

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

Fiscal Year 2019 / ML 2018 Request for Funding



Date: May 30, 2017

Program or Project Title: Camp Ripley Sentinel Landscape ACUB Protection Program - Phase VII

Funds Requested: \$3,207,000

Manager's Name: Helen McLennan

Title: Director

Organization: Morrison SWCD

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County Locations: Crow Wing

Regions in which work will take place:

- Northern Forest
- Forest / Prairie Transition

Activity types:

- Protect in Easement
- Protect in Fee

Priority resources addressed by activity:

- Wetlands
- Forest

Abstract:

This Phase 7 continuation of the RIM Camp Ripley Sentinel Landscap ACUB Partnership will utilize permanent conservation easements to acquire 1,320 acres of high quality habitat along the Crow Wing, Gull, Nokasippi, and Mississippi River corridors. Approximately 22 easements will be secured within the project area. BWSR will utilize the RIM Easement process in partnership with the Morrison SWCD to secure easements on sites within Crow Wing, Cass, and Morrison Counties during the appropriation term. In addition The Conservation Fund will acquire 117-ac. in fee from Tiller Corp. then transfer to DNR Little Nokasippi River WMA

Design and scope of work:

The purpose of this initiative is to protect approximately 1,320 acres of fish, game, migratory bird, and forest habitat along the Crow Wing, Gull, Nokasippi, and Mississippi River corridors within an approximately five mile radius of Camp Ripley. Phase 7 of this successful project plans to secure approximately 22 permanent conservation easements, utilizing partnerships with Camp Ripley, a State Game Refuge, the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) and the Morrison Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD). Easement acquisition will occur in those portions of Morrison, Crow Wing, and Cass County that lie within this five mile radius.

Easement acquisition in this area will protect these river corridors, which are critical to the general public for fishing, hunting, and recreational opportunities. The Nokasippi River and Gull River Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) lie within this area and will benefit from the maintained corridor connectivity seen through this protection effort. In addition, this corridor is instrumental to the State of Minnesota, MN National Guard (MNNG) and National Guard Bureau (NGB), local economy, the National Mississippi River Flyway, and Mississippi Headwaters Board.

Fee acquisition is focused upon the approximately 125-acre Tiller Tract that would be a critical addition to the Little Nokasippi River WMA. This parcel, part of which was a gravel pit, is an inholding that limits the ability to sustainably manage the WMA as long as it is in private ownership.

Parcels are targeted that have quality existing habitat, protect corridors and large habitat complexes and reduce future fragmentation. Evaluation criteria include ecological and habitat factors for resident and migratory wildlife species. The target area has been limited to ensure a concentration of easement acquisitions that provide landscape scale benefits and will allow for protection of some very large forested parcels that are in imminent threat of conversion.

The forested region of these three counties is where agriculture transitions to state forested lands. Thousands of acres just outside of this work area are being converted from forest to annual cropping, primarily for potato production. Forests not only provide critical wildlife habitat for furbearing animals and turkeys, the forests lessen the impact of water quality contamination from agricultural practices. This region of the state, most specifically Morrison County, is the fastest growing county in the state for the loss of grazing land to annual cropping. The loss of forests would exaggerate that problem even more. Drinking water standards in the area are also in jeopardy with the increase in irrigation and large scale livestock operations, so protecting the forested lands has become a critical issue.

In 2016, Camp Ripley was designated as a federal Sentinel Landscape, one of six in the nation. This designation by both State and Federal entities coordinates strategies to protect this landscape. Many agencies will be identifying their scope of priorities within the Sentinel Landscape ten-mile boundary. As one of the strategies of this Sentinel Landscape effort, this proposal seizes the opportunity to expand the Camp Ripley ACUB borders to a five miles for easements.

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

- H1 Protect priority land habitats
- H2 Protect critical shoreland of streams and lakes

Which other plans are addressed in this proposal:

- Minnesota Forest Resource Council Landscape Plans
- Outdoor Heritage Fund: A 25 Year Framework

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

MFRC Landscape Plans recommend a strategy of large blocks of contiguous forest land that have minimal inclusion of conflicting land uses will be created and/or retained for natural resource and ecological benefits and to minimize land use conflicts. The prioritization of this project area boundary will limit fragmentation and ensure contiguous forest land protection. Several of the permanent easement sites secured through this Program will protect sensitive and/or undeveloped shoreline along the Crow Wing, Gull, Nokasippi, and Mississippi Rivers.

The 25 Year Framework expects an outcome that forestlands are protected from development and fragmentation. This Program will secure 1,320 acres of high quality habitat to restrict future development, sustain habitat connectivity, and maintain large forested habitat blocks within the project area.

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:

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

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:

Development pressure along this vulnerable corridor will continue. In the Northern Forest section, forest-based wildlife habitat has experienced substantial decline in recent decades. Securing permanent RIM easements will protect habitat and forestland from further parcelization and fragmentation, as well as forest to cropland conversion, especially irrigated agriculture.

The shallow lakes, habitat complexes, and shoreland that provide critical habitat for game and nongame wildlife in the Forest/Prairie Transition section are also at risk. These river corridors are very vulnerable to habitat degradation through development and forest to cropland conversion. The Hwy 371 Little Falls to Brainerd corridor is projected to have some of the highest growth rates outside the

metropolitan area. According to the 2010 US Census Bureau, the City of Baxter's population has increased 37 percent and Cass County's population increased by 5 percent from 2000 to 2010. Impervious surface cover has increased in Sylvan, Crow Wing, and Fort Ripley townships over the last 10 years with much of the development near the Gull, Mississippi, and Crow Wing Rivers (UMN Land Cover 1990-2000). The majority of the lakes have exhausted available development space leaving these major rivers vulnerable to new development.

Securing 1,320 acres under permanent easements through this Program will protect these important habitat corridors, providing multiple benefits in the face of climate change and other major stressors. Additionally, the acquisition of the Tiller Parcel is critical to the protection and management of the existing investment of LSOHC funds in the Little Nokasippi River WMA.

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:

Parcels are targeted that have quality existing habitat, protect corridors and large habitat complexes and will reduce future fragmentation. Evaluation criteria include ecological and habitat factors for resident and migratory wildlife species. The target area has been limited to ensure a concentration of easement acquisitions that provide landscape scale benefits. The target work area also contains high value existing habitat and public access via existing WMAs that are being buffered with easements.

The MN County Biological survey has identified several native plant communities within this project area that are vulnerable to extirpation, as well as sites with existing high biodiversity. Most of these identified areas lie within the northern extent of this 5 mile boundary, which also happens to face high development pressure due to its proximity to the cities of Baxter & Brainerd. Protecting these parcels is a high priority for the ACUB Program.

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:

These lands provide habitat for several Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN), which include the Northern Long-Eared Bat (threatened), Bald Eagle, and Gray Wolf. There are a total of 65 SGCN found on Camp Ripley. Camp Ripley is home to one of the southern-most wolf populations in Minnesota and the state's highest population of Red-shouldered Hawks. In a 2006 study at Camp Ripley, it was found that the amount of mature deciduous forest was positively associated with Red-shouldered Hawk nest sites.

MN DNR 2009 and 2010 fish surveys on the Crow Wing River (Staples to confluence of Mississippi) and Mississippi River (Brainerd to Little Falls) indicate high quality fish communities of Walleye, Muskellunge, and Small-mouth Bass.

The majority of the project area falls within the Anoka Sand Plain and the Hardwood Hills Ecological Subsections. Currently much of the Hardwood Hills subsection is farmed. Important areas of forest and prairie exist, but they are small and fragmented. Urban development and agriculture occur in 1/3 of the Anoka Sand Plain. This project seeks to protect remaining lands from the threat of development or agricultural pressure, as well as sustain the current connectivity of these habitats.

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

DNR staff, in consultation with a variety of experts in NGOs and other agencies, have compiled a select group of indicator species and associated quantities to be used by any applicant to answer the question above.

Ovenbird

Ovenbirds (*Seiurus aurocapilla*) are found in upland forests statewide; typically in relatively mature forest but can also be found in younger forests. This species has been identified as a priority species to monitor, as an indication of the health of mature forest uplands, within the area represented by the LSOHC Northern Forest planning section. While territories vary in size and may overlap, an average of 10 pairs for every 10 hectares may be translated to roughly 16 pairs for every 40 acres.

White-tailed deer

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. Deer have also been suggested as potential ecological indicators for forest systems. 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 or roughly 1 deer (pre-fawning) for every 50 acres of land.

Outcomes:

Programs in the northern forest region:

- Forestlands are protected from development and fragmentation. A summary of the total of wetland acres and associated forest land secured under easement through this appropriation will be reported. On-site inspections are performed every three years and compliance

checks are performed in the other two years to ensure maintained outcomes. Sustained habitat availability within a certain region is expected to maintain the carrying capacity of associated wildlife within that region. This would affect both game and nongame species. We expect sustained populations of endangered, threatened, special concern and game species as these easements are secured.

Programs in forest-prairie transition region:

- Rivers and streams provide corridors of habitat including intact areas of forest cover in the east and large wetland/upland complexes in the west. A summary of the total of wetland acres and associated forest land secured under easement through this appropriation will be reported. On-site inspections are performed every three years and compliance checks are performed in the other two years to ensure maintained outcomes. Sustained habitat availability within a certain region is expected to maintain the carrying capacity of associated wildlife within that region. This would affect both game and nongame species. We expect sustained populations of endangered, threatened, special concern and game species as these easements are secured.

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

Once a RIM easement is acquired, BWSR is responsible for monitoring and enforcement into perpetuity. The BWSR partners with local SWCDs to carry-out oversight, monitoring and enforcement of its conservation easements. Easements are monitored for the first five consecutive years beginning in the year after the easement is recorded. Thereafter, on-site monitoring is performed every three years and compliance checks are performed in the other two years. SWCDs report to BWSR on each site inspection conducted and partners' staff document findings. A non-compliance procedure is implemented when potential violations or problems are identified.

Perpetual monitoring and stewardship costs have been calculated at \$6,500 per easement. This value is based on using local SWCD staff for monitoring and landowner relations and existing enforcement authorities. The amount listed for Easement Stewardship covers costs of the SWCD regular monitoring, BWSR oversight, and enforcement.

The Tiller Tract will be included in the management of the Little Nokasippi River WMA. The city/county road on the parcel is a source of erosion into the river. Camp Ripely will coordinate with the city of Fort Ripley to move the road back from the river as additional project leverage, not an OHF cost.

