



Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

Laws of Minnesota 2018 Accomplishment Plan

Date: October 16, 2017

Program or Project Title: Metro Big Rivers Phase 8

Funds Recommended: \$ 2,630,000

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

Appropriation Language:

County Locations: Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Scott, Sherburne, Sibley, and Washington.

Regions in which work will take place:

- Metro / Urban

Activity types:

- Enhance
- Protect in Easement
- Protect in Fee
- Restore

Priority resources addressed by activity:

- Forest
- Habitat
- Prairie
- Wetlands

Abstract:

Metro Big Rivers Phase 8 will protect 100 acres in fee title and 130 acres in permanent conservation easement, and enhance 700 acres of priority habitat in the big rivers corridors in the Metropolitan Urbanizing Area. MBR partners will leverage the OHF appropriation by at least 40% with partner funds, private funds, local government contributions and Clean Water Funds, as well as landowner donations of easement value. Significant volunteer engagement will be invested in many habitat enhancement activities, although not technically counted as leverage. Another 50 acres will be acquired in fee title with leverage funds.

Design and scope of work:

Metro Big Rivers Phase 8 will protect, restore, enhance and connect prioritized land habitats in the metropolitan area, with an emphasis on the three big rivers and their tributaries. The projects will benefit wildlife and species in greatest need of conservation (SGCN) and provide increased public access for wildlife-based recreation. The work is briefly described below. Please see the parcel list for additional detail.

Friends of the Mississippi River (FMR) will enhance 150 acres of forest at three sites along the Mississippi River:

- William H. Houltton Conservation Area: Enhance 85 acres forest on an island in the Mississippi River.
- Cottage Grove Ravine Regional Park: Enhance 51 acres forest adjacent to Ravine Lake.
- Riverside Park: Enhance 14 acres forest along the Mississippi River.

Great River Greening (GRG) will enhance 515 acres of prairie, oak savanna, forest and riverine habitat at 8 projects throughout the area:

- Maple View Open Space: Enhance 19 acres of forest and wetland of new open space.
- Springbrook Nature Center, Phase II: Enhance 31 acres of wetland.
- Carroll's Woods: Enhance 61 acres of oak forest.
- Lebanon Hills Regional Park, Phase 2: Enhance 70 acres of oak savanna and woodland.
- Valley Park Xcel Pollinator Corridor: Enhance 9 acres to a prairie pollinator corridor.
- Minnehaha Creek Knollwood Riparian Corridor: Enhance 6 acre terrace forest.
- Brown's Creek Open Space: Enhance 13 acres of newly-acquired oak savanna complex.
- Grey Cloud Slough, Phase 2: Enhance 2 miles (300 acres) of Mississippi River side channel habitat.

Minnesota Land Trust (MLT) will protect through perpetual conservation easement 130 acres of priority wildlife habitat, including riparian lands, forests, wetlands and grasslands. Projects will be selected through a competitive RFP process that ranks proposals based on ecological significance and cost (criteria attached). MLT also will restore/enhance 35 acres of high quality natural communities on private lands already protected through permanent conservation easement. Properties selected are of high ecological significance, adjacent or in close proximity to public conservation investments (e.g., state parks, WMAs, streams and rivers) and owned by landowners who have a keen desire to manage these resources for conservation.

Minnesota Valley Trust (MVT) will protect in fee 100 acres of river frontage, floodplain forest, wetland and upland habitat in the Minnesota River Valley to expand the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge. An additional 50 acres will be acquired with other non-state funds. All prospective lands have been prioritized by the USFWS and are along or very near the Minnesota River. All lands will be restored or enhanced, then open to the public for wildlife-based recreation, including hunting and fishing.

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:

Metro Big Rivers projects specifically target protecting and improving habitats that are needed by wildlife species in greatest conservation need (SGCN) and other targeted species, and where they need them. Many of Minnesota's forest and grassland SGCNs are migratory. Improving habitat along the central flyway (the three big rivers) will provide great benefits to all wildlife species, especially during critical migration periods.

FMR will conduct significant habitat work on already-protected conservation lands to improve two critical habitat types for wildlife and SGCN Metro area -- forest and prairie. These activities will improve the habitat for all wildlife, especially birds, by removing non-native species that contribute to their declines, and restoring native plant communities. The activities in this proposal will enhance forest and prairie habitat at 3 conservation sites in the metro area adjacent to or in close proximity to the Mississippi River.

GRG will also conduct significant habitat work on already-protected conservation lands to improve habitat values for wildlife and SGCN, including birds using the Mississippi River migratory corridor and pollinators. Work will restore and enhance riverine, forest, oak savanna, prairie, and wetland habitat at 8 conservation sites in the metro area.

