

# Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

## Fiscal Year 2018 / ML 2017 Request for Funding



**Date:** June 21, 2016

**Program or Project Title:** Anoka Sand Plain Habitat Conservation - Phase V (PRE02)

**Funds Requested:** \$4,735,100

**Manager's Name:** Wiley Buck  
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**County Locations:** Anoka, Benton, Isanti, Morrison, Sherburne, and Stearns.

### Regions in which work will take place:

- Northern Forest
- Forest / Prairie Transition
- Metro / Urban

### Activity types:

- Protect in Easement
- Restore
- Enhance

### Priority resources addressed by activity:

- Wetlands
- Forest
- Prairie
- Habitat

### Abstract:

The Anoka Sandplain Partnership (Phase 5) proposal will restore, enhance and protect 1300 acres of wildlife habitat on priority public lands principally within the Anoka Sandplain Ecological Region within the Metropolitan Urbanizing and Forest-Prairie Transition sections.

### Design and scope of work:

The Anoka Sandplain Partnership includes >26 government agencies/organizations working to protect, enhance, and restore lands and waters of the ecoregion. This proposal will accelerate protection, enhancement and restoration of habitat on 10 WMAs (Carlos Avery, McDougall, Michaelson, Rice Area Sportsmen's Club, Rice-Skunk, Sartell, BenLacs, Crane Meadows, Glendorado (Greening); Gordie Mikkelson (ACD); 1 SNA; Local Government Units; and 10 private holdings.

The following outcomes will be realized:

1. Expansion/Initiation of 14 project areas.
2. Restoration/enhancement of over 1200 acres and protection of 500 (uplands, riparian zone, lake/river shoreline) including 1.27 mi of shoreline, for habitat improvement and connectivity.
3. Engage local communities in project activities, where cost-effective, to encourage long-term success.

#### Great River Greening:

Carlos Avery WMA - Enhancement of 225 acres of woodland and oak savanna through invasive woody species control, prescribed fire, seeding and planting.

George Friedrich Park - Enhance 60 acres through selective vegetation harvest on this Regionally Significant Ecological Areas, Shallow and Wild Rice Lake, and MCBS Site ranked with 'Outstanding' biodiversity.

The St. Cloud Reformatory - Restore 257 acres native prairie-savanna. Green Infrastructure and Regionally Significant Ecological area with MeCC and Wild & Scenic River Corridor status.

Twin Lakes SNA - Create fire-maintained oak woodland (48 ac) with monitoring plots. Regionally Significant Ecological & SNA Opportunity area, Metro Conservation Corridors (MeCC) status.

Blaine Wetland Sanctuary South - Enhance 220 acres of shallow peat basin wetland w/very high Threatened and Endangered (T&E) species germination potential.

Mickelson Floodplain - Enhancement of 10 ac forest/shoreline with floodplain tree planting.

#### Minnesota Land Trust:

Establish 500 ac conservation easements in priority areas, with 40 ac of restoration.

#### Anoka Conservation District:

Gordie Mikkelson WMA - Enhance 30 acres of alder swamp and 50 acres of mesic oak forest; NWTF Focal Landscape, SNA Opportunity, Regionally Significant Ecological, Green Infrastructure, Designated Shallow Lake area. 'High' MCBS Site and Forest ranking; 'Very High' TNC Marxan Ranking.

Rum River Revetments - Enhance 500 acres of riparian and in-stream habitat including 0.19 mi of shoreline. NWTF Focal Landscape, Regionally Significant Ecological and Green Infrastructure area. One of only six scenic Wild & Scenic River Corridors in MN.

#### Isanti County Parks:

Irving & John Anderson County Park - Restoration of 20 acres to oak savannah and native pollinator species habitat; SNA Opportunity & Regionally Significant Ecological area.

#### Isanti SWCD

High Meadows Rum River Re-Meander - Reconnect over 1 mile of main channel aquatic and shoreline habitat by blocking man-made shortcut in this Wild & Scenic River; NWTF Focal Landscape, Green Infrastructure, Regionally Significant Ecological areas w/'High' MCSB rank and 'Med-High' SWAP rank.

#### Stearns SWCD

Mississippi River County Park - Restoration of 1.4 ac. (630') shoreline in this 340-acre park, a NWTF Focal Landscape, Green Infrastructure, and USFWS Focal area. Ranked as having statewide significance for biodiversity by MCBS. This project was approved as part of the Anoka Sandplain Phase III project list at a much lower amount; included here at accurate cost estimate.

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

- H1 Protect priority land habitats
- H5 Restore land, wetlands and wetland-associated watersheds

### Which other plans are addressed in this proposal:

- Minnesota DNR Strategic Conservation Agenda
- Outdoor Heritage Fund: A 25 Year Framework

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

The proposed projects build upon an extensive public investment in public lands and greatly accelerate protection, enhancement and restoration of priority habitat identified in the in the Minnesota DNR Strategic Conservation Agenda and Outdoor Heritage Fund: A 25 Year Framework goals and objectives for the Metropolitan Urbanizing and Forest-Prairie Transition sections. This proposed work is aimed at ensuring healthy ecosystems and abundant habitat (which also, indirectly enhancing water resources). These goals and objectives would not be successfully met as broadly or rapidly without access to these funds. The OHF grant funds will not supplant any current funding sources.

## Which LSOHC section priorities are addressed in this proposal:

### 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

### Northern Forest:

- Protect shoreland and restore or enhance critical habitat on wild rice lakes, shallow lakes, cold water lakes, streams and rivers, and spawning areas

### Metro / Urban:

- Protect, enhance, and restore remnant native prairie, Big Woods forests, and oak savanna with an emphasis on areas with high biological diversity

## 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:

As you know, fish and wildlife experts have long sought to quantify how much a species will be benefited by a particular management strategy on a prescribed land area. Additionally, there are a myriad of factors other than habitat, such as predation and climate, which have significant influences on fish and wildlife population numbers and habitat quality. Despite the challenges of measuring, estimating and projecting outcomes, we remain committed to developing an approach that collectively assesses the completed and ongoing outcomes of the OHF so that they are consistent with the prescribed Constitutional purposes.

