Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council Laws of Minnesota 2018 Accomplishment Plan

Date: October 16, 2017

Program or Project Title: State Forest Acquisition, Richard J. Dorer Memorial Forest - Phase V

Funds Recommended: \$ 1,255,000

Manager's Name: Robert Milne Title: Forestry Lands Program Consultant Organization: MN DNR Forestry Address: 500 Lafayette Road City: St. Paul, MN 55155-0044 Office Number: 651-259-5270 Email: bob.milne@state.mn.us

Legislative Citation: ML 2018, Ch. X, Art. 1, Sec. 2, subd XX

Appropriation Language:

County Locations: Fillmore, Goodhue, Houston, Wabasha, and Winona.

Regions in which work will take place:

• Southeast Forest

Activity types:

- Enhance
- Protect in Fee

Priority resources addressed by activity:

• Forest

Abstract:

This project will protect and restore critical habitat in the Richard J. Dorer Memorial Hardwood Forest. Protection will focus on key inholdings within larger blocks of state forest land providing uninterrupted habitat corridors of public land between larger blocks of state forest land. This will also restore critical fish and wildlife habitat through targeted forest management to enhance early successional habitat, riparian areas, terrestrial invasive species control, oak savanna and mixed deciduous forests. The project will also provide additional opportunities for hunting in an area of the state where public hunting opportunities are limited.

Design and scope of work:

This proposal will directly protect and provide public hunting opportunities to approximately 300 additional acres of critical forestland habitat and provide connective corridors to State Forest (SF) through fee acquisition. The strategy is to acquire parcels that will reduce owner fragmentation across the landscape. Parcels have been identified in area land asset management plans and fall into three classifications; those providing protection of a critical forest habitat, those consolidating fragmented forest habitat, and those providing permanent connectivity to state land for habitat management. This proposal continues the work of acquiring key land parcels from willing sellers.

The forested parcels provide critical habitat for deer, turkey, many migratory birds and flora and fauna of special concern. These acquisitions will protect the declining forest base from fragmentation due to development and will also provide opportunities to further restore habitat for as well as provide additional public hunting opportunities with the region.



Steps will be taken to enhance 130 acres early successional habitat, riparian areas, terrestrial invasive species control, oak savanna and mixed deciduous forests.

This project includes all of the following activities: initial site reviews, negotiations with sellers, appraisals, environmental reviews and acquisition of fee title.

All land will be open for public hunting and fishing

Enhancement work and invasive control activities will be coordinated through the MNDNR silviculture and invasive species programs.

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

In the southeast, the Richard J.Dorer Memorial Hardwoods State Forest (RJ Dorer) is a unique forest biome of rolling hills, goat prairie, and river bottom forest. This forest provides habitat to deer, turkey, rattlesnakes, trout, many migratory birds and flora and fauna of special concern. The parcels to be acquired will provide connections with streams and rivers, consolidate fragmented forestland, and provide connective corridors to large areas of currently inaccessible state land. As private land in-holdings become available in the northern forests, acquisition of these lands will restore historical large blocks of forested habitat which will protect the declining forest base from fragmentation. Therefore, this will reduce development within the forests and provide opportunities to further enhance habitat for fish, game and other wildlife.

Describe the science based planning and evaluation model used:

The planning model used for parcel selection is based on three metrics: acres of critical habitat protected, miles of boundary reduced and acres of existing state land accessed. Parcels of land with willing sellers that meet one or more of these metrics have been selected and prioritized.

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

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

Which other plans are addressed in this program:

- Minnesota DNR Strategic Conservation Agenda
- Minnesota Forest Resource Council Landscape Plans

Which LSOHC section priorities are addressed in this program:

Southeast Forest:

• Protect forest habitat though acquisition in fee or easement to prevent parcelization and fragmentation and to provide the ability to access and manage landlocked public properties

Relationship to other funds:

• Not Listed

Describe the relationship of the funds:

Not Listed

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

The leverage funds indicated provide acquisition coordination and support from the General fund.

Per MS 97A.056, Subd. 24, Any state agency or organization requesting a direct appropriation from the

OHF must inform the LSOHC at the time of the request for funding is made, whether the request is supplanting or is a substitution for any previous funding that was not from a legacy fund and was used for the same purpose:

This request supplements existing sources of funding by accomplishing work that would not have been implemented but for the appropriation, or accomplishing work at a level not attainable but for the appropriation.

