

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

Fiscal Year 2019 / ML 2018 Request for Funding



Date: May 31, 2017

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

Funds Requested: \$3,708,500

Manager's Name: Robert Milne

Title: Forestry Lands Program Consultant

Organization: MN DNR Forestry

Address: 500 Lafayette Road

City: St. Paul, MN 55155-0044

Office Number: 651-259-5270

Email: bob.milne@state.mn.us

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

Regions in which work will take place:

- Southeast Forest

Activity types:

- Restore
- Enhance
- Protect in Fee

Priority resources addressed by activity:

- Forest

Abstract:

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

Design and scope of work:

This proposal will directly protect and provide public hunting opportunities to approximately 750 additional acres of critical forestland habitat and provide connective corridors to State Forest (SF) through fee acquisition. The strategy is to acquire parcels that will reduce owner fragmentation across the landscape. Parcels have been identified in area land asset management plans and fall into three classifications; those providing protection of a critical forest habitat, those consolidating fragmented forest habitat, and those providing permanent connectivity to state land for habitat management. This proposal continues the work of acquiring key land parcels from willing sellers.

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

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

This project includes all of the following activities: initial site reviews, negotiations with sellers, appraisals, environmental reviews and acquisition of fee title. It also includes the initial land development of each parcel acquired including boundary surveys and signage, well and septic closure, building and dump disposal.

All land will be open for public hunting and fishing

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

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

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

Which other plans are addressed in this proposal:

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

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

This project supports Goal 1, Objective 1 of the Minnesota Forest Resource Council Southeast Landscape Plan with focus areas of acquiring high priority sites to protect native plant communities with public acquisition Direct resources toward native plant communities on public lands in priority complexes for invasive species management, prescribed burns, and regeneration. Additionally, it advances the MN DNR's Conservation agenda by providing more opportunities in SE Minnesota.

This also supports the Outdoor Heritage Fund: A 25 Year Framework Priority actions in the Southeast Forest section by protecting forest habitat, providing access for management of landlocked public properties and restoring forest-based wildlife habitat.

Which LSOHC section priorities are addressed in this proposal:

Southeast Forest:

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

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:

This program will protect lands by incorporating them into the long established state forest system. These specific lands will be part of the the Richard J. Dorer Memorial Hardwood Forest which was established in 1960 in southeast MN as a memorial to pioneers and veterans.

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:

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

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:

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

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

Ovenbird

Ovenbirds (*Seiurus aurocapilla*) are found in upland forests statewide; typically in relatively mature forest but can also be found in younger forests. Deciduous, mixed coniferous-deciduous, and coniferous forests may be suitable. Ovenbirds nest on the ground in leaf

litter. 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. On average, densities within the Forest/Prairie Transition, Metropolitan Area, and Southeast Forest LSOHC planning sections will be higher than those in the Northern Forest. Note that pre-fawn estimates provide an indication of deer numbers when they are at their seasonal low (spring).

Outcomes:

Programs in southeast forest region:

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

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

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

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

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

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

Land prices have stabilized and a short-term opportunity continues to exist to purchase more land value for our expenditures. Also, landowner's generally make quick decisions on the sale of their property and having the funds available provides more opportunity with willing landowners.

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

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

Relationship to other funds:

- Not Listed

Describe the relationship of the funds:

Not Listed

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

Appropriation Year	Source	Amount
FY05	RIM	120000
FY06	Bonding	2500000

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**

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

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

Will restoration and enhancement work follow best management practices including MS 84.973 Pollinator Habitat Program - **Yes**

Is the activity on permanently protected land per 97A.056, subd 13(f), tribal lands, and/or public waters per MS 103G.005, Subd. 15 - **Yes (State Forests)**

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

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**

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

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

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

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

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

How will maintenance and monitoring be accomplished:

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

- Highway licensed vehicles are allowed on signed forest roads, unless posted closed.
- Off-highway vehicles, defined as All-terrain vehicles/Off-highway motorcycles (ATVs/ORVs/OHMs), MAY OPERATE on signed roads and trails.
- ATV travel off of signed motor vehicles trails or forest roads is PROHIBITED in the Richard J. Dorer State Forest.