## 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:

We use a slate of information to target our actions, including the DNR's MCBS Sites of Biodiversity Significance, Regionally Ecological Significant Areas, and Habitat Corridors. We consider the Anoka Sandplain breakout of the Minnesota Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Plan our Partnership's implementation plan. We consider the Anoka Sandplain breakout of the Minnesota Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Plan our Partnership's foundation implementation plan guidance documents. We review all pertinent and available data sets during the course of our proposal development. Many of our proposed sites are ranked 'highly' for having examples of high quality MCBS-ranked natural communities and concentrations of rare species. Additionally, there are several WMA, SNA, Regionally Significant Ecological Areas and other designations which indicate these lands and waterways are of ecological importance.

DNR staff with expertise in prairie, forest, wetland, and aquatic habitat have worked to identify key species and to develop metrics that can be used to answer this question by LSOHC. The develop metrics are derived from existing data sources and/or scientific literature, to be used by DNR, BWSR, many of our ASP partners, to address enhancement of corridors and ecological complexes identified by MNCBS, and to reduce fragmentation of habitats. The metrics but are necessarily gross averages so it is important to note that the estimates provided are not accurate at a site-specific scale.

Protection of existing habitat and increasing connectivity between habitats via establishment of habitat/wildlife corridors is of great importance to the partnership and is vitally important to the long-term viability and sustainability of biodiversity, protection of threatened and endangered species, as well as game and non-game species throughout the region. Therefore, each of our project partner's endeavor to ensure that the best possible science based information is utilized to inform our projects planning and implementation.

## 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:

We review all of these data sets during the course of our proposal development, and many of our proposed sites are ranked highly for having examples of high quality MCBS-ranked natural communities and concentrations of rare species. The Anoka Sandplain is known to provide home to some 115 state-listed plants and animals, the most diverse LSOHC Ecological subsection (in terms of rare species) in the state. We are compelled to ensure their long-term viability of wildlife deemed species of greatest conservation need is ensured. This proposal provides a major step in that direction.

For instance, several state-listed plant species occur within the Blaine Wetland Sanctuary: Twisted yellow eyed grass (*Xyris torta*, Endangered), One flowered broomrape (*Orobanche uniflora*, Threatened), Lance-leaved violet (*Viola lanceolata*, Threatened), and Vermont blackberry (*Rubus vermontanus*, Special Concern). With enhancement, it is anticipated that several additional rare vascular

plants will germinate/emerge: Cross-leaved milkwort (*Polygala cruciata* var. *aquilonia*, Endangered), Marginated rush (*Juncus marginatus*, Endangered), Tubercled rein orchid (*Platanthera flava* var. *herbiola*, Threatened), Stipuled blackberry (*Rubus stipulatus*, Endangered), Half-bristly blackberry (*Rubus semisetosus*, Threatened), Toothcup (*Rotala ramosior*, Threatened), Clinton's bulrush (*Trichophorum clintonii*, Threatened), St. Lawrence grape fern (*Sceptridium rugulosum*, Special Concern), and Autumn Fimbristylis (*Fimbristylis autumnalis*, Special Concern). This site fits the same ecological profile as other nearby peatland restoration sites including two recently established SNAs.

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

Several species have been across the range of all project areas. These include: White-tailed deer in forested habitat; Bobolink and Grasshopper Sparrow in Prairies/Grassland habitats; Trumpeter Swans in Wetland/shallow lake habitats; many potential indicator species for Aquatic habitats.

White-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*) use a wide variety of forested habitats, are found throughout Minnesota, and are an important game species in the state.

In the 33 forested deer permit areas for which deer densities are estimated, covering most of the LSOHC Northern Forest section, the six-year average (2010-2015) for pre-fawn deer densities across all deer permit areas is 13 deer per square mile of land (excluding water). This translates to 0.02 deer (pre-fawning) per acre of forest land habitat.

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

Trumpeter Swans are strictly territorial on their breeding areas with shoreline complexity and food availability being factors in defining the area being defended. Though reported territories can range in size from 1.5 - >100 hectares, a reasonable expectation is that 1 trumpeter swan pair would be supported by each 150 acres of wetlands protected, restored, or enhanced.

Channel Catfish (116/acre) and Small-mouth Bass are considered indicator species in warm-water aquatic systems within the Anoka Sandplain Region.

## Outcomes:

### Programs in the northern forest region:

- Increased availability and improved condition of riparian forests and other habitat corridors *Ecological monitoring, data measured against DNR established norms and OHC protocols, and community engagement in long-term maintenance and monitoring activities.*

### Programs in forest-prairie transition region:

- Wetland and upland complexes will consist of native prairies, restored prairies, quality grasslands, and restored shallow lakes and wetlands *Ecological monitoring, data measured against DNR established norms and OHC protocols, and community engagement in long-term maintenance and monitoring activities.*

### Programs in metropolitan urbanizing region:

- A network of natural land and riparian habitats will connect corridors for wildlife and species in greatest conservation need *Ecological monitoring, data measured against DNR established norms and OHC protocols, and community engagement in long-term maintenance and monitoring activities.*

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

Site-specific resource management plans will be utilized (and developed, if not already in place) to guide effective long-term management of targeted habitats/species. All land managers associated with sites included in this proposal have committed to the long-term maintenance of these habitat improvements in line with prescribed actions. A principle goal of this proposal is accelerate enhancement/restoration of respective sites and bring them to a point where on-going management costs are diminished and the resource can be effectively maintained over time.

The ASP Partnership is committed to working with respective land management agencies (local, state and federal) and conservation organizations in an on-going basis to identify and procure financial resources for maintaining these improvements as needed, bring volunteers to bear, and otherwise assist in reducing the financial and capacity burden in the face of fiscal constraints.