MLT, the easement and restoration partner, will target priority privately owned lands to permanently protect a variety of upland and shoreland habitats from fragmentation, development, and other impacts that undermine the viability of SGCN and T&E species. MLT will use a market-based approach to securing conservation easements via an RFP process that prioritizes both high value conservation lands and the amount of easement value donated by a landowner. Restoration and enhancement of habitat is proposed for lands protected through easement.

MVT, the fee title partner, will acquire in fee title lands that have been identified through the USFWS Comprehensive Conservation Plan for the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge. This plan prioritizes lands for high biodiversity, connectivity, and ability to preserve habitat for SGCN. The acquisitions and subsequent habitat work will increase breeding and migratory habitat for waterfowl, shorebirds, neo-tropical migrants, and non-migratory resident species, protect the diversity of native ecosystems, and improve connectivity and resilience.

Describe the science based planning and evaluation model used:

Protection partners prioritize work through science-based processes led by the public entities that own or will own interest in the

properties (e.g., MN DNR, USFWS). Plans followed include MBS, RESA, Metropolitan Conservation Corridors, Minnesota State Wildlife Action Plan, and the Comprehensive Conservation Plan for the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge. Actions are targeted toward building conservation corridors and priority habitat complexes.

The easement partner targets its outreach to landowners within high priority areas that are both ecologically significant and are the focus of conservation action by local units of government, state agencies and/or conservation organizations. A competitive RFP process is used that includes an analysis of the ecological significance of the proposed parcel, which includes the following three factors:

- Quantity – the size of habitat and/or length of shoreline associated with a parcel, and abundance of Species in 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.

Restoration and enhancement partners use science-based criteria to prioritize activities. This includes consideration of the highest quality natural areas (as determined by MBS), as well as prioritization of work within important ecological corridors. All sites fall within the system of conservation corridors identified by a coalition of conservation partners and based on rare species and sensitive landscape features. This prioritization ensures that projects reduce fragmentation and link natural areas within already-established corridors. All of the restoration and enhancement sites are located along or near the three big rivers and important tributaries - some of the most important ecological corridors for migrating and sedentary plant and animal life. Restoration and management activities follow best methods according to established scientific research and as recommended by state agencies.

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

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

Which other plans are addressed in this program:

- Minnesota's Wildlife Action Plan 2015-2025
- Outdoor Heritage Fund: A 25 Year Framework

Which LSOHC section priorities are addressed in this program:

Metro / Urban:

- Protect habitat corridors, with emphasis on the Minnesota, Mississippi, and St. Croix rivers (bluff to floodplain)

Relationship to other funds:

- Clean Water Fund

Describe the relationship of the funds:

An appropriation from the Clean Water Fund is removing a road and local funds will replace the road with a bridge, allowing unimpeded flow and recreational access to make the larger Grey Cloud Slough restoration and enhancement project possible. This MBR 8 proposal includes funds for Phase 2 of initial follow up restoration work, development of an instream restoration plan, and project monitoring. This proposal supplements and does not supplant any other sources of funds.

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

Metro Big Rivers 8 will leverage the OHF appropriation by at least 40% at over \$1.1 million.

The partnership has already secured commitments of supplemental funding for the fee title protection and restoration / enhancement projects from the partners, private sources, local government units, soil and water conservation districts and Minnesota Clean Water Fund.

MLT encourages private landowners to fully or partially donate the appraised value of their conservation easement. This donated value is shown as leveraged funds in the proposal. MLT has a long track record gaining landowner participation in this fashion. To date across all MBR grants, \$1,417,000 in easement value has been donated as leverage. We expect a significant landowner contribution to

continue in MBR Phase 8; conservative estimate of leverage is \$210,000.

Crews of volunteers will add significant in-kind value to the restoration / enhancement projects. This value is not included in the leverage funds, but is important to note here. Volunteers effectively replace or enhance paid crews and contracts on many projects, saving funds. Use of volunteers also effectively educates and engages the community in conservation work, which is critical for the future of conservation.

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:

These funds are supplanting previous funding.