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

Appropriation Year	Source	Amount
FY05	RIM	120000
FY06	Bonding	2500000

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

Lands acquired in this project become part of the Minnesota State Forest system. This project is very sustainable as management costs are reduced by the project through improved access for habitat management and consolidation of existing state forest lands. Funding for management comes from the Forest Management Investment Account of the Natural Resources Fund, funded by timber sales revenue from the existing portions of the state forest.

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

Year	Source of Funds	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3
2023	Natural Resource Fund - FMIA	Manage forests to maximize forest health and wildlife benefits consistent with guidance documentation.	Maintain houndaries	Monitor public use and address any issues.

Activity Details:

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

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

Will local government approval be sought prior to acquisition - No

Generally local government approval is not required for state forest acquisitions, however, it is the policy of the DNR to notify county boards of all acquisitions for their information and to solicit comments and concerns. However, specific to the RJ Dorer Memorial Hardwood forest, if the property includes more than 10 contiguous acres of class 1,2,3 tillable (slope less than 12%) county approval is required if the state is to retain it. This is addressed in Minnesota Statute 89.022.

Is the land you plan to acquire (fee title) free of any other permanent protection - Yes

Is this land currently open for hunting and fishing - No

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

All land acquired for state forest purposes is open for hunting and fishing.

Who will eventually own the fee title land?

The Minnesota DNR, Division of Forestry.

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:

These are private lands which are currently only open to the private landowner's personal use. Farm machinery, logging equipment, hiking, personal ATV use. These are currently not open as public trails or roads.

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

How will maintenance and monitoring be accomplished:

The Richard J. Dorer State Forest is classified as Limited for motor vehicle use and any lands acquired would come under this classification.

- Highway licensed vehicles are allowed on signed forest roads, unless posted closed.

- Off-highway vehicles, defined as All-terrain vehicles/Off-highway motorcycles (ATVs/ORVs/OHMs), MAY OPERATE on signed roads and trails.

- ATV travel off of signed motor vehicles trails or forest roads is PROHIBITED in the Richard J. Dorer State Forest.

Will new trails or roads be developed or improved as a result of the OHF acquisition - Yes

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

There may be access trails developed for logging use, but generally, these will not be maintained for long term access.

How will maintenance and monitoring be accomplished:

MNDNR has a monitoring and reporting plan in place that involves the Divisions of Forestry, Parks and Trails and Enforcement. This includes annual spring (and other wet season) closures, reporting issues and enforcing actions when necessary.

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 (State Forests)

Accomplishment Timeline:

Activity	Approximate Date Completed
Protect 300 acres of state forest inholdings	June 2122
Enhance 130 acres of substantially intact habitat	June 2122

Date of Final Report Submission: 11/1/2021

Federal Funding:

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

Outcomes:

Programs in southeast forest region:

• Forestlands and savannas are protected from parceliazation and fragmentation and accessible for resource management purposes Forest and savanna habitat are protected from parcelization and fragmentation and accessible for resource management purposes. Protection from parcelization and fragmentation is measured by the miles of state/private boundary reduced by the acquisition. The goal of this project is a reduction by 7.0 miles. Protected corridors are measured by acres of existing state land made accessible.

Budget Spreadsheet

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

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

This program will still focus on the most critical habitat lands and willing landowners, but what is protected or enhanced is reduced. We will also not use funding for and additional personnel costs.

Total Amount of Request: \$ 1255000

Budget and Cash Leverage

BudgetName	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	\$0	\$120,000	General Fund	\$120,000
Contracts	\$100,000	\$0		\$100,000
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	\$1,060,800	\$0		\$1,060,800
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	\$0	\$0		\$0
Easement Acquisition	\$0	\$0		\$0
Easement Stewardship	\$0	\$0		\$0
Travel	\$0	\$0		\$0
Pro fessional Services	\$40,000	\$0		\$40,000
Direct Support Services	\$4,200	\$0		\$4,200
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	\$50,000	\$0		\$50,000
Capital Equipment	\$0	\$0		\$0
Other Equipment/Tools	\$0	\$0		\$0
Supplies/Materials	\$0	\$0		\$0
DNR IDP	\$0	\$0		\$0
Total	\$1,255,000	\$120,000		\$1,375,000

Personnel

Position	FTE	Over # of years	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Lands Program Consultant	0.25	4.00	\$0	\$120,000	General Fund	\$120,000
Total	0.25	4.00	\$0	\$120,000		\$120,000

Amount of Request:	\$1,255,000
Amount of Leverage:	\$120,000
Leverage as a percent of the Request:	9.56%
DSS + Personnel:	\$4,200
As a % of the total request:	0.33%

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

Unitizing the DNR's Direct and Necessary Cost Calculator - Additive Model for proposal and Subtractive Model based on funds awarded.