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

Year	Source of Funds	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3
ACD - 2019-2022	Anoka SWCD District Capacity Funding	Spot check	Retreat	
ACD - 2020-2022	Anoka SWCD	Inspect	Bough packing	
G RG - 2020-2030	Landowners	Assessment	Spot Treatment	Prescribed Fire
Isanti County Parks - 2018-2022	Isanti County Parks	Monitor	Burn 3-year rotation	Monitor
Isanti SWCD - 2019-2022	Contractor, Flood Money	Inspect	Enforce maintenance clause in contract	Pursue flood money if damaged due to flooding
MLT - 2023 (and in perpetuity)	Minnesota Land Trust	Annual monitoring of easements in perpetuity	Enforcement as needed	
Stearns SWCD - 2019-2022	Stearns County Parks	Inspect	Replace plantings	Status check after storm events

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

Oak savanna is imperiled with <1% remaining; 115 state listed species occur in the ASP requiring attention. Minnesota's CWCP identifies management and protection of oak savannas as the highest priority for this Eco-region. The ASP region is realizing immense development pressure, however, Government agencies often lack the resources to manage these important lands.

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

The proposed projects build upon an extensive public investment in public lands and greatly accelerates protection, enhancement and restoration of priority habitat in the Metropolitan Urbanizing and Forest-Prairie Transition zones. The proposed acquisitions and/or habitat enhancement and restoration could not proceed as rapidly or to as great an extent without access to OHF funds and certainly not within the same timeline. The OHF grant funds will not supplant any current funding sources.

## Relationship to other funds:

- Environmental and Natural Resource Trust Fund
- Clean Water Fund
- Parks and Trails Fund

## Describe the relationship of the funds:

Although the ASP Partnership is using and pursuing funds available through other constitutional funds (Environmental and Natural Resources Trust Fund and Clean Water Fund, specifically) to achieve its goals in the Anoka Sandplain, none of those funds are being accessed to simultaneously address the habitat restoration and enhancement needs proposed here. This proposal to LSOHC for Outdoor Heritage Fund support does not supplant any other sources of funds. In all cases, this proposal and the projects to be completed accelerate regional habitat work in the Anoka Sandplain.

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

Appropriation Year	Source	Amount
2007	(ACD) ENRTF - Conservation Partners	10000
2015	Stearns County in-kind -Engineering, RFP Process	11600
2011	ENRTF (Greening) - Mickelson, adjacent upland	15000
2013	ENRTF (Greening) - Mickelson, adjacent shoreline revetments	8000
2013	DNR Shorelands (Greening) - Mickelson, adjacent shoreline revetments	26000

## Activity Details

### Requirements:

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

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

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, SNA, Private Land, County/Municipal, Public Waters)**

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 - **mid-August, 2016**

## Land Use:

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

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

Are there currently trails or roads on any of the acquisitions on the parcel list - **Yes**

Describe the types of trails or roads and the allowable uses:

Most MLT easements will have driveways, field roads and trails located on them. Often, these established trails and roads are permitted in the terms of the easement and can be used by the landowner for personal use if their use does not significantly impact the conservation values of the property; creation of new roads/trails or expansion of existing ones is not allowed.

Will the trails or roads remain and uses continue to be allowed after OHF acquisition - **Yes**

How will maintenance and monitoring be accomplished:

Existing trails and roads are identified in the project baseline report and will be monitored annually as part of the Minnesota Land Trust's stewardship and enforcement protocols. Maintenance of permitted roads/trails will be the responsibility of the landowner.

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

## Accomplishment Timeline

Activity	Approximate Date Completed
GRG - Restoration plans completed across all proposed sites	2018
GRG - Restorations/enhancements completed across all sites	Spring 2022
Isanti County Parks - Site preparation completed	Fall 2017
Isanti County Parks - Seed planting, establishment completed	Fall 2020
Isanti SWCD - Engineering designs complete, bids requested	Fall 2018
Isanti SWCD - Channel reconstruction following engineering designs initiated	Winter 2020
Isanti SWCD - Enhanced plugging/ seeding for pollinator habitat using volunteers	Fall 2021
ACD - Basal bark herbicide application to buckthorn in transitional and wetland areas	Late fall 2018
ACD - Coordinate participation and design Rum River revetment projects	Winter 2018
ACD - Install revetments and dormant willow staking	Late fall 2018
Stearns SWCD - Streambank restoration (toe wood and bio-engineering installation)	Summer 2018
Stearns SWCD - Streambank buffer restoration and habitat	Summer 2018
MLT - Select and acquire conservation easements over 500 acres	Summer 2020
MLT - Complete habitat enhancement work on 40 acres	Spring 2022

# Budget Spreadsheet

**Total Amount of Request: \$4,735,100**

## Budget and Cash Leverage

BudgetName	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	\$403,200	\$92,100	Stearns Co. Parks, Anoka SWCD, Greening, City of Blaine, NFWF Monarch Fund	\$495,300
Contracts	\$2,256,200	\$33,300	Landowner, The Nature Conservancy, Isanti County Parks	\$2,289,500
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	\$0	\$0		\$0
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	\$0	\$0		\$0
Easement Acquisition	\$1,600,000	\$320,000	Private	\$1,920,000
Easement Stewardship	\$200,000	\$0		\$200,000
Travel	\$16,100	\$0		\$16,100
Professional Services	\$161,500	\$5,000	Clean Water Funds	\$166,500
Direct Support Services	\$67,400	\$50,000	MLT	\$117,400
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	\$0	\$0		\$0
Capital Equipment	\$0	\$0		\$0
Other Equipment/Tools	\$1,000	\$100	Anoka SWCD	\$1,100
Supplies/Materials	\$29,700	\$2,600	Landowner	\$32,300
DNR IDP	\$0	\$1,500	The Nature Conservancy	\$1,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,735,100</b>	<b>\$504,600</b>		<b>\$5,239,700</b>

## Personnel

Position	FTE	Over # of years	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Anoka Conservation District Staff	0.01	3.00	\$31,600	\$3,200	Anoka SWCD	\$34,800
Minnesota Land Trust Staff	0.60	3.00	\$162,000	\$0		\$162,000
Isanti SWCD Staff	0.06	3.00	\$16,100	\$0		\$16,100
Stearns County SWCD Staff	0.04	3.00	\$13,000	\$8,000	Stearns Co. Parks	\$21,000
Greening Staff	0.86	3.00	\$180,500	\$80,900	Greening, City of Blaine, NFWF Monarch Fund	\$261,400
<b>Total</b>	<b>1.57</b>	<b>15.00</b>	<b>\$403,200</b>	<b>\$92,100</b>		<b>\$495,300</b>