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

Year	Source of Funds	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3
2018-Ongoing	Stewardship Account	Compliance Checks first 5 years then every 3rd year.	Corrective actions of any violations.	Enforcement Action taken by MN Attorney Generals office.
2018-Ongoing	Landowner Responsibility	Maintain compliance with easement terms.		
2018-Ongoing	Camp Ripley	Road relocation & initial restoration		

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

Morrison, Crow Wing and Cass counties are transition areas where agriculture gives way to forests. Increasing demand for cropland is leading to rapid loss of forested lands. Forest conversion is an intensely controversial topic in this region of the state. Thousands of acres just outside of this work area are being converted from forest to annual cropping, primarily for potato production. This region of the state, most specifically Morrison County has the fastest conversion rate from forest to row crop production of any county within the state. Drinking water in the area is also in jeopardy with the increase in irrigation and large scale livestock operations, so protecting the forested lands has become a critical issue. The opportunity to protect significant parcels of forest and riparian lands in this area is rapidly diminishing and will disappear altogether within the next few years.

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

This proposal seeks to build on the previous successes that OHF Phases 1-6 were able to provide, building upon the connectivity and habitat protection efforts of past appropriations. Furthermore, from 2010 through 2015, Camp Ripley partnership had huge success with the LSOHC Little Nokasippi WMA project. The partnership enrolled 3,074.7 acres into conservation easements, increased public access to the WMA by 262 acres, and buffered the WMA from future development. This project will utilize lessons learned from the 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015 LSOHC grants and will complement the MN DNR Gull River WMA.

Since 2004, the Department of Defense (DOD) and National Guard Bureau (NGB) have been working with willing landowners to limit incompatible land uses within the ACUB area. The federal easement program is designed to preserve the working and rural character of these private lands, while considering habitat benefits or protection. The state Sentinel Landscape designation in 2015 and federal

Sentinel Landscape designation in 2016 will coordinate and leverage protection and practices within the Camp Ripley Sentinel Landscape project area. CRSL federal funding also supported \$150,000 for a coordinator position.

Relationship to other funds:

- Environmental and Natural Resource Trust Fund
- Clean Water Fund
- DOD and NGB

Describe the relationship of the funds:

Due to the success of the Camp Ripley Partnership, the MN Legislature passed the Sentinel Landscape Designation in 2015. This law will formalize a process that we have used for years to enhance the effect of the ACUB Program and it will complement a national direction of the Department of Defense. Establishing Sentinel Landscapes in state law enabled the federal Sentinel Landscape designation in 2016 allowing the program to better compete for federal funding from agencies beyond just the Department of Defense. It will also better align federal and state programs that could support private landowners in a Sentinel Landscape. This Sentinel Landscapes can be defined as preserving the working and rural character of our private lands, which is important for both national defense and conservation priorities. This is the first such designation of a National Guard facility and only the 6th designated Sentinel Landscape in the country. This Camp Ripley Sentinel Landscape partnership has secured \$2.8M federal funding through the Regional Conservation Partnership Program of NRCS for EQIP , CSP and Healthy Forest Reserve Program starting 2017.

The SWCD offices in Crow Wing and Morrison Counties have applied for Clean Water Funds and LCCMR funds to assist landowners with forest stewardship planning, nutrient management planning, and most importantly drainage management. The counties utilize all resources available to enhance the easement properties. Our additional partners and efforts include USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), MN Forest Resource Council, local water planning, county planning and zoning offices, and US Fish and Wildlife Service.

The Farm Bill Assistance Partnership (FBAP) with BWSR, DNR, PF, NRCS, MASWCD, and SWCDs as primary partners, provides funding to SWCDs to utilize technicians to promote the conservation provisions of the Federal Farm Bill and other conservation program opportunities to private landowners. The Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) via LCCMR recommendations provided \$1.0M in FY10-11, \$625,000 in FY12-13, \$3.0M in FY 14-15 and \$1.0M in FY 16-17.

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

Appropriation Year	Source	Amount
2007 - Present	Department of Defense (DOD)/National Guard Bureau (NGB)	\$24,882,881
2010 - Present	LCCMR	\$160,000

Activity Details

Requirements:

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

Will local government approval be sought prior to acquisition - **No**

All counties within the Camp Ripley Sentinel Landscape have been briefed directly and have of record resolutions of support for the ACUB RIM easement program. The fee acquisition site was approved by Crow Wing County resolution as a boundary approval when the Little Nokasippi WMA was first developed/started in 2006. Since both programs (ACUB-RIM easement and DNR WMA) began, biennial public meetings, multiple field trip events and celebrations have occurred that invited public and local official participation. The Camp Ripley Sentinel Landscape program is well embraced by local government and by state and federal partners as well.

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

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

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

Are the funds confirmed - **Yes**

[Documentation](#)

What are the types of funds?

Cash Match - \$412500

Land Use:

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

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

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

The fee acquisition of the Tiller site will be added to the DNR Little Nokasippi WMA and will be managed open to the public per WMA Management Plan.

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:

This appropriation is funding a program that will have a parcel list identified at a later time. Roads or trails are typically excluded from the easement area if they serve no beneficial purpose to easement maintenance, monitoring, or enforcement. This question is being answered with utmost flexibility in absence of a LSOHC definition of trails and specified trail types (permanent or temporary, beneficial for maintenance, animal trails, etc.).

The Tiller site has road access to the city of Fort Ripley cemetery, used by the city. The plan is to work with Tiller to donate that southerly 6-acres to the city of Fort Ripley and not include that in the WMA tract. The rest of the Tiller property has been privately owned and posted for no trespassing to date. No trails or trail corridors are planned for the site.

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

How will maintenance and monitoring be accomplished:

The easements secured under this project will be managed as part of the MN Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) RIM Reserve Program that has over 6,500 easements currently in place. Easements are monitored annually for each of the first 5 years and then every 3rd year after that. BWSR, in cooperation with Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD), implement a stewardship process to track, monitor quality and assure compliance with easement terms.

Under the terms of the Reinvest In Minnesota (RIM) Easement Program, landowners are required to maintain compliance with the easement. A conservation plan is developed with the landowner and maintained as part of each easement. Basic easement compliance costs are borne by the landowner, periodic enhancements may be cost shared from a variety of sources.

The Tiller site acquisition will be maintained and actively managed by DNR WMA staff, Brainerd area office.

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:

Though uncommon, there could be a potential for new trails to be developed, if they contribute to easement maintenance or benefit the easement site (e.g. firebreaks, berm maintenance, etc). This question is being answered with utmost flexibility in absence of a LSOHC definition of trails and specified trail types (permanent or temporary, beneficial for maintenance, animal trails, etc.).

The same answer would apply to the Tiller site acquisition. Only as a function of WMA management would fire breaks be developed or similar management needs.

How will maintenance and monitoring be accomplished:

The easements secured under this project will be managed as part of the MN Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) RIM Reserve Program that has over 6,500 easements currently in place. Easements are monitored annually for each of the first 5 years and then every 3rd year after that. BWSR, in cooperation with Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD), implement a stewardship process to track, monitor quality and assure compliance with easement terms.

Under the terms of the Reinvest In Minnesota (RIM) Easement Program, landowners are required to maintain compliance with the easement. A conservation plan is developed with the landowner and maintained as part of each easement. Basic easement compliance

costs are borne by the landowner, periodic enhancements may be cost shared from a variety of sources.

The Tiller site acquisition would be managed and monitored by DNR WMA staff, Brainerd office

Accomplishment Timeline

Activity	Approximate Date Completed
Obtain applications from eligible landowners	June 30, 2018
Allocations to specific parcels	July 30, 2018
Easements recorded	June 30, 2020
Final report submitted	November 1, 2020
Purchase of Tiller Tract and transfer into DNR ownership	August 2018

Budget Spreadsheet

Total Amount of Request: \$3,207,000

Budget and Cash Leverage

BudgetName	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	\$185,500	\$0		\$185,500
Contracts	\$46,200	\$0		\$46,200
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	\$137,500	\$412,500	Department of Defense	\$550,000
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	\$0	\$0		\$0
Easement Acquisition	\$2,494,700	\$0		\$2,494,700
Easement Stewardship	\$143,000	\$0		\$143,000
Travel	\$5,300	\$0		\$5,300
Professional Services	\$127,500	\$0		\$127,500
Direct Support Services	\$52,500	\$0		\$52,500
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	\$5,000	\$0		\$5,000
Capital Equipment	\$0	\$0		\$0
Other Equipment/Tools	\$7,500	\$0		\$7,500
Supplies/Materials	\$2,300	\$0		\$2,300
DNR IDP	\$0	\$0		\$0
Total	\$3,207,000	\$412,500		\$3,619,500

Personnel

Position	FTE	Over # of years	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
State Director	0.15	1.00	\$30,000	\$0		\$30,000
Program Management	0.25	3.50	\$96,300	\$0		\$96,300
Easement Processing	0.28	3.00	\$59,200	\$0		\$59,200
Total	0.68	7.50	\$185,500	\$0		\$185,500

Budget and Cash Leverage by Partnership

BudgetName	Partnership	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	Morrison SWCD	\$0	\$0		\$0
Contracts	Morrison SWCD	\$0	\$0		\$0
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	Morrison SWCD	\$0	\$0		\$0
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	Morrison SWCD	\$0	\$0		\$0
Easement Acquisition	Morrison SWCD	\$0	\$0		\$0
Easement Stewardship	Morrison SWCD	\$0	\$0		\$0
Travel	Morrison SWCD	\$0	\$0		\$0
Professional Services	Morrison SWCD	\$112,500	\$0		\$112,500
Direct Support Services	Morrison SWCD	\$0	\$0		\$0
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	Morrison SWCD	\$0	\$0		\$0
Capital Equipment	Morrison SWCD	\$0	\$0		\$0
Other Equipment/Tools	Morrison SWCD	\$0	\$0		\$0
Supplies/Materials	Morrison SWCD	\$0	\$0		\$0
DNR IDP	Morrison SWCD	\$0	\$0		\$0
Total		\$112,500	\$0		\$112,500

BudgetName	Partnership	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	The Conservation Fund	\$30,000	\$0		\$30,000
Contracts	The Conservation Fund	\$0	\$0		\$0
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	The Conservation Fund	\$137,500	\$412,500	Department of Defense	\$550,000
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	The Conservation Fund	\$0	\$0		\$0
Easement Acquisition	The Conservation Fund	\$0	\$0		\$0
Easement Stewardship	The Conservation Fund	\$0	\$0		\$0
Travel	The Conservation Fund	\$0	\$0		\$0
Professional Services	The Conservation Fund	\$15,000	\$0		\$15,000
Direct Support Services	The Conservation Fund	\$19,500	\$0		\$19,500
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	The Conservation Fund	\$5,000	\$0		\$5,000
Capital Equipment	The Conservation Fund	\$0	\$0		\$0

Other Equipment/Tools	The Conservation Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0
Supplies/Materials	The Conservation Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0
DNR IDP	The Conservation Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total		\$207,000	\$412,500	\$619,500

Personnel - The Conservation Fund

Position	FTE	Over # of years	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
State Director	0.15	1.00	\$30,000	\$0		\$30,000
Total	0.15	1.00	\$30,000	\$0		\$30,000