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

Appropriation Year	Source	Amount
2009	Other State Funds	741,058
2011	Local Funds	295,993
2011	Federal Funds	247,907
2011	Private and Other Funds	1,578,572
2012	Other State Funds	244,449
2012	Local Funds	343,234
2012	Federal Funds	70,327
2012	Private and Other Funds	2,063,388
2013	Other State Funds	1,820,284
2013	Local Funds	1,166,826
2013	Federal Funds	153,780
2009	Local Funds	91,972
2013	Private and Other Funds	1,253,038
2014	Other State Funds	1,648,257
2014	Local Funds	516,119
2014	Private and Other Funds	1,931,527
2015	Other State Funds	2,128,751
2015	Local Funds	1,295,000
2015	Private and Other Funds	1,449,198
2016	Other State Funds	856,157
2016	Local Funds	2,161,500
2016	Private and Other Funds	1,609,091
2009	Federal Funds	138,338
2017	Other State Funds	416,860
2017	Local Funds	76,000
2017	Private and Other Funds	1,212,156
2009	Private and Other Funds	940,884
2010	Other State Funds	2,010,658
2010	Local Funds	364,460
2010	Federal Funds	120,662
2010	Private and Other Funds	3,516,521
2011	Other State Funds	1,429,358

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

All public partners have committed to maintaining the restoration / enhancement habitat improvements after OHF funds are expended. The MBR restore/enhance partners will continue to raise public and private sources to continue the work past the grant timeline, and will work cooperatively with partners to ensure the project benefits are maintained.

Lands protected through easement will be sustained following best standards and practices. MLT is a nationally-accredited and insured land trust with a successful stewardship program that includes annual property monitoring, records management, addressing inquiries, tracking ownership changes, investigating potential violations and defending the easement in case of a true violation. In addition, MLT

provides habitat management plans to landowners and helps them access resources and technical expertise to undertake restoration, enhancement and ongoing management of properties.

Lands acquired in fee title for the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge will be maintained and sustained over the long-term by the USFWS. Initial habitat restoration / enhancement will be completed by the MVT prior to transfer to the USFWS, which is a critical activity for the future of conservation.

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

Year	Source of Funds	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3
2021-23	FMR, GRG & Local Partners	Monitoring and assessment	Targeted actions to maintain habitat	Restorative actions, as needed, to correct any damage
2021-23	MLT & Landowner (R/E Projects)	Monitoring and assessment	Targeted actions to maintain habitat	Restorative actions, as needed, to correct any damage
2021	MVT (MN Valley Lands, subsidiary) & USFWS	Post property	Development habitat restoration / enhancement and management plan	Conduct initial restoration / enhancement and management activities
2022	MVT (MN Valley Lands, subsidiary) & USFWS	Continue restoration / enhancement and management activities	Develop hunting plan, if needed	Develop hunter parking lot and related signage, if needed
2022-25	MVT (MN Valley Lands, subsidiary) & USFWS	Continue restoration / enhancement and management activities	Transfer property to USFWS, upon completion of habitat restoration / enhancement	
Perpetual	MLT Stewardship & Enforcement Fund	Annual monitoring of completed easements	Enforcement actions, as necessary	

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 - **Yes**

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**

Lands acquired for the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge (USFWS) will be open for public hunting and fishing according to the National Wildlife Refuge Improvement Act. The lands will be opened through a public process prescribed by the Act. We anticipate hunting and fishing opportunities will be like those already established for lands previously acquired for the Refuge. For specific information, refer to the Refuge's website - http://www.fws.gov/midwest/MinnesotaValley/documents/hunting_regs.pdf.

Who will eventually own the fee title land?

US Fish & Wildlife Service

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

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

Who will manage the easement?

Minnesota Land Trust

Who will be the easement holder?

Minnesota Land Trust

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:

Some parcels may have existing field roads or low maintenance trails.

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

How will maintenance and monitoring be accomplished:

Any pre-existing low-maintenance roads and trails on properties acquired for the MN Valley National Wildlife Refuge (USFWS) may be continued under a plan developed for the purpose of property access for habitat maintenance and public use of the property for wildlife-dependent recreation (e.g., hunting and fishing).

Trails and roads on eased lands are identified in the project baseline report and will be monitored annually as part of MLT's stewardship and enforcement protocols. Maintenance of permitted roads or trails in line with the easement terms will be the responsibility of the landowner.

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

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**
(County/Municipal, Watershed Districts, Private lands under permanent conservation easement)

Accomplishment Timeline:

Activity	Approximate Date Completed
FMR - Enhance 150 acres.	June 2022
GRG - Enhance 515 acres.	June 2022
MLT - Protect 130 acres under conservation easements.	June 2021
MLT - Enhance 35 acres of land under easement.	June 2021
MVT - Protect 100 acres through fee title acquisition.	June 2021

Date of Final Report Submission: 11/1/2022

Federal Funding:

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

Outcomes:

Programs in metropolitan urbanizing region:

- A network of natural land and riparian habitats will connect corridors for wildlife and species in greatest conservation need *Partners work together to identify priority lands using existing data and public plans, then coordinate protection, restoration and enhancement activities in those priority areas. Work builds upon prior phases and is intended to continue into the future for maximum impact. Mapping shows progress in connecting corridors. Species collections and counts measure impact of activities over time on wildlife and Species in Greatest Conservation Need.*

Budget Spreadsheet

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

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

We have reduced the outputs accordingly.