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

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

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

How will maintenance and monitoring be accomplished:

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

Accomplishment Timeline

Activity	Approximate Date Completed
Protect 750 acres of state forest inholdings	June 2122
Restore 400 acres of substantially degraded forest habitat	June 2122
Enhance 527 acres of substantially intact habitat	June 2122

Budget Spreadsheet

Total Amount of Request: \$3,708,500

Budget and Cash Leverage

Budget Name	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	\$0	\$120,000	General Fund	\$120,000
Contracts	\$695,300	\$0		\$695,300
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	\$2,880,000	\$0		\$2,880,000
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	\$0	\$0		\$0
Easement Acquisition	\$0	\$0		\$0
Easement Stewardship	\$0	\$0		\$0
Travel	\$0	\$0		\$0
Professional Services	\$60,000	\$0		\$60,000
Direct Support Services	\$12,200	\$0		\$12,200
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	\$60,000	\$0		\$60,000
Capital Equipment	\$0	\$0		\$0
Other Equipment/Tools	\$0	\$0		\$0
Supplies/Materials	\$1,000	\$0		\$1,000
DNR IDP	\$0	\$0		\$0
Total	\$3,708,500	\$120,000		\$3,828,500

Personnel

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

Amount of Request: \$3,708,500

Amount of Leverage: \$120,000

Leverage as a percent of the Request: 3.24%

DSS + Personnel: \$12,200

As a % of the total request: 0.33%

Easement Stewardship: \$0

As a % of the Easement Acquisition: -%

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

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

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

Yes. 100%

Describe and explain leverage source and confirmation of funds:

Managing this project is part of the forestry lands program consultant's position and general fund dollars will contribute to this.

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:

Most administrative fees are similar regardless of the size land transaction. A higher percentage will be spent on administrative fees if we receive reduced funding and only have the ability to purchase smaller tracts of land.

Output Tables

Table 1a. Acres by Resource Type

Type	Wetlands	Prairies	Forest	Habitats	Total
Restore	0	0	400	0	400
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	0	750	0	750
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Easement	0	0	0	0	0
Enhance	0	0	527	0	527
Total	0	0	1,677	0	1,677

Table 2. Total Requested Funding by Resource Type

Type	Wetlands	Prairies	Forest	Habitats	Total
Restore	\$0	\$0	\$300,000	\$0	\$300,000
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$3,013,200	\$0	\$3,013,200
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Easement	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Enhance	\$0	\$0	\$395,300	\$0	\$395,300
Total	\$0	\$0	\$3,708,500	\$0	\$3,708,500

Table 3. Acres within each Ecological Section

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	Northern Forest	Total
Restore	0	0	400	0	0	400
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	0	750	0	0	750
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	0	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Easement	0	0	0	0	0	0
Enhance	0	0	527	0	0	527
Total	0	0	1,677	0	0	1,677

Table 4. Total Requested Funding within each Ecological Section

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	Northern Forest	Total
Restore	\$0	\$0	\$300,000	\$0	\$0	\$300,000
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$3,013,200	\$0	\$0	\$3,013,200
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Easement	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Enhance	\$0	\$0	\$395,300	\$0	\$0	\$395,300
Total	\$0	\$0	\$3,708,500	\$0	\$0	\$3,708,500

Table 5. Average Cost per Acre by Resource Type

Type	Wetlands	Prairies	Forest	Habitats
Restore	\$0	\$0	\$750	\$0
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$4,018	\$0
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Easement	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Enhance	\$0	\$0	\$750	\$0

Table 6. Average Cost per Acre by Ecological Section

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	Northern Forest
Restore	\$0	\$0	\$750	\$0	\$0
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$4,018	\$0	\$0
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Easement	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Enhance	\$0	\$0	\$750	\$0	\$0

Target Lake/Stream/River Feet or Miles

0

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

Parcel List

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

Most parcels have previously been identified in area land asset management plans and fall into three classifications; those providing protection of a critical forest habitat, those consolidating fragmented forest habitat, and those providing permanent connectivity to state land for habitat management. The highest priority parcels are those with critical forest habitat that also consolidate state ownership within the defined Richard J. Dorer boundaries.

This proposal continues the work of acquiring key land parcels from willing sellers.