Budget Name	Partnership	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	BWSR	\$155,500	\$0		\$155,500
Contracts	BWSR	\$46,200	\$0		\$46,200
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	BWSR	\$0	\$0		\$0
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	BWSR	\$0	\$0		\$0
Easement Acquisition	BWSR	\$2,494,700	\$0		\$2,494,700
Easement Stewardship	BWSR	\$143,000	\$0		\$143,000
Travel	BWSR	\$5,300	\$0		\$5,300
Professional Services	BWSR	\$0	\$0		\$0
Direct Support Services	BWSR	\$33,000	\$0		\$33,000
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	BWSR	\$0	\$0		\$0
Capital Equipment	BWSR	\$0	\$0		\$0
Other Equipment/Tools	BWSR	\$7,500	\$0		\$7,500
Supplies/Materials	BWSR	\$2,300	\$0		\$2,300
DNR IDP	BWSR	\$0	\$0		\$0
Total		\$2,887,500	\$0		\$2,887,500

Personnel - BWSR

Position	FTE	Over # of years	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Program Management	0.25	3.50	\$96,300	\$0		\$96,300
Easement Processing	0.28	3.00	\$59,200	\$0		\$59,200
Total	0.53	6.50	\$155,500	\$0		\$155,500

Amount of Request: \$3,207,000
Amount of Leverage: \$412,500
Leverage as a percent of the Request: 12.86%
DSS + Personnel: \$238,000
As a % of the total request: 7.42%
Easement Stewardship: \$143,000
As a % of the Easement Acquisition: 5.73%

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

BWSR calculates direct support services costs that are directly related to and necessary for each request based on the type of work being done. The Conservation Fund budgets the total of DSS and professional services as 9% of purchase price, but will only bill for actual hours spent on the project.

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

R/E is not included with this project.

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:

The travel line will only be used for traditional travel costs.

Describe and explain leverage source and confirmation of funds:

There is no direct leverage for this project. This project would contribute to the goals of the Sentinel Landscape initiative. However, to date the Federal government has contributed \$24,882,881 to other protection projects within the Sentinel Landscape project area.

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:

A reduction in funding would reduce outputs proportionally for the most part. Program management costs would be the exception, due to program development & oversight remaining somewhat consistent regardless of appropriation amount.

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	125	0	125
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Easement	132	0	1,188	0	1,320
Enhance	0	0	0	0	0
Total	132	0	1,313	0	1,445

Table 2. Total Requested Funding by Resource Type

Type	Wetlands	Prairies	Forest	Habitats	Total
Restore	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$207,000	\$0	\$207,000
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Easement	\$300,000	\$0	\$2,700,000	\$0	\$3,000,000
Enhance	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total	\$300,000	\$0	\$2,907,000	\$0	\$3,207,000

Table 3. Acres within each Ecological Section

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	Northern Forest	Total
Restore	0	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	125	0	0	0	125
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	0	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Easement	0	660	0	0	660	1,320
Enhance	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	785	0	0	660	1,445

Table 4. Total Requested Funding within each Ecological Section

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	Northern Forest	Total
Restore	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	\$0	\$207,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$207,000
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Easement	\$0	\$1,500,000	\$0	\$0	\$1,500,000	\$3,000,000
Enhance	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total	\$0	\$1,707,000	\$0	\$0	\$1,500,000	\$3,207,000

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	\$1,656	\$0
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Easement	\$2,273	\$0	\$2,273	\$0
Enhance	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Table 6. Average Cost per Acre by Ecological Section

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	Northern Forest
Restore	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	\$0	\$1,656	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Easement	\$0	\$2,273	\$0	\$0	\$2,273
Enhance	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Target Lake/Stream/River Feet or Miles

8 miles

I have read and understand Section 15 of the Constitution of the State of Minnesota, Minnesota Statute 97A.056, and the Call for Funding Request. I certify I am authorized to submit this proposal and to the best of my knowledge the information provided is true and accurate.

Parcel List

Explain the process used to select, rank and prioritize the parcels:

Parcels are targeted that have quality existing habitat, protect corridors and large habitat complexes and reduce future fragmentation. Evaluation criteria include ecological and habitat factors for resident and migratory wildlife species. The target area has been limited to ensure a concentration of easement acquisitions that provide landscape scale benefits.

Camp Ripley ranks the parcels with their formula, but LSOHC dollars target forested parcels, riparian (Crow Wing, Mississippi or tributaries to either) lands, and/or lands surrounding the proposed Gull River WMA and the continued work of the Nokasippi WMA Buffer.

In addition, the expanded 5 mile radius will capture large land forested parcels throughout the ACUB zone to prevent the conversion of forests to non-forest uses.

Section 1 - Restore / Enhance Parcel List

No parcels with an activity type restore or enhance.

Section 2 - Protect Parcel List

Crow Wing

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
Tiller	04332226	59	\$100,000	No	Full	Full
Tiller	04332227	65	\$107,000	No	Full	Full

Section 2a - Protect Parcel with Bldgs

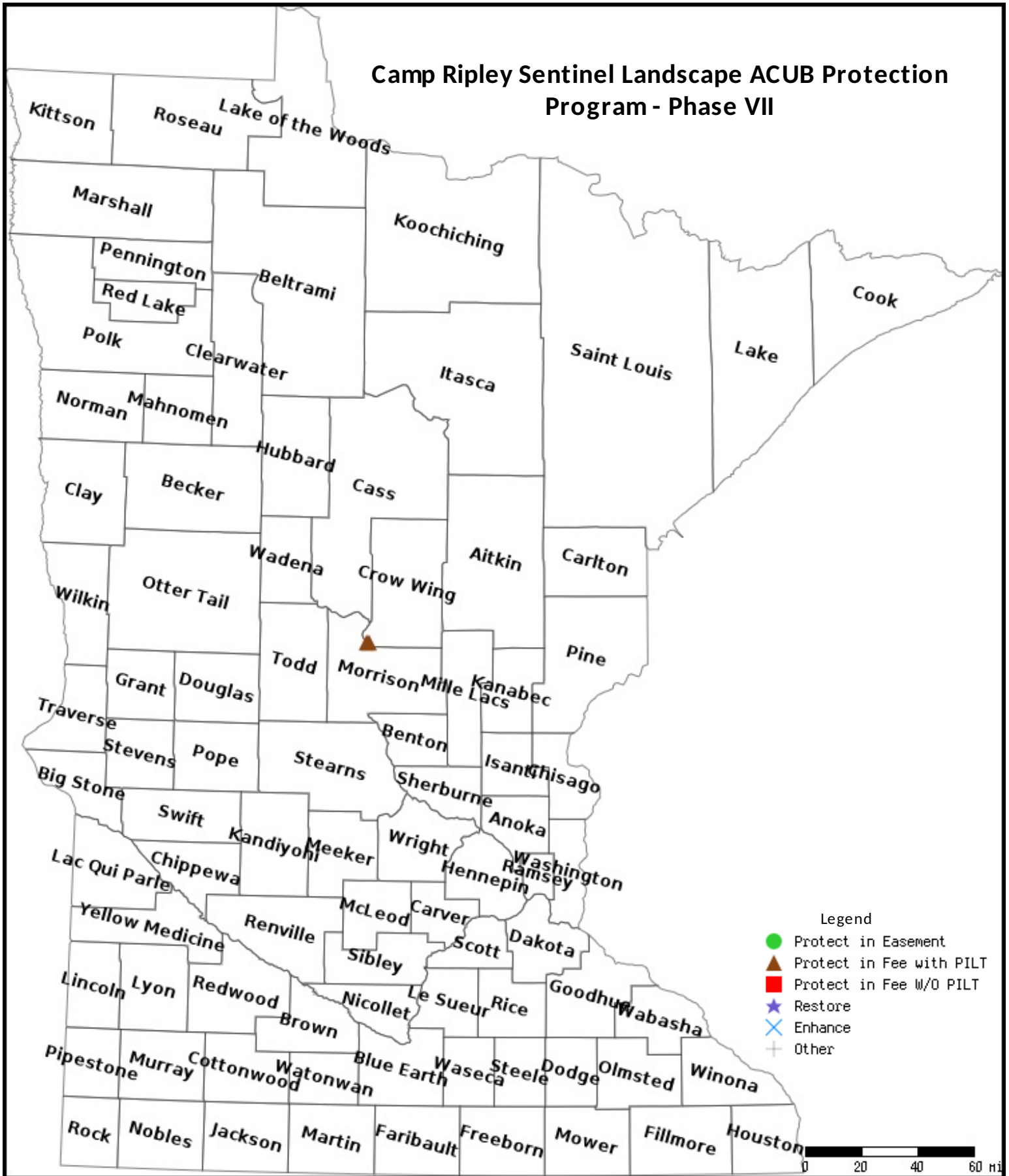
No parcels with an activity type protect and has buildings.

Section 3 - Other Parcel Activity

No parcels with an other activity type.

Parcel Map

Camp Ripley Sentinel Landscape ACUB Protection Program - Phase VII

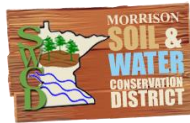


Data Generated From Parcel List



Camp Ripley Sentinel Landscape Partnership: ACUB Phase 7

CAMP RIPLEY
SENTINEL LANDSCAPE



THE
CONSERVATION FUND



May 2017

Phase 7 Request

- \$3,207,000 request
- Protects 1,320 targeted acres of habitat within 5-mile radius of Camp Ripley with RIM easements
- Protects 117-ac. addition to the Little Nokasippi River Wildlife Management Area
- Permanently protects resources while private ownership continues
- Target area includes Crow Wing, Gull, Nokasippi, and Mississippi River corridors
- Parcels are targeted that have/or serve to:
 - quality existing habitat
 - protect corridors and large habitat complexes
 - reduce future fragmentation
 - buffer or add to public land assets



ACUB allows for protection of large forested parcels that are in imminent threat of conversion to cropland.