Total Amount of Request: \$ 2630000

Budget and Cash Leverage

Budget Name	ISOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	\$193,200	\$118,100	FMR, Local Government Partners, Foundation, BWCD, MCWD, SWWD, Dakota County, Cities of Fridley, Rosemount, St. Louis Park, Mendota Heights, Andover	\$311,300
Contracts	\$969,900	\$526,100	Clean Water Funds, City of Rosemount, Browns Creek Watershed District	\$1,496,000
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	\$0	\$0		\$0
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	\$493,000	\$250,000	MVT funds	\$743,000
Easement Acquisition	\$700,000	\$210,000	Private landowners	\$910,000
Easement Stewardship	\$120,000	\$0		\$120,000
Travel	\$9,600	\$0		\$9,600
Professional Services	\$69,000	\$0		\$69,000
Direct Support Services	\$29,600	\$0		\$29,600
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	\$7,000	\$0		\$7,000
Capital Equipment	\$0	\$0		\$0
Other Equipment/Tools	\$11,000	\$0		\$11,000
Supplies/Materials	\$27,700	\$8,500	SWWD, Foundation	\$36,200
DNR IDP	\$0	\$0		\$0
Total	\$2,630,000	\$1,112,700		\$3,742,700

Personnel

Position	FTE	Over # of years	ISOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
GRG Personnel - Project Manager, Crew, Volunteer Manager, Director of Operations, Grant Mgmt Asst., Finance Director, Finance Ops Mgr	0.61	3.00	\$95,000	\$103,300	BWCD, MCWD, SWWD, Dakota County, Cities of Fridley, Rosemount, St. Louis Park, Mendota Heights, Andover	\$198,300
FMR Staff - Conservation Director, Senior Ecologist, Ecologist, Bookkeeper, Stewardship staff	0.12	4.00	\$20,200	\$14,800	FMR, Local Government Partners, Foundation	\$35,000
MLT Personnel - Program Manager, Legal staff	0.30	3.00	\$78,000	\$0		\$78,000
Total	1.03	10.00	\$193,200	\$118,100		\$311,300

Budget and Cash Leverage by Partnership

BudgetName	Partnership	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	Great River Greening (GRG)	\$95,000	\$103,300	BWCD, MCWD, SWWD, Dakota County, Cities of Fridley, Rosemount, St. Louis Park, Mendota Heights, Andover	\$198,300
Contracts	Great River Greening (GRG)	\$556,200	\$526,100	Clean Water Funds, City of Rosemount, Browns Creek Watershed District	\$1,082,300
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	Great River Greening (GRG)	\$0	\$0		\$0
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	Great River Greening (GRG)	\$0	\$0		\$0
Easement Acquisition	Great River Greening (GRG)	\$0	\$0		\$0
Easement Stewardship	Great River Greening (GRG)	\$0	\$0		\$0
Travel	Great River Greening (GRG)	\$3,500	\$0		\$3,500
Professional Services	Great River Greening (GRG)	\$0	\$0		\$0
Direct Support Services	Great River Greening (GRG)	\$8,600	\$0		\$8,600
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	Great River Greening (GRG)	\$0	\$0		\$0
Capital Equipment	Great River Greening (GRG)	\$0	\$0		\$0
Other Equipment/Tools	Great River Greening (GRG)	\$10,000	\$0		\$10,000
Supplies/Materials	Great River Greening (GRG)	\$26,700	\$5,000	SWWD	\$31,700
DNR IDP	Great River Greening (GRG)	\$0	\$0		\$0
Total		\$700,000	\$634,400		\$1,334,400

Personnel - Great River Greening (GRG)

Position	FTE	Over # of years	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
GRG Personnel - Project Manager, Crew, Volunteer Manager, Director of Operations, Grant Mgmt Asst., Finance Director, Finance Ops Mgr	0.61	3.00	\$95,000	\$103,300	BWCD, MCWD, SWWD, Dakota County, Cities of Fridley, Rosemount, St. Louis Park, Mendota Heights, Andover	\$198,300
Total	0.61	3.00	\$95,000	\$103,300		\$198,300

