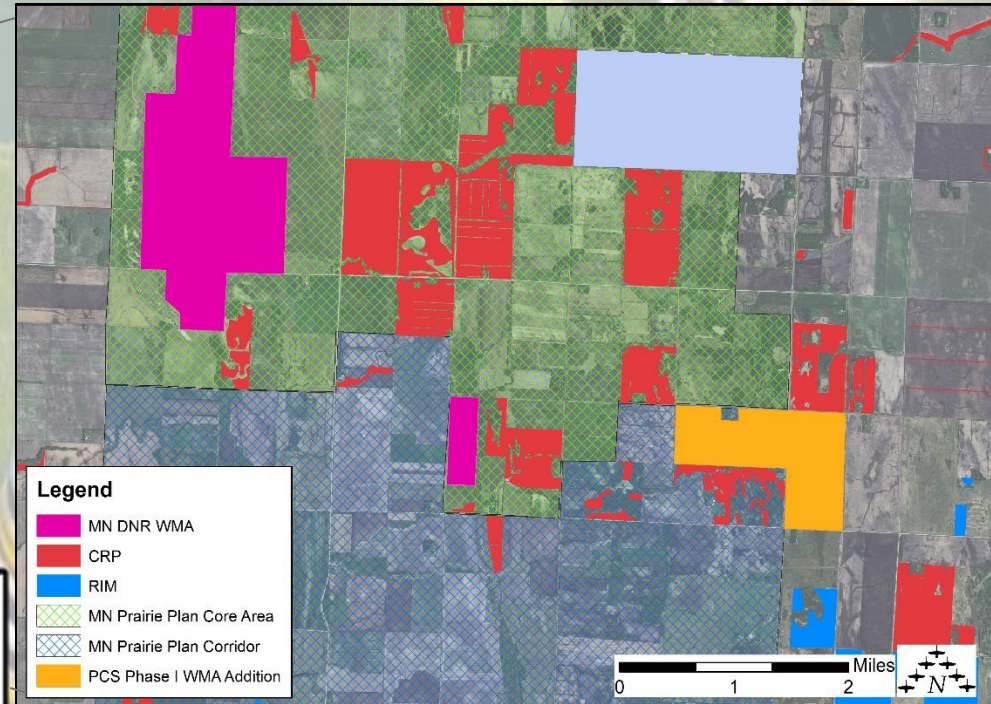
Protect and Restore Critical Habitat
Build Upon Existing Protected Lands
Permanent Protection for ALL