A Piece of the Sentinel Landscape Mosaic

- In 2016 Camp Ripley was federally designated as a Sentinel Landscape; one of only six in the nation
- Coordinates all Federal, State, and local efforts to protect this area in a broader 10-mile radius (previously 3-miles)
- LSOHC ACUB appropriations have historically focused on a 3-mile radius, Phase 7 now expanded to 5 miles
 - Federal REPI/State leverage of funds coordination
 - extends habitat along existing river corridors
 - protects native plant communities identified in the MN Biological Survey

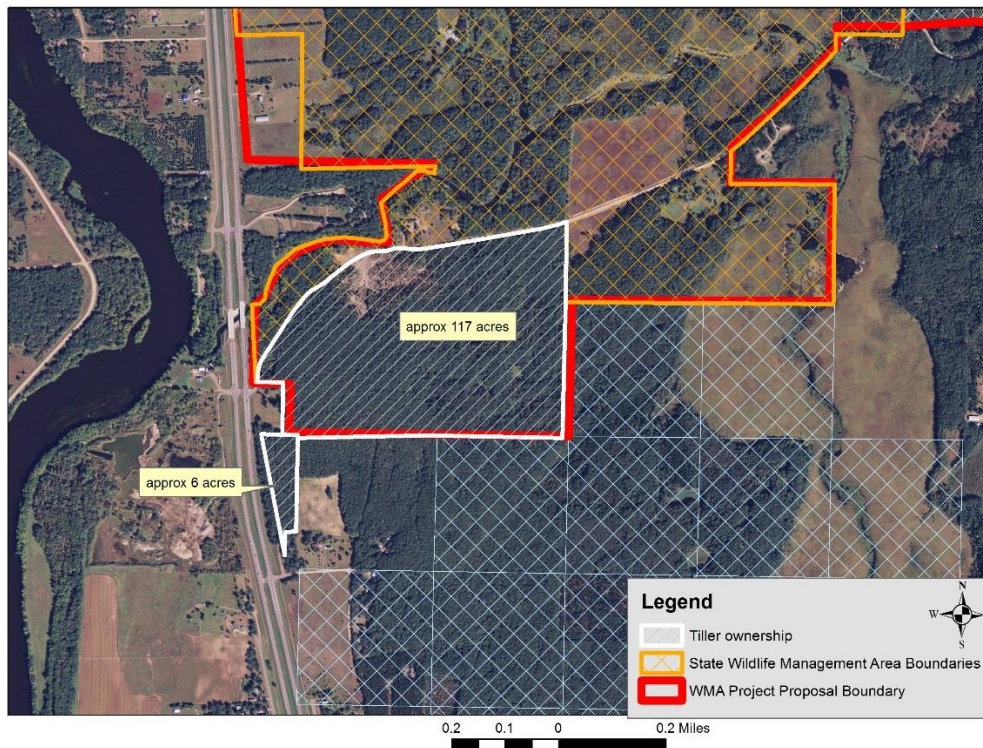


Minnesota's largest red-shouldered hawk concentration occurs in the Camp Ripley area. Photo credit: Audubon.org.





Tiller Property available for acquisition adjacent to Little Nokasippi River WMA



This proposal targets 1,437 acres of habitat along the Crow Wing, Gull, Nokasippi, and Mississippi River Corridors. Parcels are targeted that have quality existing habitat, protect corridors and complexes, and reduce future forest fragmentation

Minnesota Army National Guard – Camp Ripley, Minnesota

Meeting the Army's Triple Bottom Line:

Mission



Environment



Community



Camp Ripley is an amazing 53,000 acre facility that has prepared our Soldiers for the battle for decades. In addition, Camp Ripley is the largest state game refuge in Minnesota. It is one of the most culturally and ecologically rich environments in the Midwest bordered by 18 miles of the most pristine shoreline along the Mississippi River.

Challenges

Encroachment is any external factor that inhibits military readiness, including but not limited to the growing competition for land, airspace, waterfront access, and frequency spectrum. Incompatible land uses can impact critical, at-risk military mission capabilities at different scales over time.

- Lights from residential and commercial development reduce the effectiveness of night-vision training;
- Complaints about the noise, dust and smoke generated by military activities not only impacts community relations but also results in restrictions on the timing, frequency, and type of training activities;
- Communication towers, wind turbines, highways, and energy transmission lines near or through training areas all hinder realistic training and testing; and
- Land development that destroys or fragments endangered species habitat pushes those species onto less developed military lands, resulting in increased restrictions on training and testing land.

These issues are important because our Nation's readiness depends on ensuring our installations and ranges provide realistic training and effective weapon systems testing. Costly workarounds and restricted or unrealistic testing and training will compromise the readiness of Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, and Marines for their combat missions. In order for military installations to remain active and contributing economic participants in their communities, the installations must have the space necessary to successfully accomplish their missions.



Aerial view of the Mississippi River adjacent to Camp Ripley

Solutions

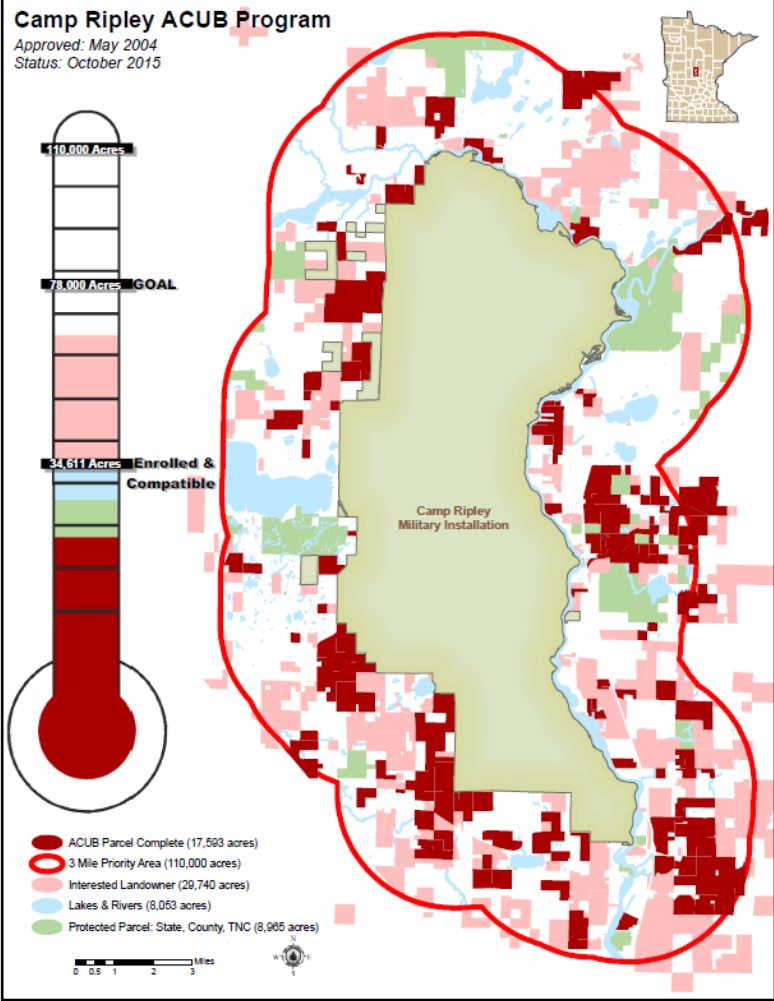
To help preserve the integrity of our country's military training and readiness programs, Congress authorized the Office of Secretary of Defense (OSD) to develop partnerships with state and nonprofit conservation organizations to address encroachment. These win-win partnerships share the cost of acquisition of easements or other interests in land from willing sellers to preserve compatible land uses and natural habitats near installations and ranges. In turn, these land transactions help sustain critical, at-risk military mission capabilities. The Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) Program also supports large landscape partnerships that advance cross-boundary solutions and link military readiness, conservation, and communities with federal, state and NGO partners through a common, collaborative framework.

Where We've Been

In 2004 and under the REPI program, Camp Ripley established its Army Compatible Use Buffer (ACUB) program, known locally as “*Central Minnesota Prairie to Pines Partnership...preserving our heritage*”. The purpose was to create and enhance a natural buffer around Camp Ripley by taking advantage of available opportunities to prevent encroachment and enhance conservation and land management. This partnership has enabled Camp Ripley to help the community maintain its rural character and provide critically important, high quality military training and operations to ensure combat readiness, as well as mitigate community development encroachment around the installation.

The local citizenry has always been very supportive of Camp Ripley and proud of the role that Camp Ripley serves in preparing our Soldiers for the battlefield. Their support is obvious from the number of landowners that have come forward voluntarily and without solicitation. The program is currently being funded primarily with OSD and National Guard Bureau funds (\$26MIL) along with Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council funds (\$5MIL). The ACUB program has completed 159 land transactions representing over 17,000 acres (red), as shown in the image on the right. Currently there are 260 landowners interested in participating in the program representing 29,740 acres as shown in pink.

“With over 17,000 acres currently in Reinvest in Minnesota Reserve (RIM) easements, our partnership is having a major impact in not only protecting the military mission, but our mission to improve and protect soil and water resources in central Minnesota.” John Jaschke, Executive Director Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources.



Camp Ripley ACUB program “Thermometer”

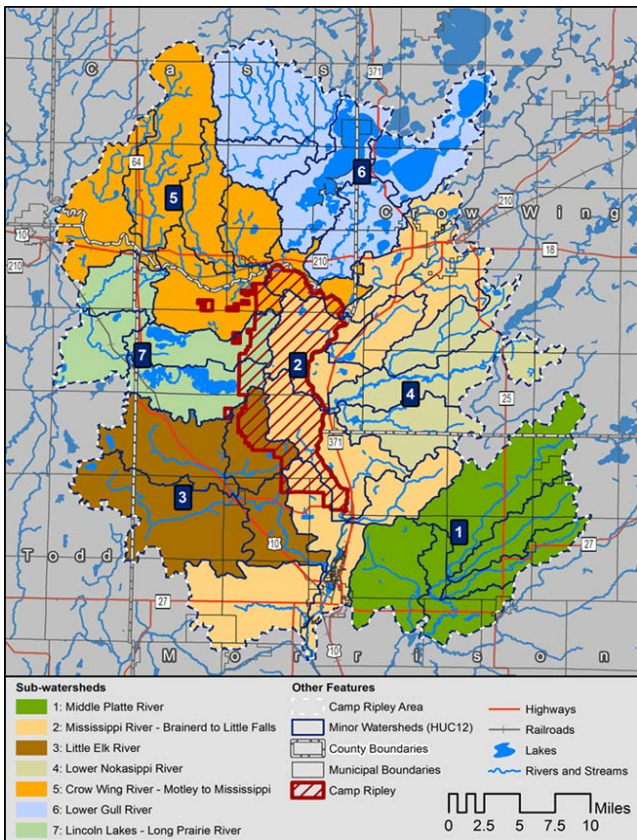
“For more than 30 years the Department of Natural Resources has worked in partnership with the Minnesota National Guard. Together, we have successfully blended natural resource conservation and restoration with high quality military training. With the addition of the Sentinel Landscape Program, our partnership has grown. The DNR is enthusiastic and committed to helping create a buffer around Camp Ripley that serves both a military mission and protects significant natural areas.”

- Tom Landwehr, Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Where We Are Going

Camp Ripley is also working with other partners as part of a Sentinel Landscape program through the OSD. The Sentinel Landscape program is intended to augment the ACUB program by supporting working lands while promoting and protecting conservation practices and protecting the military mission. Hence... "Where Missions Meet". In 2015, Camp Ripley, through state law, was designated as the first state sentinel landscape in the Nation. The designation established a state coordinating committee in March 2016. The group is comprised of State Commissioners from BWSR, DNR, Minnesota Department of Military Affairs, and Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MNDA). It has also attracted other Federal agencies such as the NRCS, USFS, and USFWS who envision enhancing their program priorities and interests that are complementary to the Camp Ripley Sentinel Landscape (CRSL).