## Budget and Cash Leverage by Partnership

BudgetName	Partnership	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	Anoka Conservation District	\$31,600	\$3,200	Anoka SWCD	\$34,800
Contracts	Anoka Conservation District	\$32,500	\$3,300	Landowner	\$35,800
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	Anoka Conservation District	\$0	\$0		\$0
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	Anoka Conservation District	\$0	\$0		\$0
Easement Acquisition	Anoka Conservation District	\$0	\$0		\$0
Easement Stewardship	Anoka Conservation District	\$0	\$0		\$0
Travel	Anoka Conservation District	\$0	\$0		\$0
Professional Services	Anoka Conservation District	\$0	\$0		\$0
Direct Support Services	Anoka Conservation District	\$0	\$0		\$0
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	Anoka Conservation District	\$0	\$0		\$0
Capital Equipment	Anoka Conservation District	\$0	\$0		\$0
Other Equipment/Tools	Anoka Conservation District	\$800	\$100	Anoka SWCD	\$900
Supplies/Materials	Anoka Conservation District	\$26,000	\$2,600	Landowner	\$28,600
DNR IDP	Anoka Conservation District	\$0	\$0		\$0
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$90,900</b>	<b>\$9,200</b>		<b>\$100,100</b>

## Personnel - Anoka Conservation District

Position	FTE	Over # of years	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Anoka Conservation District Staff	0.01	3.00	\$31,600	\$3,200	Anoka SWCD	\$34,800
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.01</b>	<b>3.00</b>	<b>\$31,600</b>	<b>\$3,200</b>		<b>\$34,800</b>

BudgetName	Partnership	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	Isanti County Parks	\$0	\$0		\$0
Contracts	Isanti County Parks	\$95,000	\$5,000	Isanti County Parks	\$100,000

Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	Isanti County Parks	\$0	\$0	\$0
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	Isanti County Parks	\$0	\$0	\$0
Easement Acquisition	Isanti County Parks	\$0	\$0	\$0
Easement Stewardship	Isanti County Parks	\$0	\$0	\$0
Travel	Isanti County Parks	\$0	\$0	\$0
Professional Services	Isanti County Parks	\$0	\$0	\$0
Direct Support Services	Isanti County Parks	\$0	\$0	\$0
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	Isanti County Parks	\$0	\$0	\$0
Capital Equipment	Isanti County Parks	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other Equipment/Tools	Isanti County Parks	\$0	\$0	\$0
Supplies/Materials	Isanti County Parks	\$0	\$0	\$0
DNR IDP	Isanti County Parks	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total	-	\$95,000	\$5,000	\$100,000

BudgetName	Partnership	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	Minnesota Land Trust	\$162,000	\$0		\$162,000
Contracts	Minnesota Land Trust	\$165,500	\$0		\$165,500
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	Minnesota Land Trust	\$0	\$0		\$0
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	Minnesota Land Trust	\$0	\$0		\$0
Easement Acquisition	Minnesota Land Trust	\$1,600,000	\$320,000	Private	\$1,920,000
Easement Stewardship	Minnesota Land Trust	\$200,000	\$0		\$200,000
Travel	Minnesota Land Trust	\$10,000	\$0		\$10,000
Professional Services	Minnesota Land Trust	\$161,500	\$0		\$161,500
Direct Support Services	Minnesota Land Trust	\$50,000	\$50,000	MLT	\$100,000
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	Minnesota Land Trust	\$0	\$0		\$0
Capital Equipment	Minnesota Land Trust	\$0	\$0		\$0
Other Equipment/Tools	Minnesota Land Trust	\$0	\$0		\$0
Supplies/Materials	Minnesota Land Trust	\$1,000	\$0		\$1,000
DNR IDP	Minnesota Land Trust	\$0	\$0		\$0
Total	-	\$2,350,000	\$370,000	-	\$2,720,000

**Personnel - Minnesota Land Trust**

Position	FTE	Over # of years	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Minnesota Land Trust Staff	0.60	3.00	\$162,000	\$0		\$162,000
Total	0.60	3.00	\$162,000	\$0	-	\$162,000

BudgetName	Partnership	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	Isanti SWCD	\$16,100	\$0		\$16,100
Contracts	Isanti SWCD	\$213,300	\$25,000	The Nature Conservancy	\$238,300
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	Isanti SWCD	\$0	\$0		\$0
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	Isanti SWCD	\$0	\$0		\$0
Easement Acquisition	Isanti SWCD	\$0	\$0		\$0
Easement Stewardship	Isanti SWCD	\$0	\$0		\$0
Travel	Isanti SWCD	\$200	\$0		\$200
Professional Services	Isanti SWCD	\$0	\$5,000	Clean Water Funds	\$5,000
Direct Support Services	Isanti SWCD	\$1,300	\$0		\$1,300
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	Isanti SWCD	\$0	\$0		\$0
Capital Equipment	Isanti SWCD	\$0	\$0		\$0
Other Equipment/Tools	Isanti SWCD	\$0	\$0		\$0
Supplies/Materials	Isanti SWCD	\$0	\$0		\$0
DNR IDP	Isanti SWCD	\$0	\$1,500	The Nature Conservancy	\$1,500
Total	-	\$230,900	\$31,500	-	\$262,400

**Personnel - Isanti SWCD**

Position	FTE	Over # of years	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Isanti SWCD Staff	0.06	3.00	\$16,100	\$0		\$16,100
Total	0.06	3.00	\$16,100	\$0	-	\$16,100

BudgetName	Partnership	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
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Personnel	Stearns County SWCD	\$13,000	\$8,000	Stearns Co. Parks	\$21,000
Contracts	Stearns County SWCD	\$204,800	\$0		\$204,800
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	Stearns County SWCD	\$0	\$0		\$0
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	Stearns County SWCD	\$0	\$0		\$0
Easement Acquisition	Stearns County SWCD	\$0	\$0		\$0
Easement Stewardship	Stearns County SWCD	\$0	\$0		\$0
Travel	Stearns County SWCD	\$0	\$0		\$0
Professional Services	Stearns County SWCD	\$0	\$0		\$0
Direct Support Services	Stearns County SWCD	\$0	\$0		\$0
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	Stearns County SWCD	\$0	\$0		\$0
Capital Equipment	Stearns County SWCD	\$0	\$0		\$0
Other Equipment/Tools	Stearns County SWCD	\$0	\$0		\$0
Supplies/Materials	Stearns County SWCD	\$0	\$0		\$0
DNR IDP	Stearns County SWCD	\$0	\$0		\$0
Total	-	\$217,800	\$8,000	-	\$225,800