BudgetName	Partnership	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	Friends of the Mississippi River (FMR)	\$20,200	\$14,800	FMR, Local Government Partners, Foundation	\$35,000
Contracts	Friends of the Mississippi River (FMR)	\$277,700	\$0		\$277,700
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	Friends of the Mississippi River (FMR)	\$0	\$0		\$0
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	Friends of the Mississippi River (FMR)	\$0	\$0		\$0
Easement Acquisition	Friends of the Mississippi River (FMR)	\$0	\$0		\$0
Easement Stewardship	Friends of the Mississippi River (FMR)	\$0	\$0		\$0
Travel	Friends of the Mississippi River (FMR)	\$2,100	\$0		\$2,100
Professional Services	Friends of the Mississippi River (FMR)	\$0	\$0		\$0
Direct Support Services	Friends of the Mississippi River (FMR)	\$0	\$0		\$0
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	Friends of the Mississippi River (FMR)	\$0	\$0		\$0
Capital Equipment	Friends of the Mississippi River (FMR)	\$0	\$0		\$0
Other Equipment/Tools	Friends of the Mississippi River (FMR)	\$0	\$0		\$0
Supplies/Materials	Friends of the Mississippi River (FMR)	\$0	\$3,500	Foundation	\$3,500
DNR IDP	Friends of the Mississippi River (FMR)	\$0	\$0		\$0
Total		\$300,000	\$18,300		\$318,300

Personnel - Friends of the Mississippi River (FMR)

Position	FTE	Over # of years	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
FMR Staff - Conservation Director, Senior Ecologist, Ecologist, Bookkeeper, Stewardship staff	0.12	4.00	\$20,200	\$14,800	FMR, Local Government Partners, Foundation	\$35,000
Total	0.12	4.00	\$20,200	\$14,800		\$35,000

BudgetName	Partnership	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	Minnesota Valley Trust (MVT)	\$0	\$0		\$0
Contracts	Minnesota Valley Trust (MVT)	\$0	\$0		\$0
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	Minnesota Valley Trust (MVT)	\$0	\$0		\$0
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	Minnesota Valley Trust (MVT)	\$493,000	\$250,000	MVT funds	\$743,000
Easement Acquisition	Minnesota Valley Trust (MVT)	\$0	\$0		\$0
Easement Stewardship	Minnesota Valley Trust (MVT)	\$0	\$0		\$0
Travel	Minnesota Valley Trust (MVT)	\$0	\$0		\$0
Professional Services	Minnesota Valley Trust (MVT)	\$0	\$0		\$0
Direct Support Services	Minnesota Valley Trust (MVT)	\$0	\$0		\$0
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	Minnesota Valley Trust (MVT)	\$7,000	\$0		\$7,000
Capital Equipment	Minnesota Valley Trust (MVT)	\$0	\$0		\$0
Other Equipment/Tools	Minnesota Valley Trust (MVT)	\$0	\$0		\$0
Supplies/Materials	Minnesota Valley Trust (MVT)	\$0	\$0		\$0
DNR IDP	Minnesota Valley Trust (MVT)	\$0	\$0		\$0
Total		\$500,000	\$250,000		\$750,000

BudgetName	Partnership	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	Minnesota Land Trust	\$78,000	\$0		\$78,000
Contracts	Minnesota Land Trust	\$136,000	\$0		\$136,000
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	\$700,000	\$210,000	Private landowners	\$910,000
Easement Stewardship	Minnesota Land Trust	\$120,000	\$0		\$120,000
Travel	Minnesota Land Trust	\$4,000	\$0		\$4,000
Professional Services	Minnesota Land Trust	\$69,000	\$0		\$69,000
Direct Support Services	Minnesota Land Trust	\$21,000	\$0		\$21,000
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	Minnesota Land Trust	\$0	\$0		\$0
Capital Equipment	Minnesota Land Trust	\$0	\$0		\$0
Other Equipment/Tools	Minnesota Land Trust	\$1,000	\$0		\$1,000
Supplies/Materials	Minnesota Land Trust	\$1,000	\$0		\$1,000
DNR IDP	Minnesota Land Trust	\$0	\$0		\$0
Total		\$1,130,000	\$210,000		\$1,340,000

Personnel - Minnesota Land Trust

Position	FTE	Over # of years	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
MLT Personnel - Program Manager, Legal staff	0.30	3.00	\$78,000	\$0		\$78,000
Total	0.30	3.00	\$78,000	\$0		\$78,000