Section 1 - Restore / Enhance Parcel List

Fillmore

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
RJDorer16	10409236	10	\$7,500	Yes
RJDorer28	10410224	21	\$15,750	Yes
RJDorer29	10410235	20	\$15,000	Yes
RJDorer30	10410236	24	\$18,000	Yes

Goodhue

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
RJDorer39	11214224	11	\$8,300	Yes

Houston

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
RJDorer10	10306222	10	\$7,500	Yes
RJDorer11	10307212	18	\$13,500	Yes
RJDorer12	10307214	33	\$24,750	Yes
RJDorer13	10307224	18	\$13,500	Yes
RJDorer14	10407227	10	\$7,500	Yes
RJDorer15	10407228	12	\$9,000	Yes
RJDorer6	10104232	26	\$19,500	Yes
RJDorer7	10105213	46	\$34,500	Yes
RJDorer8	10204222	60	\$45,000	Yes
RJDorer9	10204233	16	\$12,000	Yes

Wabasha

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
RJDorer27	11010208	17	\$12,800	Yes
RJDorer31	10910215	65	\$48,750	Yes
RJDorer32	10910216	19	\$14,300	Yes
RJDorer33	11011212	24	\$18,000	Yes
RJDorer34	11011213	40	\$30,000	Yes
RJDorer35	11011225	75	\$56,300	Yes
RJDorer36	11012226	16	\$12,000	Yes
RJDorer37	11012234	9	\$6,800	Yes
RJDorer38	11012236	18	\$13,500	Yes

Winona

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
RJDorer1	10608205	11	\$8,250	Yes
RJDorer17	10505230	10	\$7,500	Yes
RJDorer18	10509226	15	\$11,250	Yes
RJDorer19	10509233	15	\$11,250	Yes
RJDorer2	10608208	9	\$6,750	Yes
RJDorer20	10509234	10	\$7,500	Yes
RJDorer21	10509235	10	\$7,500	Yes
RJDorer22	10809210	60	\$45,000	Yes
RJDorer23	10809217	25	\$18,750	Yes
RJDorer24	10809225	39	\$29,250	Yes
RJDorer25	10809235	13	\$9,750	Yes
RJDorer26	10809236	28	\$21,000	Yes
RJDorer3	10809203	41	\$30,750	Yes
RJDorer4	10809204	5	\$3,800	Yes
RJDorer5	10809205	18	\$13,500	Yes

Section 2 - Protect Parcel List

Fillmore

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
RJD-Amherst	10309227	12	\$40,000	No	Full	Not Applicable
RJD-Arendahl 1	10409231	34	\$50,000	No	Full	Not Applicable
RJD-Holt 2	10309212	43	\$200,000	No	Full	Not Applicable
RJD-Pilotmound 1	10410214	128	\$500,000	No	Full	Not Applicable
RJD-Preble 1	10208207	45	\$125,000	No	Full	Not Applicable

Houston

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
RJD-Houston 2	10306230	320	\$1,000,000	No	Full	Not Applicable
RJD - Jefferson 4	10104234	60	\$150,000	No	Full	Not Applicable
RJD-Money Crk	10407228	20	\$50,000	No	Full	Not Applicable

Wabasha

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
RJD-Krueger	11010218	93	\$280,000	No	Full	Not Applicable
RJD-Watopa 2	10910222	108	\$300,000	No	Full	Not Applicable

Winona

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
RJD-Trout Valley 2	10809204	30	\$90,000	No	Full	Not Applicable

Section 2a - Protect Parcel with Bldgs

Fillmore

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	# Bldgs?	Bldg Impove Desc	Value of Bldg	Disposition of Improvements
RJD-Carrolton	10310220	31	\$189,000	1	Building to be removed	\$20,000	Demolish
RJD-Preble 4	10209209	317	\$1,000,000	1	Building to be removed	\$10,000	Demolish