The CRSL planning area is defined by approximately 34 minor watersheds grouped in 7 sub-watersheds within an approximate 10 mile radius from Camp Ripley. The total planning area encompasses 719,463 acres including 53,000 acres of Camp Ripley. This planning process is an outgrowth of Camp Ripley's ACUB Program to limit future incompatible land uses around Camp Ripley. To achieve the program goals, all of the organizations involved have set specific goals for the CRSL which is to protect Camp Ripley's military training mission, DNR's wildlife management areas, BWSR watersheds, and MNDA agriculture and that all the parties involved will be trying to focus their resources within an approx. 10 mile buffer of Camp Ripley. The professionals working on the ACUB program recognized that multiple natural resource benefits will be achieved through the buffer program and future benefits could be achieved by expanding conservation efforts, particularly sustainable forestry and agriculture management. To leverage and expand on the conservation work being implemented as part of the ACUB program as well as efforts on partner lands, the area for the CRSL was expanded from 3 miles to approximately a 10 mile boundary around Camp Ripley.



Camp Ripley Sentinel Landscape

What Makes This Landscape Important?

The CRSL is a diverse landscape. It was chosen because it sits at a convergence of several high quality water features, including 40 miles of the first 400 miles of the Mississippi River and four major tributaries to the river; two major continental ecological transition zones and thousands of acres of public and private conservation lands that can potentially be connected in conservation corridors. This landscape is also one of Minnesota's most important source water protection areas for drinking water. This convergence provides an excellent opportunity to protect, maintain, and restore natural and cultural resources in the CRSL. Providing multiple benefits for military, ecological, social, and economic interests, will be achieved through coordinated conservation efforts. Watersheds are not confined to political boundaries, hence, collaborative efforts across this landscape are critical to protect, maintain, and restore agriculture and forested lands resulting in cleaner water, less erosion, fish and wildlife habitat and more recreational opportunities.

Partners

The 14 partner agencies and organizations involved in the CRSL Committee are committed to using a wide array of federal and state tools and programs, which are already being used to achieve goals. The CRSL will include approximately 700,000 acres that both capture the off-post military operation use areas and partner programmatic priorities in order to leverage protection of the military mission and land conservation. The CRSL will develop strategies to implement NRCS, USFS, and USFWS programs with their associated state agency programs representing the full suite of tools from education and outreach to fee acquisition. (See Implementation Tool Box).

Educate

Improve and Manage

Acquire

#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	#8
General Advice & Assistance	Specific Advice & Assistance	Grants / Cost-share Projects	Land Use Controls	Incentive Programs to Enroll Land	Donated, Land & Easements	Purchased Easements	Fee Title Acquisition
Factsheets	Site Visits	Clean Water	Stormwater	SFIA	NGOs	LSOHC	LSOHC
Poster / Mailers	Forest	Fund	Buffers	CRP	Public	ACUB	ACUB
Workshops	Stewardship	EQIP	BMPs	Coops	Agencies	RIM	Public
Website / Social Media	Plans	CSP	County	Forest Banks		FFF	Agencies
	Project Plans		Water Plan	CREP III		NGOs	
			County			ACEP	
			Zoning			HFRP	



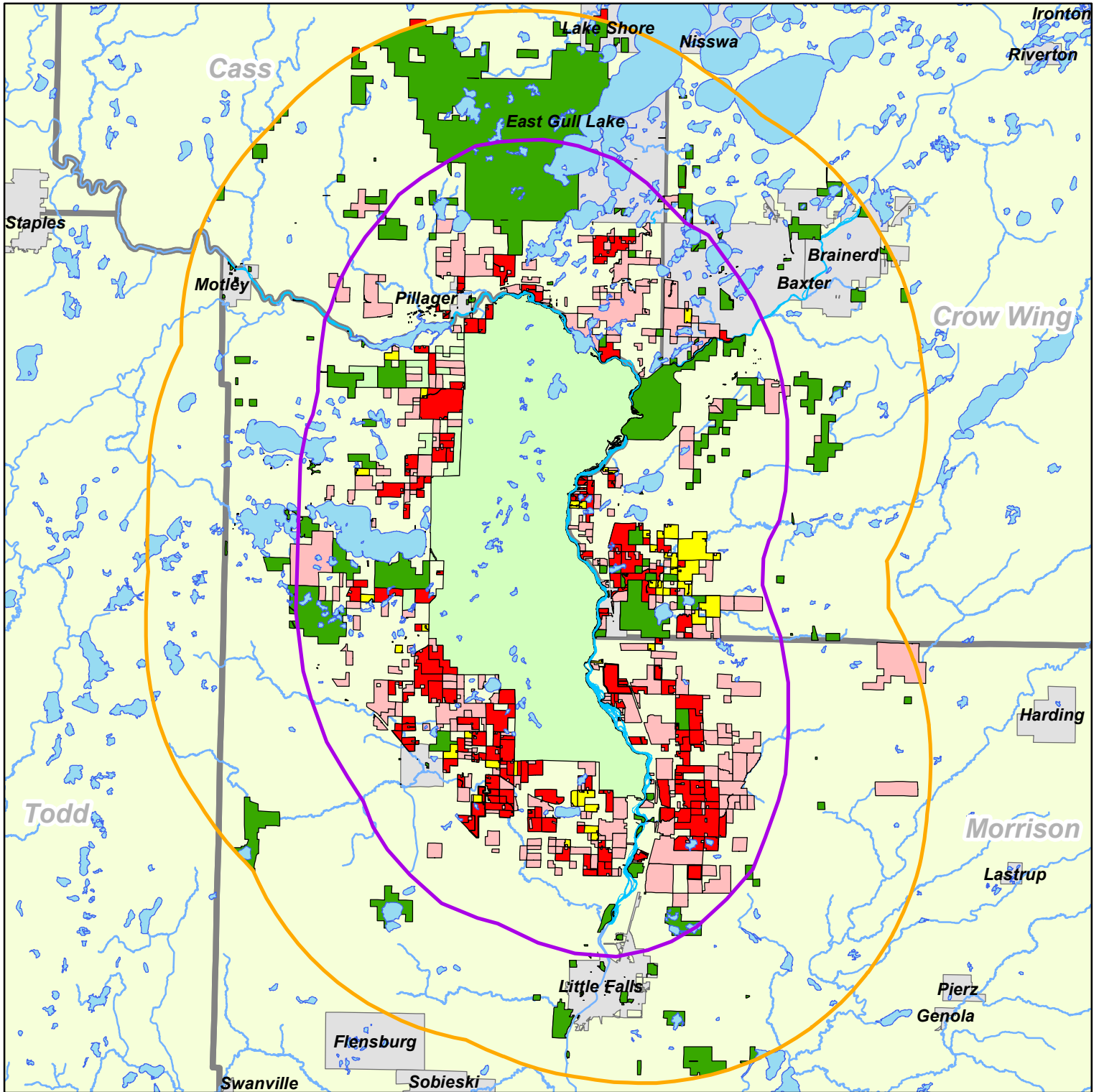
The Sentinel Landscapes are working or natural lands significant to the Nation's defense mission. Our efforts here are an important partnership opportunity to preserve the working lands through partner engagement while addressing the existence of farms, ranches, and forests viability through conservation of habitat and natural resources. The efforts here among the Federal, state, local and private agencies, organizations and associations is a positive win-win for the American people and our great state of Minnesota. Cathee Pullman MN State Conservationist, NRCS

Partners Engaged in the Camp Ripley Sentinel Landscape Committee:

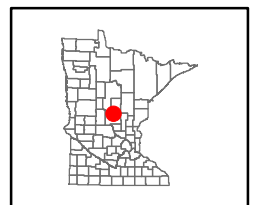
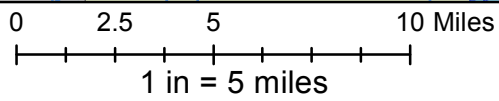
- Minnesota Department of Military Affairs
- Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
- Minnesota Department of Agriculture
- Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
- Minnesota Forest Resources Council
- United States Fish & Wildlife Service
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- The Nature Conservancy
- Morrison Soil and Water Conservation District
- Morrison County
- Crow Wing County
- Cass County
- City of Baxter
- Mississippi Headwaters Board



Camp Ripley Army Compatible Use Buffer (ACUB)



- Protected Lands DOD Funded ACUB
- Protected Lands LSOHC Funded ACUB
- Protected Compatible Lands (State/County/TNC)
- Camp Ripley Lands (State Game Refuge)
- Interested Landowner Parcels
- 10-Mile Sentinel Landscape Priority Area
- 5-Mile LSOHC Camp Ripley ACUB Priority Area
- Municipality



Maps are for graphical purposes only. They do not represent a legal survey.

LSOHC ACUB/RIM Reserve Easement (11/13)

EASEMENT # _____

**PERPETUAL ARMY COMPATIBLE USE BUFFER CONSERVATION EASEMENT
STATE OF MINNESOTA, BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES**

This conservation easement, hereinafter referred to as "Easement", is made this _____ day of _____ 20_____, between _____ hereinafter collectively referred to as "Grantors", and the State of Minnesota, by and through the Board of Water and Soil Resources, hereinafter referred to as the "State".

WITNESSETH

WHEREAS, Minn. Stat. Sec. 103F.501 et. seq., Minn. Statutes 84.95 and 84C, and Minn. Stat. Sec. 103B.101, subd. 9, authorize the State to acquire conservation easements on lands to preserve open space consistent with Camp Ripley's Army Compatible Use Buffer (ACUB) Project; AND

WHEREAS, the State is authorized to establish conservation practices to protect soil and water quality and to enhance fish and wildlife habitat on conservation easements; AND

WHEREAS, the State has entered into an agreement with the U.S. National Guard Bureau to secure easements in the ACUB Project priority areas; AND

WHEREAS, the Grantors are the owners of eligible lands within the ACUB project priority area, and desire to convey such lands as a perpetual ACUB__ conservation easement to the State of Minnesota.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Grantors, for themselves, their heirs, successors and assigns, in consideration of the sum of _____ DOLLARS

(\$_____), do hereby grant, convey and warrant to the State, its successors and assigns, forever, a perpetual easement in accordance with the terms and conditions as hereafter set forth in Minn. Stat. Sec. 103F.501 et. seq. and Minn. Stat. Sec. 103B.101, subd. 9 and all rules adopted thereto, over and upon the following described land situated in the County of _____ State of Minnesota, to-wit:

LEGAL DESCRIPTION ATTACHED HERETO AND INCORPORATED HEREIN

The Easement covers only that portion of the parcel delineated as the "EASEMENT AREA" identified on Exhibit "A", which is attached hereto and incorporated herein. The easement area consists of a total of _____ acres, of which _____ acres are not monetarily compensated but are subject to the terms of the Easement. The legal description, easement boundary, acres and payment may be refined, expanded or reduced as a result of examination of the abstract or title insurance documents, or as the result of other legal or technical requirements.