BudgetName	Partnership	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	DEFAULT	\$0	\$0		\$0
Contracts	DEFAULT	\$0	\$0		\$0
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	DEFAULT	\$0	\$0		\$0
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	DEFAULT	\$0	\$0		\$0
Easement Acquisition	DEFAULT	\$0	\$0		\$0
Easement Stewardship	DEFAULT	\$0	\$0		\$0
Travel	DEFAULT	\$0	\$0		\$0
Professional Services	DEFAULT	\$0	\$0		\$0
Direct Support Services	DEFAULT	\$0	\$0		\$0
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	DEFAULT	\$0	\$0		\$0
Capital Equipment	DEFAULT	\$0	\$0		\$0
Other Equipment/Tools	DEFAULT	\$0	\$0		\$0
Supplies/Materials	DEFAULT	\$0	\$0		\$0
DNR IDP	DEFAULT	\$0	\$0		\$0
Total		\$0	\$0		\$0

Amount of Request: \$2,630,000

Amount of Leverage: \$1,112,700

Leverage as a percent of the Request: 42.31%

DSS + Personnel: \$222,800

As a % of the total request: 8.47%

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

GRG's DSS rate is 9% of Personnel costs. MLT's DSS rate includes allowable direct and necessary expenditures not captured in other line items in the budget.

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

Yes. FMR and GRG - 100% of Contracts is R/E work. MLT - 67% of Contracts is R/E work.

Describe and explain leverage source and confirmation of funds:

Leverage commitments are secured from the MBR partners, local government partners, watershed districts and Clean Water Funds.

Output Tables

Table 1a. Acres by Resource Type

Type	Wetlands	Prairies	Forest	Habitats	Total
Restore	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	40	25	35	0	100
Protect in Easement	0	0	0	130	130
Enhance	345	17	303	35	700
Total	385	42	338	165	930

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	0
Total	0

Table 2. Total Funding by Resource Type

Type	Wetlands	Prairies	Forest	Habitats	Total
Restore	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	\$200,000	\$125,000	\$175,000	\$0	\$500,000
Protect in Easement	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$992,500	\$992,500
Enhance	\$157,400	\$65,800	\$776,800	\$137,500	\$1,137,500
Total	\$357,400	\$190,800	\$951,800	\$1,130,000	\$2,630,000

Table 3. Acres within each Ecological Section

Type	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	0	0	0	0
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	100	0	0	0	0	100
Protect in Easement	130	0	0	0	0	130
Enhance	700	0	0	0	0	700
Total	930	0	0	0	0	930

Table 4. Total Funding within each Ecological Section

Type	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	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	\$500,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$500,000
Protect in Easement	\$992,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$992,500
Enhance	\$1,137,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,137,500
Total	\$2,630,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,630,000

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	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	\$5000	\$5000	\$5000	\$0
Protect in Easement	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$7635
Enhance	\$456	\$3871	\$2564	\$3929

Table 6. Average Cost per Acre by Ecological Section

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	Northern Forest
Restore	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	\$5000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Easement	\$7635	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Enhance	\$1625	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Target Lake/Stream/River Feet or Miles

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

Anoka

Name	TRDS	Acres	EstCost	Existing Protection?
GRG - Springbrook Nature Center Phase II	03024211	31	\$51,500	Yes

Dakota

Name	TRDS	Acres	EstCost	Existing Protection?
GRG - Carrols Woods Woodland enhancement	11519230	67	\$103,900	Yes
GRG - Lebanon Hills Parks: Star Pond Savanna Expansion and Schultze - Portage Woodland Enhancement Phase II	15520214	70	\$322,800	Yes
GRG - Maple View Open Space	03224211	19	\$42,900	Yes
GRG -Valley Park Xcel Pollinator Corridor	02823223	9	\$29,600	Yes

Hennepin

Name	TRDS	Acres	EstCost	Existing Protection?
GRG - Minnehaha Creek Knollwood Riparian Corridor	11721218	6	\$32,200	Yes

Sherburne

Name	TRDS	Acres	EstCost	Existing Protection?
FMR - William H. Houlton Conservation Area	03226205	85	\$168,000	Public

Washington

Name	TRDS	Acres	EstCost	Existing Protection?
FMR - Cottage Grove Ravine Park	02721222	51	\$91,400	Public
FMR - Riverside Park	02722211	14	\$40,600	Public
GRG - Browns Creek	03021212	13	\$56,200	Yes
GRG - Grey Cloud Slough Restoration, Phase 2	02721230	300	\$61,000	Yes
MLT - Afton State Park	02820227	27	\$40,800	Yes
MLT - Bass Lake	03021209	80	\$72,000	Yes
MLT - Hardwood Creek	03221235	157	\$80,000	Yes
MLT - Old Mill Stream	03120201	44	\$70,000	Yes
MLT - St. Croix 1	03219206	91	\$29,200	Yes
MLT - Valley Creek	02820217	49	\$45,200	Yes