**Personnel - Stearns County SWCD**

Position	FTE	Over # of years	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Stearns County SWCD Staff	0.04	3.00	\$13,000	\$8,000	Stearns Co. Parks	\$21,000
Total	0.04	3.00	\$13,000	\$8,000	-	\$21,000

Budget Name	Partnership	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	Great River Greening	\$180,500	\$80,900	Greening, City of Blaine, NFWF Monarch Fund	\$261,400
Contracts	Great River Greening	\$1,545,100	\$0		\$1,545,100
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	Great River Greening	\$0	\$0		\$0
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	Great River Greening	\$0	\$0		\$0
Easement Acquisition	Great River Greening	\$0	\$0		\$0
Easement Stewardship	Great River Greening	\$0	\$0		\$0
Travel	Great River Greening	\$5,900	\$0		\$5,900
Professional Services	Great River Greening	\$0	\$0		\$0
Direct Support Services	Great River Greening	\$16,100	\$0		\$16,100
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	Great River Greening	\$0	\$0		\$0
Capital Equipment	Great River Greening	\$0	\$0		\$0
Other Equipment/Tools	Great River Greening	\$200	\$0		\$200
Supplies/Materials	Great River Greening	\$2,700	\$0		\$2,700
DNR IDP	Great River Greening	\$0	\$0		\$0
Total	-	\$1,750,500	\$80,900	-	\$1,831,400

**Personnel - Great River Greening**

Position	FTE	Over # of years	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Greening Staff	0.86	3.00	\$180,500	\$80,900	Greening, City of Blaine, NFWF Monarch Fund	\$261,400
Total	0.86	3.00	\$180,500	\$80,900	-	\$261,400

Amount of Request: \$4,735,100  
Amount of Leverage: \$504,600  
Leverage as a percent of the Request: 10.66%  
DSS + Personnel: \$470,600  
As a % of the total request: 9.94%  
Easement Stewardship: \$200,000  
As a % of the Easement Acquisition: 12.50%

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

Greening and Isanti SWCD calculated direct support services at 9% of OHF Funding Request for Personnel. The Minnesota Land Trust

has direct support expenses which are essential to complete a conservation project, which include such costs as administrative support staff, office space, printing and office supplies. This proposal accounts for these critical expenses which are consistent with the Land Trust's current application for a federal indirect expense rate. MLT included 50% of these direct support costs in this proposal, with the other 50% coming as leverage and paid for through the Land Trust's fundraising.

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

Yes, 100%. Note: Minnesota Land Trust and Great River Greening anticipate reaching a subcontract agreement (at OHF personnel rates) on select, but not all, easement parcels needing restoration/enhancement. These projects will be reviewed on a case by case basis once the easement parcels are identified. Isanti SWCD anticipates subcontracting with Great River Greening (at OHF personnel rates) to restore/enhance the vegetation on the High Meadows plug in the man-made Rum River channel.

**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:**

Most funds are confirmed or committed. The Nature Conservancy has committed a non-federal match of privately-sourced funds totaling up to \$30,000 toward the successful completion of this project. Additional leverage funding is from a variety of sources, including municipal, private, and non-profit organization.

**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:**

Individual R/E parcel acreage can be reduced in scope and/or parcel list reduced. Number of easements can be reduced.

## Output Tables

**Table 1a. Acres by Resource Type**

Type	Wetlands	Prairies	Forest	Habitats	Total
Restore	0	46	0	40	86
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	500	500
Enhance	250	352	449	192	1,243
Total	250	398	449	732	1,829

**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	257
Total	257

**Table 2. Total Requested Funding by Resource Type**

Type	Wetlands	Prairies	Forest	Habitats	Total
Restore	\$0	\$166,000	\$0	\$138,400	\$304,400
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	\$2,211,600	\$2,211,600
Enhance	\$463,900	\$435,900	\$738,300	\$581,000	\$2,219,100
Total	\$463,900	\$601,900	\$738,300	\$2,931,000	\$4,735,100

**Table 3. Acres within each Ecological Section**

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	Northern Forest	Total
Restore	40	20	0	0	26	86
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	500	0	0	0	0	500
Enhance	900	328	0	0	15	1,243
Total	1,440	348	0	0	41	1,829

**Table 4. Total Requested Funding within each Ecological Section**

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	Northern Forest	Total
Restore	\$138,400	\$95,000	\$0	\$0	\$71,000	\$304,400
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	\$2,211,600	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,211,600
Enhance	\$1,374,300	\$564,400	\$0	\$0	\$280,400	\$2,219,100
Total	\$3,724,300	\$659,400	\$0	\$0	\$351,400	\$4,735,100

**Table 5. Average Cost per Acre by Resource Type**

Type	Wetlands	Prairies	Forest	Habitats
Restore	\$0	\$3,609	\$0	\$3,460
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	\$4,423
Enhance	\$1,856	\$1,238	\$1,644	\$3,026

**Table 6. Average Cost per Acre by Ecological Section**

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	Northern Forest
Restore	\$3,460	\$4,750	\$0	\$0	\$2,731
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	\$4,423	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Enhance	\$1,527	\$1,721	\$0	\$0	\$18,693

**Target Lake/Stream/River Feet or Miles**

1

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:

R/E partners work with land owning entities (public and protected private) and interested stakeholders to identify parcels where there is a need for restoration or enhancement of lands and water resources. Parcels are selected using the following criteria:

- Ecological and Habitat value and potential (biodiversity, size and location)
- Congruence with existing plans and priority areas
- Willing and committed landowner, demonstrated through leveraged match
- Leveraging opportunities

MLT conservation easements applies the following: Through a competitive Request for Proposal (RFP) process, landowners submit an application for protection of their land via conservation easement. Proposed projects are initially scored and ranked on two primary factors: 1) ecological significance, and 2) cost. These two factors inform an initial score to initially rank a proposed parcel relative to others. Subsequent discussions with landowners allow the Land Trust to gain a better sense of the landowner's desires for and expected uses of the property, and to ground-truth the parcel's ecological condition.