No rights are granted to the general public for access to or entry upon the lands described herein.

FURTHER, the Grantors represent and warrant that there are no hazardous substances pollutants or contaminants in or on the easement area, and that the Grantors, their heirs, successors or assigns shall not place any toxic or hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants in or on the easement area.

FURTHER, the Grantors, their heirs, successors and assigns warrant the perpetual right to access and an ingress and egress route to the easement area from a public road to allow authorized agents of the State to enter upon the easement area for the purpose of inspection and enforcement of this Easement. Access route can utilize existing driveways, field roads, etc.

FURTHER, the Grantors, for themselves, their heirs, successors and assigns warrant that they:

1. Shall establish and maintain vegetative cover and structural practices in accordance with the Conservation Plan on file at the local Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) or at the State. Conservation Plan maintenance includes any necessary replanting of vegetative cover and repair of structures. Any amendment to the Conservation Plan shall be mutually agreed to by the landowner, the SWCD and the State.
2. Shall perpetually allow for the legal manipulation of existing drainage systems and other land alterations on the easement area that are associated with establishing and managing wetland practices identified in the Conservation Plan. Water levels will be managed and controlled only by the State or its authorized agents.
3. Shall not produce agricultural crops on the easement area, except as provided in the Conservation Plan approved by the State for wildlife management purposes. Interim land uses established prior to the recording of this Conservation Easement and in accordance with the Conservation Easement Agreement, may be continued until the end of the current growing season of the year this Easement is recorded, without violating this Easement.
4. Shall not remove or harvest any trees on the easement area, except as provided in the state approved Conservation Plan for forest management and wildlife habitat improvement purposes.
5. Shall not graze livestock on the easement area unless specifically approved by the State as part of a prescribed grazing plan. Farmed cervidae are considered livestock and not wild animals for purposes of this easement. Interim grazing land use established in accordance with the Agreement for Conservation Easement and terminated within 60 days of the recording date of this Easement will not be a violation of this Easement.
6. Shall not use any wetlands restored under the RIM Reserve or PWP programs to mitigate other wetland losses.
7. Shall operate and maintain all lands in a manner that will be compatible with the mission of military operations at Camp Ripley.
8. Shall allow the underlying land subject to this easement to be subdivided only for the purpose of establishing smaller parcels of land in agricultural use or to accommodate the construction of permitted dwellings on ___ excluded building sites such that only one dwelling can be built on each excluded building site and only with the written approval of the Board.

[Note: The number of parcels above will equal the number of building site exclusions planned in the original easement.]

- 9. Shall not use the underlying land subject to this Easement to satisfy land area requirements for other property not subject to this Easement for purposes of calculating building density, lot coverage, open space, or natural resource use or extraction under otherwise applicable laws, regulations, or ordinances controlling land use, except as necessary to meet minimum lot size such that only one dwelling can be built on an excluded building site.
- 10. Shall not undertake any residential, industrial, or commercial development projects within the easement area. Normal maintenance and upgrades to existing structures shall be permitted, as well as construction of outbuildings that compliment and support the existing use as a single landowner occupied farming operation.
- 11. Shall not place any materials, substances or objects, nor erect or construct any type of structure, temporary or permanent, on the easement area, except as provided in the Conservation Plan except as provided in paragraph 8 above.
- 12. Shall not hold the State or the National Guard Bureau responsible for any negative impact on production, health or overall well-being of any present or future livestock.
- 13. Shall not use the property for dumping, storage, processing or landfill of solid or hazardous wastes, including municipal sewage sludge and/or bio-solids application.
- 14. Shall not extract or mine any gravel, rock, topsoil or minerals from the site by surface or subsurface mining.
- 15. Shall not appropriate water from any existing or restored wetlands within the easement area unless obtaining the prior written consent of the State and all necessary governmental permits.
- 16. Shall be responsible for weed control by complying with noxious weed control laws and emergency control of pests necessary to protect the public health on the easement area.
- 17. Shall not alter wildlife habitat, natural features, or other management practices on the easement area as described in the Conservation/Management Plan, without the prior written approval of the State.
- 18. Shall be responsible for the restoration of the easement area to the condition described in the Conservation/Management Plan after any lawful installation, repair, improvement or inspection necessary to maintain a public or legal private drainage system or public utility system.
- 19. Shall notify the State in writing of the names and addresses of the new owners within 30 days after the conveyance of all or part of the title or interest in the land described herein.
- 20. Shall pay when due all taxes and assessments, if any, that may be levied against the easement area.
- 21. Shall undertake the protection and management of the easement area in accordance with the conditions set forth in this Easement.
- 22. Other provisions: None.

FURTHER, the following rights are conveyed to Grantee:

- 1. to monitor and enforce the terms of this Easement that are intended to preserve and protect the agricultural and forestry viability of the Property;
- 2. to monitor and enforce the terms of this Easement that are intended to preserve and protect the Conservation Values of the Property;
- 3. to enter the Property at reasonable times to monitor the terms of this Easement; and
- 4. to enforce the terms of this Easement to prevent any activity or use of the Property that is inconsistent with the purpose of this Easement and to require the restoration of areas or features that may be damaged by any inconsistent activity or use.

FURTHER, this Easement shall be enforceable by the State as provided in Minn. Stat. Sec. 103F.515, Subd. 9, Minn. Stat. Sec. 84C.03, and/or by such other relief as may be authorized by law. Any ambiguities in this Easement shall be construed in a manner which best effectuates the purposes of limiting development, protecting soil, improving water quality, and enhancing fish and wildlife habitat.

FURTHER, if Grantee fails to carry out its duties under this Easement, the United States shall have the same rights as the Grantee. Should Grantee, its successors or assigns allow the Property to be used for a purpose inconsistent with this Easement, its terms and conditions and in a manner inconsistent with the mission of Camp Ripley, the Secretary of the Army, through an authorized official, shall, at his discretion, in accordance with the requirements of 10 U.S.C. 2684a(d)(4) have the right to demand the transfer of this easement to the United States, or a third party nonprofit corporation organized and existing under the laws of Minnesota, as a tax exempt public charity under Section 501(c)(3) and 509(a)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code, qualified under Section 170(h) of the Internal Revenue Code to receive qualified conservation contributions and also meeting the definition of an eligible entity under 10 U.S.C. 2684a(b). Should such a transfer occur, the purposes, terms and conditions of this easement shall continue to run with the land and be binding on the United States or other transferee.

FURTHER, THE GRANTORS OF THIS CONSERVATION EASEMENT, FOR THEMSELVES, COVENANT that they shall not convert to agricultural crop production or pasture any other land, owned or leased as part of the same farm operation at the time of application, if said land supports native vegetation and has not been used in agricultural crop production.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Grantors have caused this Easement to be duly executed.

GRANTOR(S) SIGNATURE(S) AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

STATE OF _____)
)
 COUNTY OF _____)

by _____
(Notary Stamp or Seal)

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this
 _____ day of _____, 20_____

Notary Signature _____
 Commission expires on _____

Instrument Drafted By: Board of Water and Soil Resources
520 Lafayette Rd.
St. Paul, MN 55155

**CONSERVATION/MANAGEMENT PLAN
STATE OF MINNESOTA CONSERVATION EASEMENT
FOR THE L-SOHC ACUB RIM RESERVE**

CONSERVATION EASEMENT ID: **XX-XX-XX-XX**
TOTAL EASEMENT ACRES: **48.3**
EASEMENT DURATION: **PERPETUAL**
PRINCIPAL LANDOWNER NAME: **JOHN DOE**
ADDRESS: **XXXXX YYY DRIVE, NO NAME, MN XXXXX**

COUNTY: **MORRISON**

This Conservation/Management Plan is part of the Conservation Easement, which is recorded on the land title. Any willful action not in compliance with the Conservation/Management Plan is a direct violation of the Conservation Easement which is enforceable by State Law.

The Grantors, all successors, assigns, and heirs, as identified in the Conservation Easement and herein collectively referred to as "Landowners", are required to maintain the conservation practices described in this Conservation/Management Plan for the duration of the Conservation Easement.

No rights are granted to the general public for access to enter upon the lands within the easement area. Authorized agents of the State have the right to enter upon lands within the easement area for the purpose of inspection and enforcement of the easement.

Landowner will maintain all lands in the easement area in a manner that will be compatible with the missions of Camp Ripley and as described in this Conservation/Management Plan which is on file at the Morrison SWCD. Any amendment to the Conservation/Management Plan shall be mutually agreed upon by the landowner, the SWCD, and the State. Residential, Commercial, or Industrial development is prohibited within the easement area. Dumping, storage, processing, or landfill of any toxic or hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants within the easement area is prohibited. Landowner shall not extract or mine any gravel, rock, topsoil or minerals in the easement area by surface or sub-surface mining.

Description of land use is as follows:

The land within the easement area consists of a total of 48.3 acres, of which 17.2 acres are donated and is a mixture of mature trees/shrubs, wetlands, wildlife food plots, and a permanently flooded deep water natural lake (Meadow Lake). The easement protects approximately 28.2 acres of mature woods/shrubs, 2.7 acres of wetlands, .2 acres of wildlife food plots, and 17.2 acres (5,960' of shoreline) of a natural lake. There are deer stands erected and they may remain and be maintained for use. There are existing walking/ATV trails and they may remain and be maintained for use, but not improved and in such a manner that does not disturb the natural cover.. Easements require ongoing management to assure their quality is maintained. It may be necessary to undertake practices to enhance or modify some or all of the cover of a conservation easement. Management practices are to be implemented as best determined by the landowner in consultation and with approval of the SWCD and BWSR staff, with a goal to maintain easement quality. Forest Land Management may be necessary to provide regeneration and to manage forest stands for wildlife benefits. Harvesting can be done for a variety of purposes such as to create wildlife openings, manage browse for specific wildlife species, and for forest stand improvement. Prairie/Grassland Management may be necessary for purposes of species diversity, wildlife habitat, water quality, and erosion control. Mechanical treatment (mowing) will be done no more frequently than once every third year, with no more than one third of the acreage mowed each year. In some cases it may be not be practical to manage smaller sites in stages, especially, if they are within a larger habitat complex. Mowing, haying, or harvest is not allowed during the nesting season May 15 to August 1. Minimum stubble heights are 4-6 inches. Wetland Management will be done in accordance with the Wetland Conservation Act rules. Any changes in use of this property will be by mutual agreement with the SWCD. The landowner may continue to work with the SWCD on any practices that may be desired and may take advantage of cost-shared practices both state and federal.

I hereby agree to and acknowledge my obligations associated with this Conservation/Management Plan.