Regionally Focused Approach



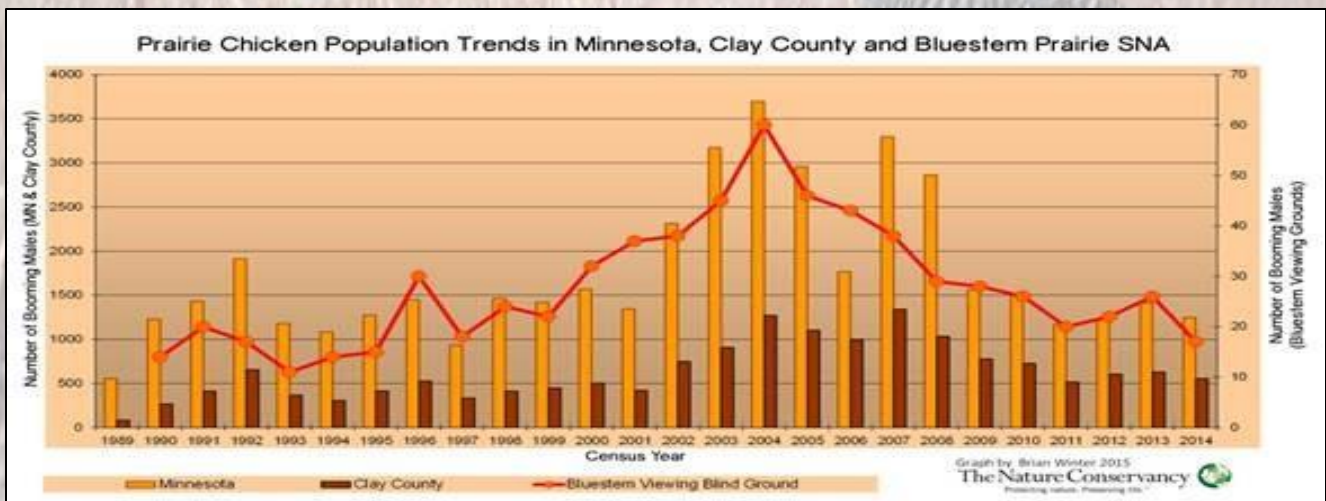
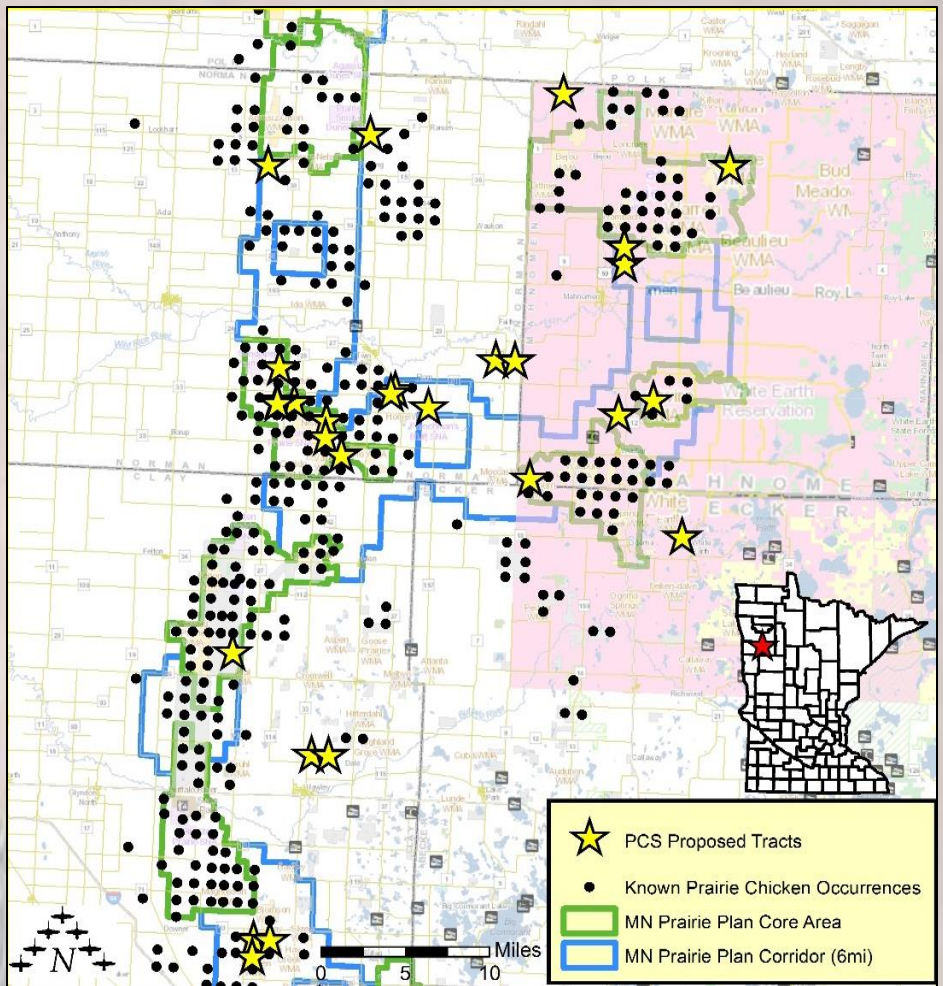
Strategically Building on Existing Complexes



We maximize past investments in habitat protection and create a connected system of productive and more resilient habitat for waterfowl and other grassland/wetland species.



- This proposal restores and permanently protects strategically identified critical habitat for birds, fish, plants, and wildlife.
- Pheasants Forever's 76 chapters and 25,000 members across Minnesota are bringing partners together to match this request with \$100 thousand dollars of match.
- All land acquired in fee-title are enrolled into either the Waterfowl Production Area or Minnesota's Wildlife Management System and are managed by the USFWS or MN DNR. All lands are fully restored and open to the public for outdoor enjoyment including activities such as: bird watching, hunting, hiking, school field trips or fishing.



- Habitat loss remains one of the main factors affecting Prairie Chicken declines.
- This proposal supports the goals of existing water planning efforts such as the Lake Agassiz Water Authority (LAWA) which, like us, are working to improve the water supply for the cities, businesses and residents of the flood prone Red River Valley.
- All projects build upon past investments in habitat conservation and connect existing protected lands and/or create corridors through habitat stepping stones.