The Land Trust also sets certain minimum criteria for inclusion into the program which are factored into the selection process:

- Lands must have a maximum of 20% of total proposed easement area in agricultural use; areas targeted for restoration are not included in this acre cap.
  - Lands must contain high quality examples of native plant communities (forests, prairies, woodlands, etc.), trout streams, shore-land along rivers and streams, or rare and threatened species.
  - Lands cannot be enrolled previously in permanent protection programs (e.g., RIM).
- Additional requirements are stipulated within each easement

## Section 1 - Restore / Enhance Parcel List

### Anoka

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
ACD - Mikkelson WMA	03302205	80	\$41,200	Yes
ACD - Revetments on the Rum	03224206	1	\$49,600	Yes
G RG - Blaine Wetland Sanctuary South	03123215	220	\$422,025	Yes
G RG - Carlos Avery WMA	03322214	225	\$363,600	Yes

### Benton

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
G RG - 3 WMA Prairie Reconstructions	03628224	26	\$69,618	Yes

### Isanti

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
G RG - Mickelson Floodplain	03623220	10	\$26,500	Yes
G RG - Twin Lakes SNA (Phase 2)	03422211	48	\$123,400	Yes
Isanti CP - Irving and John Anderson Park	03422202	20	\$95,000	Yes
Isanti SWCD - High Meadows Rum Re-Meander	03623208	14	\$230,771	Yes

### Morrison

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
G RG - 5 WMA Woodland Enhancements	03932212	327	\$339,600	Yes

### Sherburne

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
G RG - George Friedrich Park	03530206	60	\$89,200	Yes
G RG - St Cloud Reformatory	03530207	257	\$281,378	Yes

## Stearns

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
Stearns SWCD - Mississippi River Park Shoreline	12628216	1	\$217,800	Yes

### Section 2 - Protect Parcel List

No parcels with an activity type protect.

### Section 2a - Protect Parcel with Bldgs

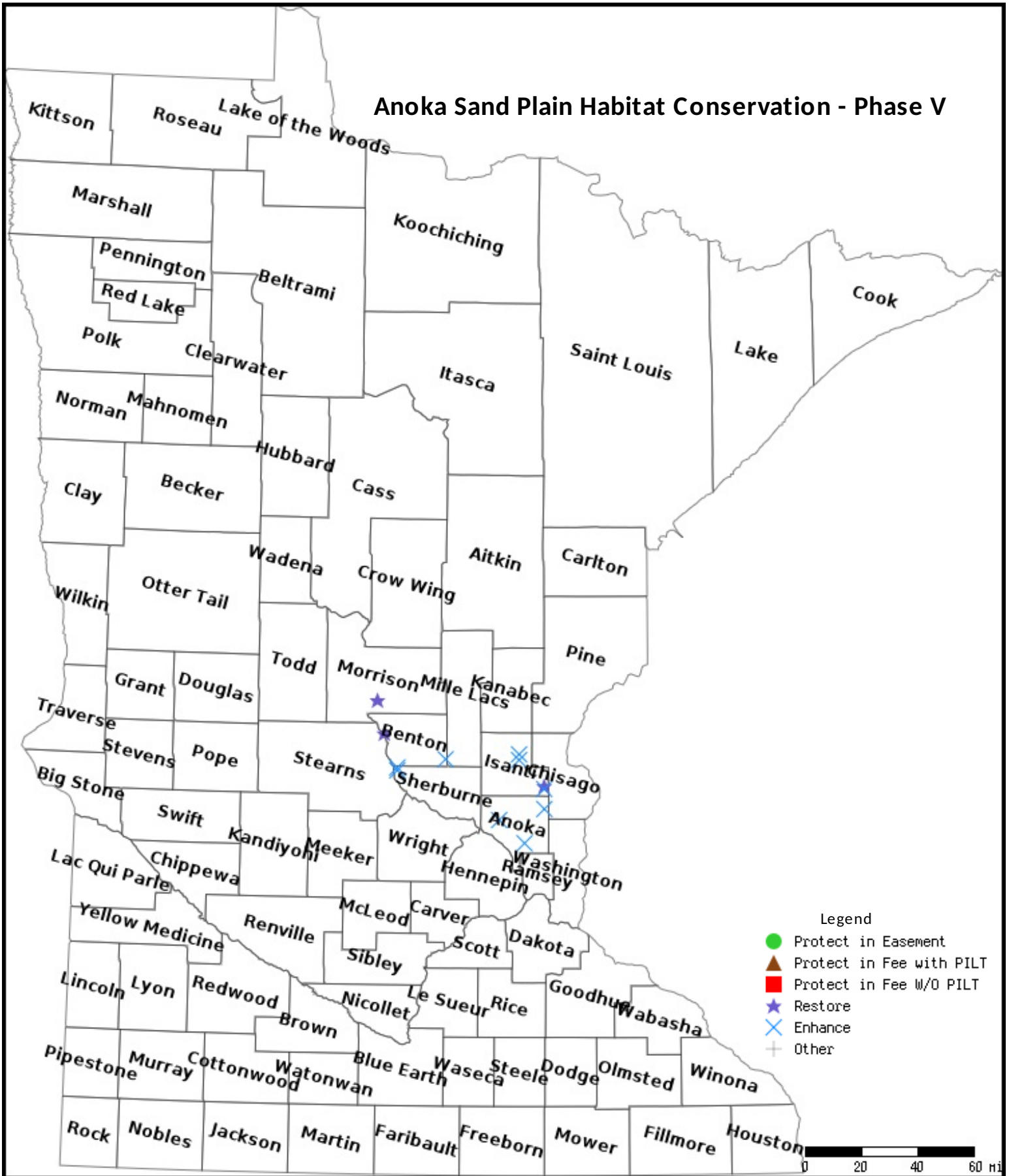
No parcels with an activity type protect and has buildings.