Authorized SWCD Representative

date

date

CONSERVATION PRACTICE PLAN

Conservation Easement I.D.:	Principal Landowner Name:
Prepared By:	Date Prepared:

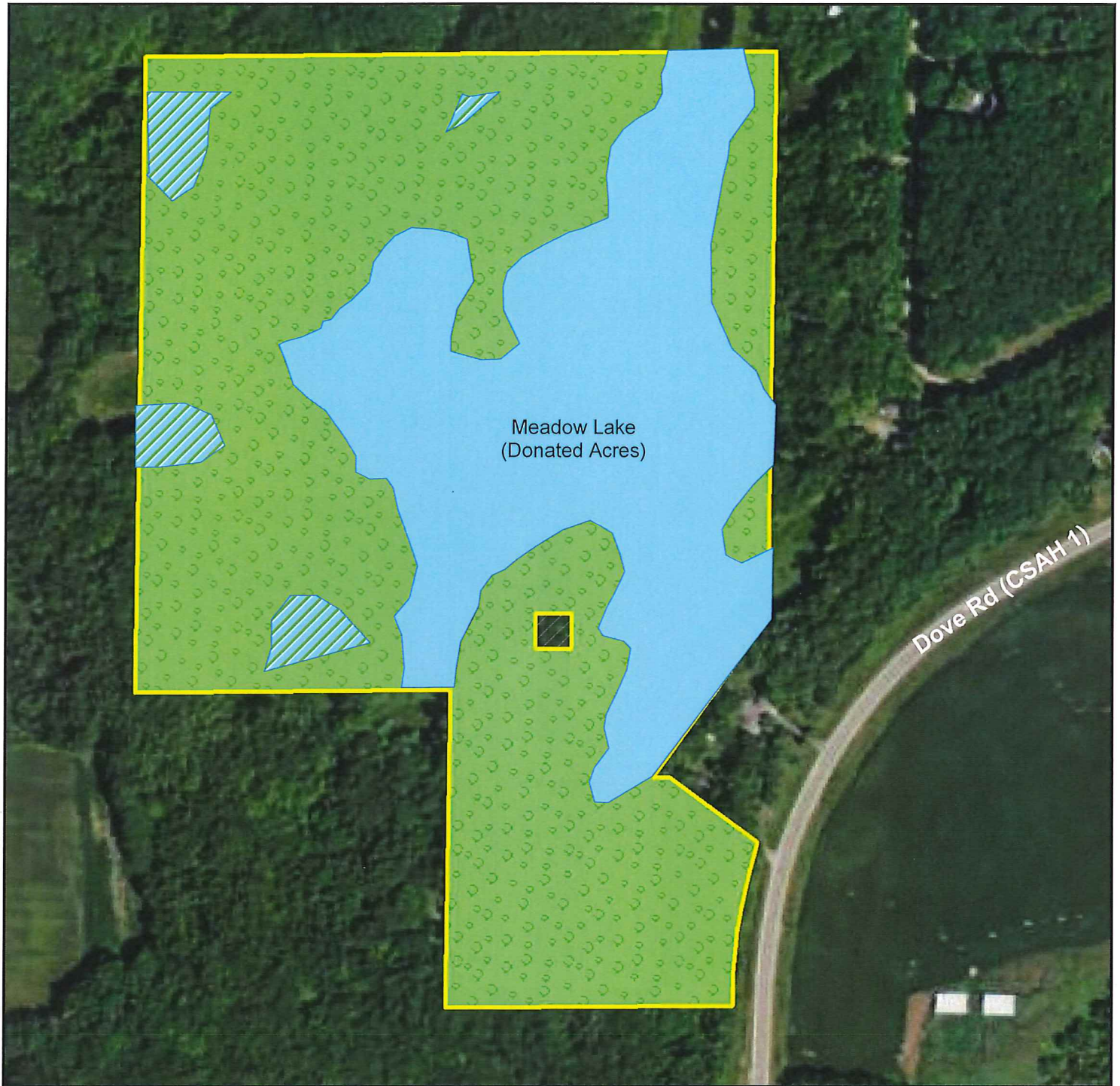
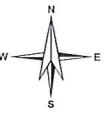
PRACTICE AREA <i>(one per line)</i>	PRACTICE AREA SIZE <i>(acres)</i>	CONSERVATION PRACTICE CODE TYPE		PLANNED YEAR OF PRACTICE INSTALLATION	
		PRIMARY	SUPPORTING	PRIMARY	SUPPORTING
1	28.2	RR-3b			
2	2.7	RR-13			
3	0.2	RR-FP			
4	17.2	RR-14			

48.3 = Total Easement Acres

CONSERVATION PRACTICE CODES AND DESCRIPTIONS

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>RR-1a Introduced Grasses/Legumes To Be Established</p> <p>RR-1b Introduced Grasses/Legumes Already Established</p> <p>RR-2a Native Grasses To Be Established</p> <p>RR-2b Native Grasses Already Established</p> <p>RR-3a Tree and/or Shrub Planting To Be Established</p> <p>RR-3b Tree and/or Shrub Planting Already Established</p> <p>RR-4a Field Windbreak To Be Established</p> <p>RR-4b Field Windbreak Already Established</p> | <p>RR-5 Diversion</p> <p>RR-6 Erosion Control Structure</p> <p>RR-7 Grass Waterway</p> <p>RR-8 Wetland Restoration</p> <p>RR-11 Highway Windbreak</p> <p>RR-12 Wetland Creation</p> <p>RR-13 Existing Wetland</p> <p>RR-14 Existing Watercourse/Ditch</p> <p>RR-FP Wildlife Food Plot</p> |
|---|--|

John Doe
L-SOHC #XX-XX-XX-XX



-  Easement Boundary
-  Practice Area #1
RR-3b Tree and/or Shrub Planting
Already Established
-  Practice Area #2
RR-13 Existing Wetland
-  Practice Area #3
RR-FP Wildlife Food Plot
-  Practice Area #4
Water Body (Natural Lake)

0 150 300 600 Feet

1 inch equals 300 feet

Morrison County, MN
Cushing (E) Twp.
Sec. 19 Twp. 131 Rge. 30

Priority Scoring Criteria for ACUB Interested Landowner Parcels

CRITERIA - Appendix D in DNR Biennial Acquisition Plan	ATTRIBUTE NAME	Field Name (in shapefile)	ATTRIBUTE VALUE	ATTRIBUTE DESCRIPTION	COMMENTS	DATA SOURCE	SDSFE layer	
<p>1. Parcel Location & Potential for Development. Priority will be given to parcels whose protection from development will reduce the impact of encroachment upon the military training function of Camp Ripley.</p> <p>a. Priority Zone - The parcel must be located within the ACUB Priority Zones shown in map 10 (right) from the Camp Ripley ACUB proposal, November 2003. Section (b). These zones are generally based upon the degree of threat of development. Higher priority will be given to parcels in Zone 1 than in Zone 2, in Zone 2 than in Zone 3, and in Zone 3 than in Zone 4.</p> <p>b. Potential for Development. Higher priority will be given to parcels that are under imminent threat to be developed (e.g. parcels which are subdivided or scheduled to be subdivided or which are on the market). This also includes the proximity of the parcel to current population centers and major road networks.</p> <p>c. Proximity to Railway - Higher priority will be given to parcels that are in closer proximity to Camp Ripley.</p> <p>d. Adjacency to Conservation Lands - Higher priority will be given to parcels that adjoin state and county land held for conservation purposes (e.g. State Parks, Wildlife Management Areas, County-managed Forest Land, etc.) - particularly when the protection of the parcel contributes towards that lands management goals. Priority may also be given to parcels adjoining lands under public or privately held conservation easements, conservation agreements (e.g. RIM or CRP), or other development restrictions.</p> <p>e. Noise impacts - Consideration will be given to selecting parcels in locations more likely to be potentially impacted by noise from Camp Ripley's military training operations.</p>	Priority Area	PRIORITY_1	<p>20 Zone 1</p> <p>15 Zone 2</p> <p>10 Zone 3</p> <p>5 Zone 4</p> <p>0 Falls outside any priority zone</p>	<p>If a parcel was in more than one zone, it received the value of the zone that contained the largest portion of the parcel. Military Criteria</p>	Camp Ripley	cadastre\reddb_rpl_site_area		
	Road Access	ROAD_ACC_1	<p>1 = adjacent</p> <p>0 = not adjacent</p>	<p>Parcels intersected by Interstate, US or State Highway, or CSAH.</p>	<p>Road centerlines were buffered 100 meters to ensure that parcels adjacent to roads were included. Land Characteristic</p>	MN/DOT basemap, 2007	transportation_vehicle/Road_Centerline	
	Proximity to Camp Ripley	PROX_CR_RA	<p>20 200 meters or less from Camp Ripley</p> <p>15 201 meters - 1 miles from Camp Ripley</p> <p>10 1.1 - 2 miles from Camp Ripley</p> <p>5 2.1 - 3 miles from Camp Ripley</p> <p>0 Greater than 3 miles from Camp Ripley</p>	<p>If a parcel was in more than one buffer zone it received the value of the zone that contained the largest portion of the parcel. Military Criteria</p>	Camp Ripley	cadastre\reinstallation_area		
	Adjacent to public lands	CON_LAND_V	<p>1 = adjacent</p> <p>0 = not adjacent</p>	<p>Adjacent to ACUB compatible lands (i.e. DNR, TNC, complete ACUB land deals & county lands)</p>	<p>Conservation lands were buffered 30 meters to ensure that parcels adjacent to these areas were included. Land Characteristic</p>	<p>Extracted from parcels within the 10 mile buffer area Morrison County: 1989 Cass County: 2006 Wing County: 2006</p>	parcel_area	
	Noise divided into two categories: Noise (dB) Noise (Blast)	ADNL_VALU	<p>0 Falls outside Air noise contours</p> <p>5 Air Zone 1 (60 dB- 64 dB)</p> <p>10 Air Zone 2 (65 dB- 74 dB)</p> <p>20 Air Zone 3 (75 + dB)</p>	<p>Falls outside Air noise contours</p> <p>Air Zone 1 (60 dB- 64 dB)</p> <p>Air Zone 2 (65 dB- 74 dB)</p> <p>Air Zone 3 (75 + dB)</p>	<p>If a parcel was in more than one buffer zone it received the value of the zone that contained the largest portion of the parcel. Military Criteria</p>		auditory/noise_zone_area	
		CDNL_VALU	<p>0 Falls outside Blast noise contours</p> <p>5 Blast Zone 1 (57 dB- 61 dB)</p> <p>10 Blast Zone 2 (62 dB- 69 dB)</p> <p>20 Blast Zone 3 (70 dB- 74 dB)</p>	<p>Falls outside Blast noise contours</p> <p>Blast Zone 1 (57 dB- 61 dB)</p> <p>Blast Zone 2 (62 dB- 69 dB)</p> <p>Blast Zone 3 (70 dB- 74 dB)</p>				
	<p>2. Landowner Willingness and Availability. Parcels may only be acquired from landowners who are willing to sell interest in the property for purposes of ACUB.</p> <p>a. Interested Dwner/Seller. Priority will be given to parcels where the landowner has executed a Cooperative Agreement or other Protected Parties Agreements (as listed in Attachment B of the Cooperative Agreement) indicating an interest in participating in the ACUB project.</p>	Interested Dwner/Seller			<p>All parcels on willing landowner list.</p>	<p>Extracted from parcels within the 10 mile buffer area Morrison County: 1989 Cass County: 2006 Wing County: 2006</p>	cadastre\parcel_area	
		<p>3. Parcel Size and Cost. Emphasis will be given to larger landholdings that can be acquired more efficiently and cost effectively.</p> <p>a. Larger Parcels. Priority will be given to parcels of land that are at least 80 acres in size. Higher priority will be given to larger parcels with opportunity for more significant benefits relative to administrative costs.</p>	Lot Size	PAR_SIZE_V	<p>20 Parcel 160 acres or more</p> <p>15 80-159 acres</p> <p>10 40-79 acres</p> <p>5 39 or less acres</p>	<p>Evaluated from the willing parcels layer. Military Criteria</p>	<p>Extracted from parcels within the 10 mile buffer area Morrison County: 1989 Cass County: 2006 Wing County: 2006</p>	cadastre\parcel_area