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

Yes. 100%

Describe and explain leverage source and confirmation of funds:

All personnel coasts are being covered by other funds.

Output Tables

Table 1a. Acres by Resource Type

Туре	Wetlands	Prairies	Forest	Habitats	Total
Restore	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	0	300	0	300
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Easement	0	0	0	0	0
Enhance	0	0	130	0	130
Total	0	0	430	0	430

Table 2. Total Funding by Resource Type

Туре	Wetlands	Prairies	Forest	Habitats	T o ta l
Restore	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$1,155,000	\$0	\$1,155,000
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Easement	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Enhance	\$0	\$0	\$100,000	\$0	\$100,000
Total	\$0	\$0	\$1,255,000	\$0	\$1,255,000

Table 3. Acres within each Ecological Section

Туре	Metro Urban	ForestPrairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N Forest	Total
Restore	0	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	0	300	0	0	300
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	130	0	0	130
Total	0	0	430	0	0	430

Table 4. Total Funding within each Ecological Section

Туре	Metro Urban	ForestPrairie	SEForest	Prairie	N Forest	Total
Restore	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$1,155,000	\$0	\$0	\$1,155,000
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	\$100,000	\$0	\$0	\$100,000
Total	\$0	\$0	\$1,255,000	\$0	\$0	\$1,255,000

Table 5. Average Cost per Acre by Resource Type

Туре	Wetlands	Prairies	Forest	Habitats
Restore	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$3850	\$0
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Easement	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Enhance	\$0	\$0	\$769	\$0

Table 6. Average Cost per Acre by Ecological Section

Туре	Metro /Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	Northern Forest
Restore	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$3850	\$0	\$0
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Easement	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Enhance	\$0	\$0	\$769	\$0	\$0

Target Lake/Stream/River Feet or Miles

0

Parcel List

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

Section 1 - Restore / Enhance Parcel List

Fillmore				
Name	TRDS	Acres	EstCost	Existing Protection?
RJDorer16	10409236	10	\$7,500 Yes	
RJDorer28	10410224	21	\$15,800 Yes	
RJDorer29	10410235	20	\$15,000 Yes	
RJDorer30	10410236	24	\$18,000 Yes	
Goodhue				
Name	TRDS	Acres	EstCost	Existing Protection?
RJDorer39	11214224	11	\$8,300 Yes	
Houston				
Name	TRDS	Acres	EstCost	Existing Protection?
RJDorer10	10306222	10	\$7,500 Yes	
RJDorer11	10307212	18	\$13,500 Yes	
RJDorer12	10307214	33	\$24,800 Yes	
RJDorer13	10307224	18	\$13,500 Yes	
RJDorer14	10407227	10	\$7,500 Yes	
RJDorer15	10407228	12	\$9,000 Yes	
RJDorer6	10104232	26	\$19,500 Yes	
RJDorer7	10105213	46	\$34,500 Yes	
RJDorer8	10204222	60	\$45,000 Yes	
RJDorer9	10204233	16	\$12,000 Yes	
Wabasha				
Name	TRDS	Acres	EstCost	Existing Protection?
RJDorer27	11010208	17	\$12,800 Yes	
RJDorer31	10910215	65	\$48,800 Yes	
RJDorer32	10910216	19	\$14,300 Yes	i
RJDorer33	11011212	24	\$18,000 Yes	
RJDorer34	11011213	40	\$30,000 Yes	
RJDorer35	11011225	75	\$56,300 Yes	
RJDorer36	11012226	16	\$12,000 Yes	
RJDorer37	11012234	9	\$6,800 Yes	
RJDorer38	11012236	18	\$13,500 Yes	
Winona				
Name	T RDS	Acres	EstCost	Existing Protection?
RJDorer1	10608205	11	\$8,300 Yes	i
RJDorer17	10505230	10	\$7,500 Yes	i
RJDorer18	10509226	15	\$11,300 Yes	i
RJDorer19	10509233	15	\$11,300 Yes	
RJDorer2	10608208	9	\$6,800 Yes	
RJDorer20	10509234	10	\$7,500 Yes	
RJDorer21	10509235	10	\$7,500 Yes	
RJDorer22	10809210	60	\$45,000 Yes	
RJDorer23	10809217	25	\$18,800 Yes	
RJDorer24	10809225	39	\$29,300 Yes	
RJDorer25	10809235	13	\$9,800 Yes	
RJDorer26	10809236	28	\$21,000 Yes	
RJDorer3	10809203	41	\$30,800 Yes	
RJDorer4	10809204	5	\$3,800 Yes	
RJDorer5	10809205	18	\$13,500 Yes	