### Section 3 - Other Parcel Activity

No parcels with an other activity type.

# Parcel Map

## Anoka Sand Plain Habitat Conservation - Phase V



Data Generated From Parcel List



# Anoka Sandplain Partnership

***The Anoka Sandplain Partnership – a coalition of over 25 conservation organizations – conserves and restores critical wildlife habitat in the Metropolitan Urbanizing and Forest/Prairie sections of Minnesota.***

The Anoka Sandplain is rich in natural resources and recreational opportunities within and in close proximity to the Twin Cities metropolitan area.

Through its three OHF grants to date, the Partnership has restored or enhanced 6910 acres of important wildlife habitat across the Sandplain.

### **The ASP Partnership Includes 26 Partners:**

Anoka County Parks	Anoka Conservation District
Audubon Minnesota	Benton SWCD
Board of Water & Soil Resources	Chisago SWCD
City of Andover	City of St. Cloud
Friends of the Rum River	Great River Greening
Isanti County Parks	Isanti SWCD
Mille Lacs SWCD	Minnesota DNR
Minnesota Forest Resources Council	Morrison County Parks
Morrison SWCD	National Resource Conservation Service
National Wild Turkey Federation	Sherburne SWCD
Stearns SWCD	The Nature Conservancy
Trust for Public Land	US Fish & Wildlife Service
University of Minnesota	Wright SWCD



**Our FY2017 Funding Request - \$4,703,000**

**Phase 5 Goals – Restore and enhance 1,829 acres of critical forest, prairie and wetland habitat**

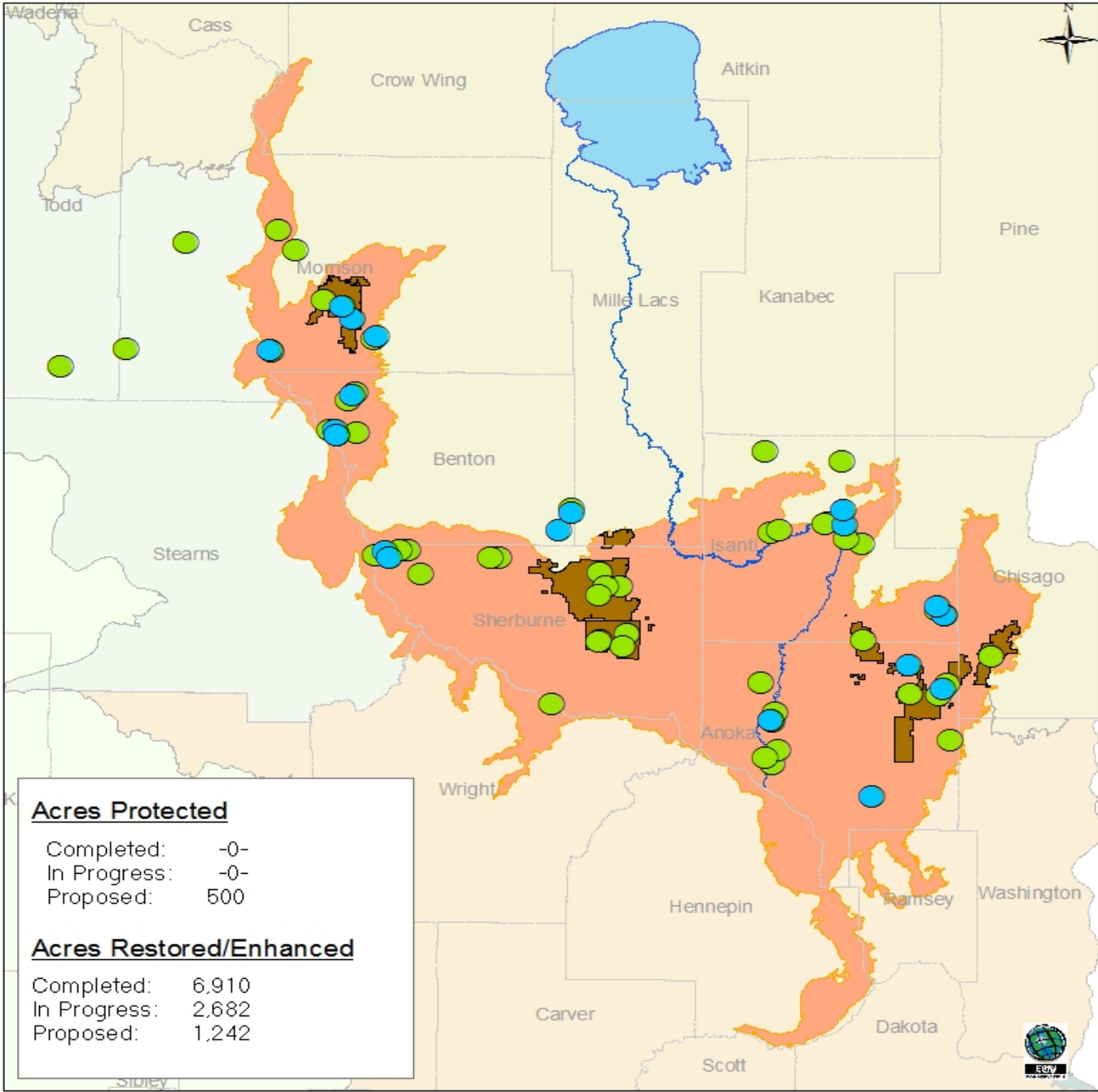
Seven partners – Anoka Conservation District, Great River Greening, Isanti County Soil and Water Conservation District, Stearns County Soil and Water Conservation District, Anoka County Parks, Minnesota Land Trust – are participating directly in our Phase V Anoka Sandplain proposal. This proposal builds upon existing grants in restoring and enhancing critical wildlife habitat.