Section 2 - Protect Parcel List

Carver

Name	TRDS	Acres	EstCost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
MVT - Rapids Lake Addition, MN Valley National Wildlife Refuge	11423206	100	\$500,000	No	Full	Full
MVT - San Francisco Unit Addition, Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge	11424201	100	\$500,000	No	Full	Full

Scott

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
MVT - Blakely Unit Addition, MN Valley National Wildlife Refuge	11326236	100	\$300,000	No	Full	Full

Sibley

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
MVT - Jessenland Unit Addition, MN Valley National Wildlife Refuge	11326213	100	\$300,000	No	Full	Full

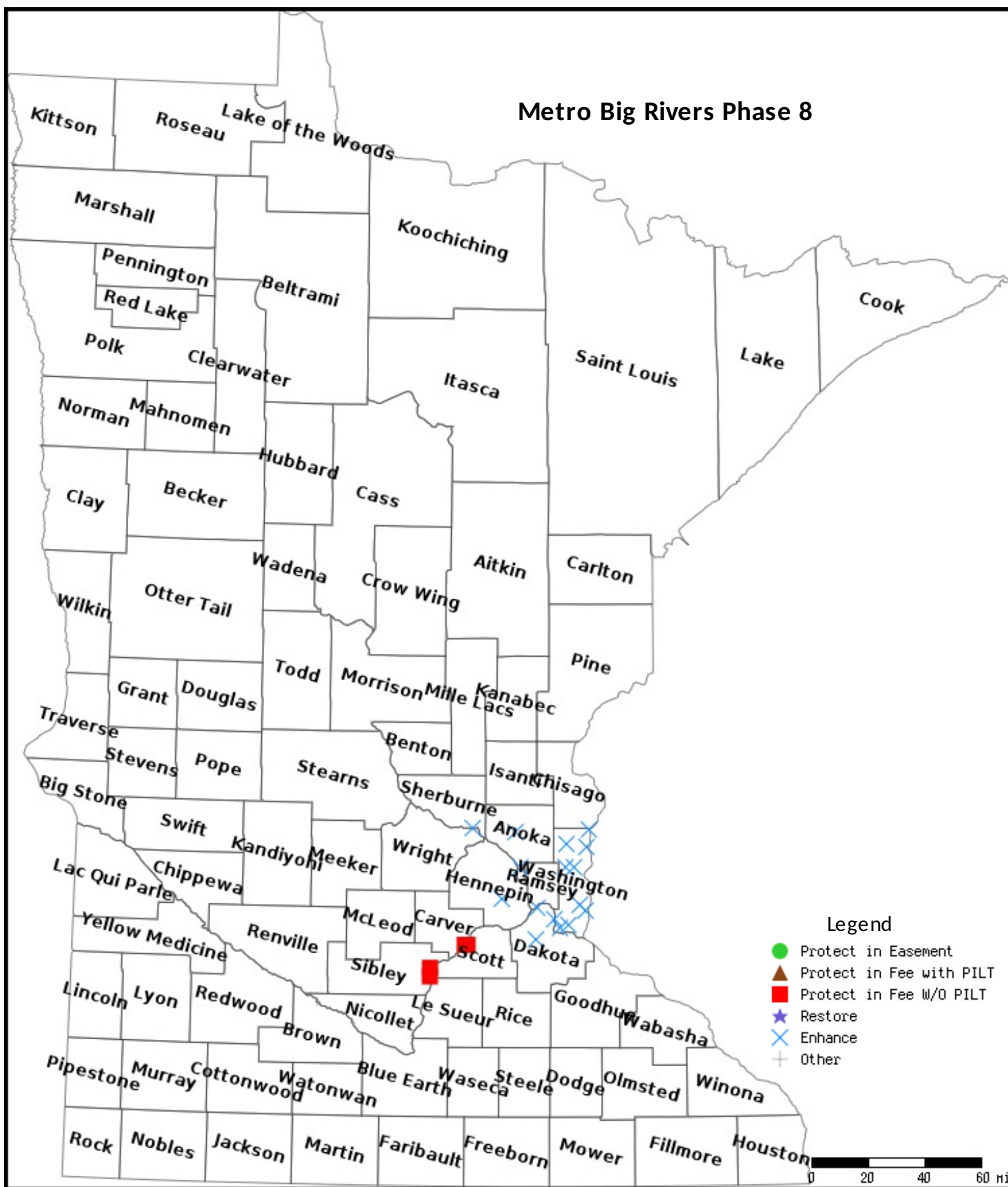
Section 2a - Protect Parcel with Bldgs

No parcels with an activity type protect and has buildings.

Section 3 - Other Parcel Activity

No parcels with an other activity type.