Section 2 - Protect Parcel List

Fillmore

Name	TRDS	Acres	EstCost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
RJD-Amherst	10309227	12	\$40,000	No	Full	Not Applicable
RJD-Arendahl 1	10409231	34	\$50,000	No	Full	Not Applicable
RJD-Holt 2	10309212	43	\$200,000	No	Full	Not Applicable
RJD-Pilotmound 1	10410214	128	\$500,000	No	Full	Not Applicable
RJD-Preble 1	10208207	45	\$125,000	No	Full	Not Applicable
Houston						
Name	T RDS	Acres	EstCost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
RJD-Houston 2	10306230	320	\$1,000,000	No	Full	Not Applicable
RJD - Jefferson 4	10104234	60	\$150,000	No	Full	Not Applicable
RJD-Money Crk	10407228	20	\$50,000	No	Full	Not Applicable
Wabasha	•	•			•	
Name	TRDS	Acres	EstCost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
RJD-Krueger	11010218	93	\$280,000	No	Full	Not Applicable
RJD-Watopa 2	10910222	108	\$300,000	No	Full	Not Applicable
Winona	•	•			•	-
Name	T RDS	Acres	EstCost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
RJD-Trout Valley 2	10809204	30	\$90,000	No	Full	Not Applicable

Section 2a - Protect Parcel with Bldgs

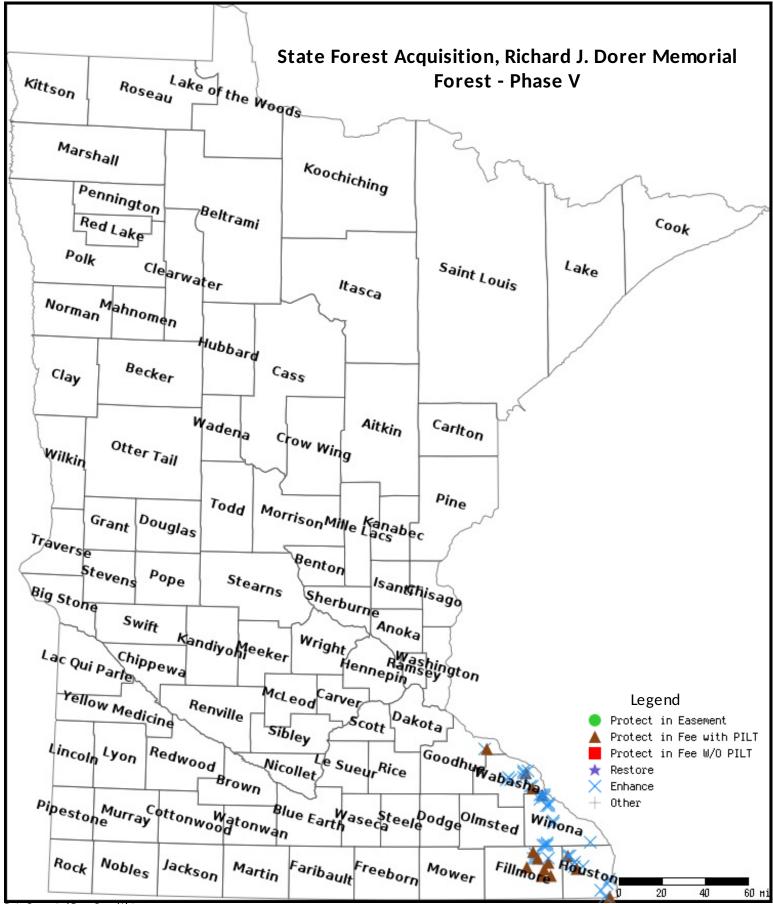
Fillmore

Name	TRDS	Acres	EstCost	#Bldgs?	Bldg Imrpove Desc	Value of Bldg	Disposition of Improvements
RJD-Carrolton	10310220	31	\$189,000	1	Buidling to be removed	\$20,000	
RJD-Preble 4	10209209	317	\$1,000,000	1	Building to be removed	\$10,000	
Goodhue							
Name	T RDS	Acres	EstCost	#Bldgs?	Bldg Imrpove Desc	Value of Bldg	Disposition of Improvements
RJD-Florence 1	11213219	173	\$750,000	1	Building to be removed	\$60,000	

Section 3 - Other Parcel Activity

No parcels with an other activity type.