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<p>4. Ecological Value. Candidate parcels will be prioritized and selected which rate higher on their ecological value as defined below.</p> <p>a. Plant Community/Wildlife Habitat Quality - Priority will be given to parcels located within, buffering or connecting a significant ecological area and/or having rare species or plant communities. Parcels with rare species or plant communities receive a higher priority. Parcels that have been disturbed or degraded should not require extraordinary restoration efforts and expenditures. Current and future use of lands adjacent to the parcel should not significantly diminish quality of the site over time.</p> <p>b. Shorelines - Higher priority will be given to parcels which are adjacent to the Mississippi or Crow Wing Rivers or other bodies of water.</p> <p>c. Connectivity - Priority will be given to parcels that are part of a larger interconnected area of habitat - particularly where protecting the parcel is needed to prevent fragmentation or parcelization of an interconnected habitat corridor.</p> <p>d. Other Ecological Functions - Parcels may be ranked higher that provides a wide variety of additional ecological benefits, such as protection of surface and ground water quality and/or supply, natural flood storage capacity, and soil stability.</p> <p>e. Ecological Threats - Consideration will be given to whether the ecological values of the parcel are under imminent threat by development, ownership changes, etc.</p> <p>5. Other Contributing Factors. The following secondary criteria should also be considered in prioritizing and selecting parcels.</p> <p>a. Culturally Significant Areas - The presence of historic or cultural features on the parcel or near the parcel if site development is likely to impact those resources.</p> <p>b. Rural Character - Parcels whose location, current uses, or visibility contribute significantly to maintaining the sense of rural character.</p> <p>c. Community Support and Collaboration - Nearby residents, local community elected officials and other interested groups are involved and favor protection of the parcel through ACUB. Community documents (such as plans and memorios) identify the parcel for land protection in community documents.</p> <p>d. Compatible Public Use - Parcels where educational, stewardship, and recreational activities can be accommodated without compromising the parcel's ecological value may receive greater consideration than comparable parcels that do not.</p> <p>e. Program Viability and Geographic Distribution - Parcels that increase public awareness of the program have higher priority than those that do not. Its relative location within the Ripley buffer is also a consideration.</p>	MCBS	MCBS_VALUE	0	MCBS area present. no MCBS area present.	If a parcel was in more than one MCBS area it received the value of the area that contained the largest portion of the parcel. Rare or endangered species may be either plant or animal.	Minnesota DNR County Biological Survey, Minnesota DNR Rare and Endangered Species Database	none	
		R_E_VALU	0	Rate of Endangered Species present. no Rate of Endangered Species present	Land Characteristic			none
		Adjacent to water	ADJ_A_H20_V	1	Adjacent to water feature 100 acres or greater in size	Water bodies were buffered 100 meters to ensure that parcels adjacent to these areas were included. Land Characteristic	Minnesota DNR DataBelt	hydrography\surface_water_course_area hydrography\surface_water_body_area
		NA		0	Not adjacent to water			
		NA						
		NA			At least 20 acres of parcel with MLCCS "natural" landcover (rating of 30000 or higher).			
		NA						
		NA						
		Cultural Site - DID NOT INCLUDE DUE TO DATA PRIVACY		1	Presence of SHPO Archeological site anywhere on parcel	Land Characteristic	Minnesota SHPO 2005	none - due to not being in SDE geodatabase (data privacy issue)
		NA		0	Absence of SHPO Archeological site anywhere on parcel			
	NA							
	NA							
	Artificial Surface	ART_SUR_PE (Percent of parcels with this landcover) ART_SUR_VA (ranking value)	4 3 2 1 0	1-25% parcel includes artificial surface 26-50 % parcel includes artificial surface 51-75% parcel includes artificial surface 76-100% parcel includes artificial surface	10000 Artificial surfaces and associated areas - Areas of vegetative alteration, with a vegetative cover of < 96%. Vegetation may be planted, cultivated, or pre-development vegetation that has been altered or fragmented by humans. Areas which contain artificial cover which is the result of human activities such as construction (e.g. buildings, pavement), extraction sites (e.g. open mines, quarries, pits) and waste disposal sites. This class is determined by the presence of manmade impervious surface. For areas of planted or cultivated vegetation where the vegetative cover exceeds 96%, use the 2000 Subsystem (Planted or Cultivated Vegetation). For areas where pre-development vegetation exceeds 96%, use the Natural/Semi-Natural Classifications. This subsystem loosely correlates to typical land uses such as those defined as residential, industrial, transportation, etc.	2 mile priority area MLCCS Level 2 Classification (2005) - Camp Ripley/SCSU foreland_vegetation_area		
<p>Land Cover characteristics: Based on MLCCS classifications (GIS land cover data) parcels were ranked for 3 mile buffer. Parcels were evaluated only on land that falls within the 3 mile buffer area.</p>	Cropland	PER_AG (Percent of parcel with this landcover) PER_AG_VA (ranking value)	0 1 2 3	none present 1-25 % parcel is cropland 26-50 % parcel is cropland 51-75% parcel is cropland	20000 Planted or cultivated vegetation (greater than 96% vegetation cover). Areas of vegetative alteration, with a vegetative cover of 96-100%. Natural vegetation has often been removed or modified and replaced with different types of vegetative cover resulting from anthropic activities. Vegetation may be either planted, cultivated, forested with annual management and/or otherwise altered by humans. Soils usually have been moderately or physically altered. The establishment of cropland. The land cover characteristics used in this score of			

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			4	76 - 100% parcel is cropland	vegetation; this non-ruminant class generally includes typical ruminants or agriculture, past, golf courses, or other such land use where the vegetation is cultivated, planted or maintained, and impervious surface cover is less than 10%. This class includes cropland and pasture lands that are not planted, but are considered in this category because although planted, they are intended to remain natural cover and should be classified under Natural/Semi-Natural.		
	Forest	PER_FOREST (percent of parcel with this land cover) PER_FOR_VA (ranking value)	0 1 2 3 4	none present 1 - 25 % parcel is forested 2 - 26 - 50 % parcel is forested 3 - 51 - 75 % parcel is forested 4 - 76 - 100 % parcel is forested	30000 Forests - Trees with their crowns overlapping (generally forming 60 - 100% cover). Forests are defined primarily by the dominant species present, not by the current height of the forest. For example, if the area is composed by young oaks and ash trees that are only 15 feet tall, it would be classified as a forest of the tree species. If the area is composed of willows and dogwoods also 15 feet tall, it would be classified as shrubland.		
	Woodland	PER_WOODLA (percent of parcel with this land cover) PER_WOOD_V (ranking value)	0 1 2 3 4	none present 1 - 25 % parcel is woodland 2 - 26 - 50 % parcel is woodland 3 - 51 - 75 % parcel is woodland 4 - 76 - 100 % parcel is woodland	40000 Woodland - Open stands of trees with crowns not usually touching (generally forming 25 - 60% cover). Canopy tree cover may be less than 25% in cases where it exceeds shrub, dwarf shrub, herb, and nonvascular cover, respectively.		
	Shrubland	PER_SHRUB (percent of parcel with this land cover) PER_SHRUB_V (ranking value)	0 1 2 3 4	none present 1 - 25 % parcel is shrubland 2 - 26 - 50 % parcel is shrubland 3 - 51 - 75 % parcel is shrubland 4 - 76 - 100 % parcel is shrubland	50000 Shrubland - Shrubs and dwarf shrubs with individuals or clumps overlapping to not touching (generally forming more than 25% cover, trees generally less than 25% cover). Shrub cover may be less than 25% where it exceeds tree, herb, and nonvascular cover, respectively. Vegetation dominated by woody vines is generally treated in this class.		
	Grassland	PER_HERB (percent of parcel with this land cover) PER_HERB_V (ranking value)	0 1 2 3 4	none present 1 - 25 % parcel is grassland 2 - 26 - 50 % parcel is grassland 3 - 51 - 75 % parcel is grassland 4 - 76 - 100 % parcel is grassland	60000 Herbaceous - Herbs (graminoids, forbs, and ferns) dominant (generally forming at least 25% cover). Trees, shrubs, and dwarf shrubs generally with less than 25% cover. Herb cover may be less than 25% where it exceeds tree, shrub, dwarf shrub, and nonvascular cover, respectively.		
	Water	PER_WATER (percent of parcel with this value) PER_WAT_VA (ranking value)	0 1 2 3 4	none present 1 - 25 % parcel is water 2 - 26 - 50 % parcel is water 3 - 51 - 75 % parcel is water 4 - 76 - 100 % parcel is water	90000 Water - This Formation Class cover type is to be used for open water. Open water may include large mats of floating algae or non-rooted vascular vegetation. Emergent vegetation generally contributes less than 5% total cover. Where emergent vegetation found in rivers, intermittent streams, lakes, and wetlands is greater than 4%, they are to be classified under other Formation Class cover types. Definitions contained herein are based on those for Classification of Wetlands and Deepwater Habitats of the United States (Cowardin, et al.).		
Additional Criteria							
Air Operation Considerations	Fly Neighborly Noise Factor (ADNL)	fly_neigh	0	Not in Fly Neighborly Zone	Areas of restricted aircraft training. It includes no-fly zones and areas limited to minimal elevation for aircraft training.		
			1	In Fly Neighborly Zone			
			0 or 1	Air Drop Flight Routes and Aerial Approach routes	Meets 3 Criteria - 15 Meets 2 Criteria - 10 Meets 1 Criteria - 5		