Parcel Map



Data Generated From Parcel List

Metro Big Rivers Habitat Program

-Minnesota Land Trust Easement Sign-Up Criteria-



The Metro Big Rivers (MBR) Habitat program protects Minnesota's rich array of wildlife habitat within the Twin Cities metropolitan area. 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 within targeted priority areas submit an application for participation in the MBR program. Submitted projects are initially scored based 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 RFP 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 MBR Program area.
- Lands must have a maximum of 20% of total proposed easement area in agricultural use unless such areas are targeted for restoration; consideration to exceed this cap may be warranted if the easement is donated.
- 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; or, consideration may be given to lands not containing high quality examples that lie adjacent to critically important protected properties if restoration is a required element of the easement.
- 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										
Existing Ecological Significance	Units Affected	Scoring framework for prioritizing conservation value among applicants through an RFP process.								
	1. Size/Abundance of Habitat Protected by Easement (Maximum 100 pts)									
	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								
	2. Diversity/Quality of Natural Resources to be Protected by the Easement (Maximum 100 pts)									
	0	Average quality of existing native plant communities								
	0	Number and quality of rare species on parcel; rarity of the species								
	3. Landscape Context (Maximum 100 pts)									
	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								
	Total Score (Maximum 300 pts)									
Cost	Score									
	4. Cost									
	0	Bid amount (\$)/acre								
	0	Estimated Donative value (\$)/acre								
Revised Scoring of Applications Following Discussion with Landowner										
Potential Impacts by Landowner	Score Adjustments (+/-)	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.								
	5. Size/Abundance of Habitat Protected by Easement									
	0	Total acres of native plant community or extent of target feature impacted by retained rights or proposed actions if exercised.								
	6. Diversity/Quality of Natural Resources to be Protected by the Easement									
	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.								
0	REVISED BIODIVERSITY SIGNIFICANCE SCORE									

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

Comparison Report

Program Title: 2018 - Metro Big Rivers Phase 8
Organization: MN Valley Trust (Metro Big Rivers)
Manager: Deborah Loon

Budget

Requested Amount: \$8,217,000
 Appropriated Amount: \$2,630,000
 Percentage: 32.01%

Budget Item	Total Requested		Total Appropriated		Percentage of Request	
	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Appropriated Amount	Anticipated Leverage	Percentage of Request	Percentage of Leverage
Personnel	\$481,300	\$234,100	\$193,200	\$118,100	40.14%	50.45%
Contracts	\$1,949,500	\$526,500	\$969,900	\$526,100	49.75%	99.92%
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	-	-
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	\$1,989,500	\$750,000	\$493,000	\$250,000	24.78%	33.33%
Easement Acquisition	\$3,150,000	\$945,000	\$700,000	\$210,000	22.22%	22.22%
Easement Stewardship	\$240,000	\$0	\$120,000	\$0	50.00%	-
Travel	\$21,700	\$0	\$9,600	\$0	44.24%	-
Professional Services	\$201,500	\$0	\$69,000	\$0	34.24%	-
Direct Support Services	\$88,500	\$0	\$29,600	\$0	33.45%	-
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	\$10,500	\$0	\$7,000	\$0	66.67%	-
Capital Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	\$19,000	\$0	\$11,000	\$0	57.89%	-
Supplies/Materials	\$65,500	\$14,300	\$27,700	\$8,500	42.29%	59.44%
DNR IDP	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	-	-
Total	\$8,217,000	\$2,469,900	\$2,630,000	\$1,112,700	32.01%	45.05%

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

We have reduced the outputs accordingly.

Output

Table 1a. Acres by Resource Type

Type	Total Proposed	Total in AP	Percentage of Proposed
Restore	30	0	0.00%
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	0	-
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	400	100	25.00%
Protect in Easement	640	130	20.31%
Enhance	1,527	700	45.84%

Table 2. Total Funding by Resource Type

Type	Total Proposed	Total in AP	Percentage of Proposed
Restore	106,300	0	0.00%
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	0	-
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	2,000,000	500,000	25.00%
Protect in Easement	3,931,700	992,500	25.24%
Enhance	2,179,000	1,137,500	52.20%

Table 3. Acres within each Ecological Section

Type	Total Proposed	Total in AP	Percentage of Proposed
Restore	30	0	0.00%
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	0	-
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	400	100	25.00%
Protect in Easement	640	130	20.31%
Enhance	1,527	700	45.84%

Table 4. Total Funding within each Ecological Section

Type	Total Proposed	Total in AP	Percentage of Proposed
Restore	106,300	0	0.00%
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	0	-
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	2,000,000	500,000	25.00%
Protect in Easement	3,931,700	992,500	25.24%
Enhance	2,179,000	1,137,500	52.20%