Parcel Map



Data Generated From Parcel List

Strategic Land Asset Management Key Definitions

SLAM Goal Definitions					
Goal	Definition				
Protection of significant natural resources (such as rare resources, groundwater resources, habitats)	 Acquisition protects site of outstanding and high biodiversity significance. OR Acquisition protects sensitive or priority water and fisheries resources. OR Acquisition protects priority waterfowl, game or wetland resources. 				
Targeted conservation of MN's prairie-grasslands	 Parcels conserve remnant native prairie as found in the MN Biological Survey (MBS) layer. Parcels may be located anywhere in the state. 				
Consolidation of land ownership, creating larger, more contiguous blocks of DNR lands	 Parcels share a boundary with another pre-existing DNR-administered parcel. OR Parcels are within the border of a pre-existing unit of the Outdoor Recreation Act. 				
Improved access to existing land holdings	 Parcel has legal access via a public road. OR Parcel is adjacent to a public road. OR Easement acquisition provides legal access to existing DNR-administered parcels. OR Parcel is adjacent to an existing DNR-administered parcel that has legal access, as defined by one of the above methods. 				
More close to home outdoor recreational opportunities	 Parcels are within 30 miles of a population center over 50,000 people. OR Acres of land within 30 miles of a destination recreation hub. 				
Meeting our fiduciary responsibilities on Trust Fund lands	Our responsibility in this trustee relationship extends to all who make decisions affecting the School Trust Lands. See Operational Order 121 for more information.				

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council Comparison Report

Program Title: 2018 - State Forest Acquisition, Richard J. Dorer Memorial Forest - Phase V **Organization:** MN DNR Forestry **Manager:** Robert Milne

Budget

Requested Amount: \$3,708,500 Appropriated Amount: \$1,255,000 Percentage: 33.84%

	T o ta	Requested	T o tal Appro priated		Percentage of Request	
Budget Item	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Appropriated Amount	Anticipated Leverage	Percentage of Request	Percentage of Leverage
Personnel	\$0	\$120,000	\$0	\$120,000	-	100.00%
Contracts	\$695,300	\$0	\$100,000	\$0	14.38%	-
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	\$2,880,000	\$0	\$1,060,800	\$0	36.83%	-
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	-	-
Easement Acquisition	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	-	-
Easement Stewardship	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	-	-
Travel	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	-	-
Professional Services	\$60,000	\$0	\$40,000	\$0	66.67%	-
Direct Support Services	\$12,200	\$0	\$4,200	\$0	34.43%	-
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	\$60,000	\$0	\$50,000	\$0	83.33%	-
Capital Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	-	-
Supplies/Materials	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%	-
DNR IDP	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	-	-
Total	\$3,708,500	\$120,000	\$1,255,000	\$120,000	33.84%	100.00%

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

This program will still focus on the most critical habitat lands and willing landowners, but what is protected or enhanced is reduced. We will also not use funding for and additional personnel costs.

Output

Table 1a. Acres by Resource Type

Туре	T o tal Pro po sed	T o tal in AP	Percentage of Proposed
Restore	400	0	0.00%
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	750	300	40.00%
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	0	0	-
Protect in Easement	0	0	
Enhance	527	130	24.67%

Table 2. Total Funding by Resource Type

Туре	T o tal Pro po sed	T o tal in AP	Percentage of Proposed
Restore	300,000	0	0.00%
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	3,013,200	1,155,000	38.33%
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	0	0	-
Protect in Easement	0	0	-
Enhance	395,300	100,000	25.30%

Table 3. Acres within each Ecological Section

Туре	T o tal Proposed	T o tal in AP	Percentage of Proposed
Restore	400	0	0.00%
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	750	300	40.00%
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	0	0	-
Protect in Easement	0	0	-
Enhance	527	130	24.67%

Table 4. Total Funding within each Ecological Section

Туре	T o tal Pro po sed	T o tal in AP	Percentage of Proposed
Restore	300,000	0	0.00%
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	3,013,200	1,155,000	38.33%
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	0	0	-
Protect in Easement	0	0	-
Enhance	395,300	100,000	25.30%