- Great River Greening will enhance 1329 acres of high quality savanna, prairie, woodland, and wetland habitat in Isanti, Anoka, Sherburne, and Stearns counties at three WMA's, one state lands site, one SNA area, two locally-owned units, and waterbodies in the Rum River watershed, including additional phases at Sherburne NWR and Carlos Avery WMA.
- The Anoka Conservation District will enhance 80 acres Elder Swamp and 0.5 miles of shoreline habitat on the Rum River in swamp woodlands, forests, wetland, prairie, and riparian habitat. Additionally, enhance 500 acres of riparian and in-stream habitat (Rum River Revetments) will be implemented on ecologically significant lands in Anoka County.
- Isanti County Parks will address 20 acres of Oak savanna enhancement/restoration including tree plantings on at Irving and John Anderson Park.
- Isanti Soil and Water Conservation District will undertake habitat enhancement through soil erosion control, stream channel improvements and plant plugs on 14 acres of High Meadows on the Rum River Re-Meander site.
- Stearns County Soils and Water Conservation District will enhance/restore 600 feet of Mississippi River Shoreline buffer habitat.



For more information, contact:  
 Wiley Buck, Grant Manager  
 Great River Greening  
 651-665-9500 x15 or  
[wbuck@greatrivergreening.org](mailto:wbuck@greatrivergreening.org)









**Acres Protected**

Completed: -0-  
In Progress: -0-  
Proposed: 500

**Acres Restored/Enhanced**

Completed: 6,910  
In Progress: 2,682  
Proposed: 1,242

**Anoka Sandplain Partnership  
Phases 1 - 5**

-  Phase 5 Projects Proposed
-  Phase 1-4 Projects
-  Large Public Holdings
-  Anoka Sandplain EcoRegion

0 5 10 20 Miles

# Anoka Sandplains Partnership

## -Minnesota Land Trust Easement Sign-Up Criteria-



The Anoka Sandplains Partnership (ASP) protects, restores, and enhances Minnesota's rich and diverse array of wildlife habitat within the Anoka Sandplains ecological subsection. Funded through the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Fund, the Minnesota Land Trust (Land Trust) employs perpetual conservation easements in collaboration with private landowners to protect important wildlife habitat (forest, wetlands, and grasslands) and their associated wildlife.

Through a competitive Request for Proposal (RFP) process, landowners will submit an application to the Land Trust for protection of their land via conservation easement. At the close of the open submission period, submitted projects are initially scored and ranked relative to one another on two primary factors: 1) ecological significance, and 2) cost.

**Ecological Significance** is determined through an analysis of three subfactors:

- Quantity – the size of habitat and/or length of shoreline associated with a parcel, and abundance of Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN) and Threatened & Endangered (T&E) species;
- Quality – the condition of the associated habitat and populations of SGCN and T&E species;
- Landscape Context – the extent and condition of natural habitat surrounding the parcel, and the degree to which adjacent property has been protected.

**Cost** is determined in large part by the bid amount proposed by the landowner, and ultimately substantiated through an appraisal process. Landowners are given additional credit through whole or partial donation of appraised easement value.

These two factors inform an initial score that is used to initially rank a proposed parcel relative to others. Subsequent discussions with each landowner participating in the program allow the Land Trust to gain a better sense of the landowner's desires for and expected uses of the property, and to ground-truth the parcel's ecological condition. These post-proposal evaluations may result in proposed parcels moving up or down on the prioritization list. This additional evaluation allows for the Land Trust to most effectively target priority lands for protection.

The Land Trust has set certain minimum criteria for inclusion into the program:

- Lands must be located within the ASP Program area.
- Lands must have a maximum of 20% of total proposed easement area in agricultural use; areas targeted for restoration are not included in this acre cap.
- Lands must contain high quality examples of native plant communities (forests, prairies, woodlands, etc.), trout streams, shoreland along rivers and streams, or rare and threatened species.
- Lands cannot be enrolled previously in permanent protection programs (e.g., RIM).

Additional requirements are stipulated within the body of each conservation easement, as pertinent to the special characteristics of the land and the particular situation of the landowner.

The Land Trust's ranking and selection system is informed by ranking and prioritization modules used by the Minnesota DNR, The Nature Conservancy, and nationally by the Natural Heritage Data Center Network. Utilizing a ranking system that prioritizes projects based upon ecological value and cost enables the Land Trust to secure conservation easements that effectively and efficiently protect Minnesota's wildlife resources.

Initial Ranking of Applications									
<i>Existing Ecological Significance</i>	<i>Units Affected</i>	<i>Scoring framework for prioritizing conservation value among applicants through an RFP process.</i>							
		<b>1. Size/Abundance of Habitat Protected by Easement (Maximum 100 pts)</b>							
	0	Total acres of native plant community or extent of target feature within proposed easement							
	0	Feet of shoreline to be protected by an easement							
		<b>2. Diversity/Quality of Natural Resources to be Protected by the Easement (Maximum 100 pts)</b>							
	0	Average quality of existing native plant communities							
	0	Number and quality of rare species on parcel; rarity of the species							
		<b>3. Landscape Context (Maximum 100 pts)</b>							
	0	Location of parcel relative to biodiversity "hotspots" or priority areas delineated in conservation plans							
	0	Location of parcel relative to other conservation lands							
	0	Location of parcel relative to existing moderate-high quality native plant communities; degree of habitat fragmentation							
		<b>Total Score (Maximum 300 pts)</b>							
<i>Cost</i>	<i>Score</i>								
		<b>4. Cost</b>							
	0	Bid amount (\$)/acre							
	0	Estimated Donative value (\$)/acre							
<b>Revised Scoring of Applications Following Discussion with Landowner</b>									
<i>Potential Impacts by Landowner</i>	<i>Score Adjustments (+/-)</i>	<i>Enhancement or downgrade of existing biodiversity significance scores based on easement rights retained by the landowner, easement actions required of the landowner, and their potential impact on existing biodiversity.</i>							
		<b>5. Size/Abundance of Habitat Protected by Easement</b>							
	0	Total acres of native plant community or extent of target feature impacted by retained rights or proposed actions if exercised.							
		<b>6. Diversity/Quality of Natural Resources to be Protected by the Easement</b>							
	0	Estimated potential impact on diversity/quality of native plant community or extent of target feature by retained rights or proposed actions if exercised.							
	0	Estimated potential impact on number/quality of rare species resulting from retained rights or proposed actions if exercised.							
<b>0</b>	<b>REVISED BIODIVERSITY SIGNIFICANCE SCORE</b>								