Goodhue

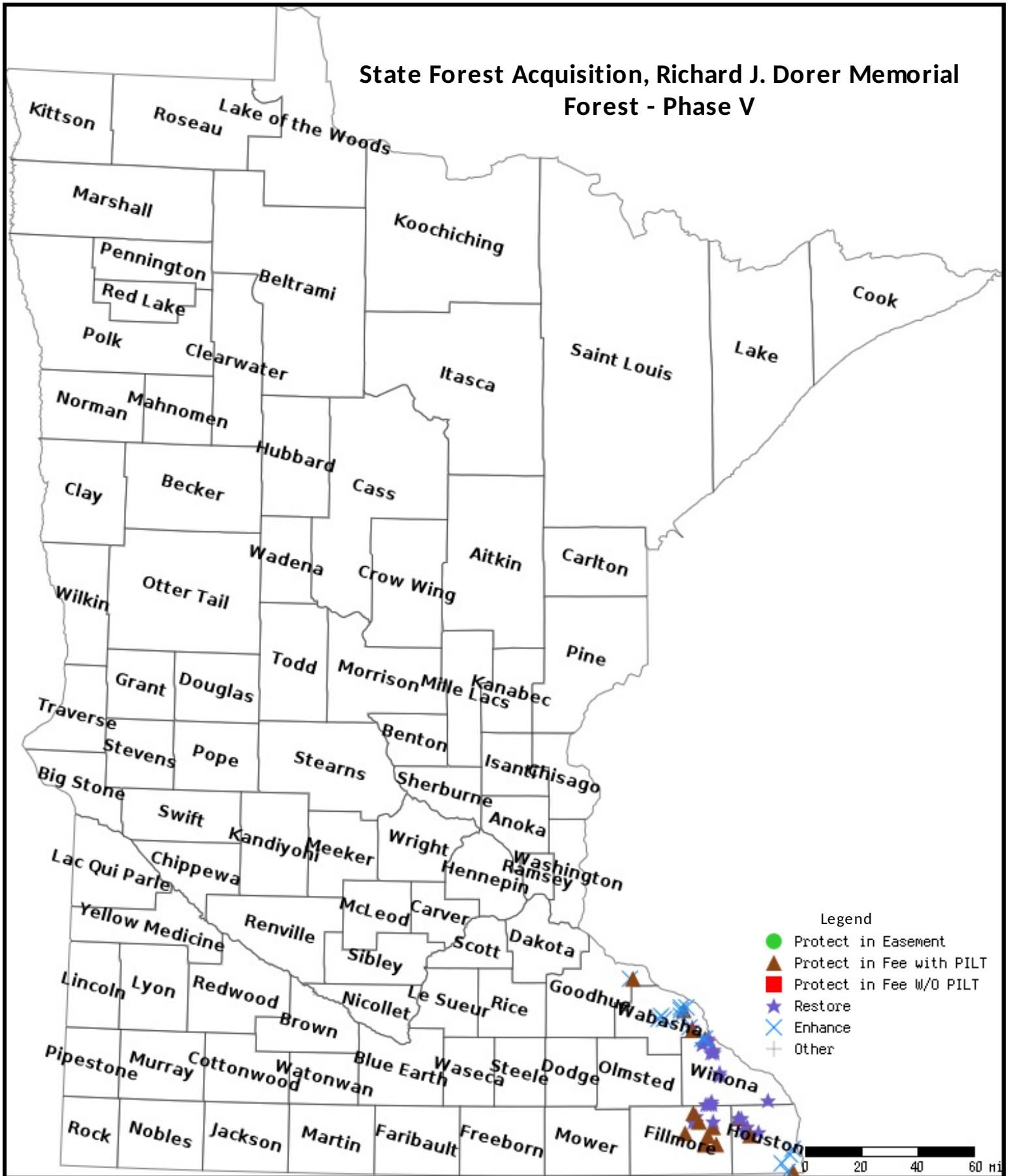
Name	TRDS	Acres	EstCost	# Bldgs?	Bldg Improve Desc	Value of Bldg	Disposition of Improvements
RJD-Florence 1	11213219	173	\$750,000	1	Building to be removed	\$60,000	Remove

Section 3 - Other Parcel Activity

No parcels with an other activity type.

Parcel Map

State Forest Acquisition, Richard J. Dorer Memorial Forest - Phase V



Data Generated From Parcel List

FY 19/ML18 – State Forest Acquisition – Phase V
RJ Dorer Memorial Hardwoods State Forest Land Asset Project
LSOHC Presentation Handout

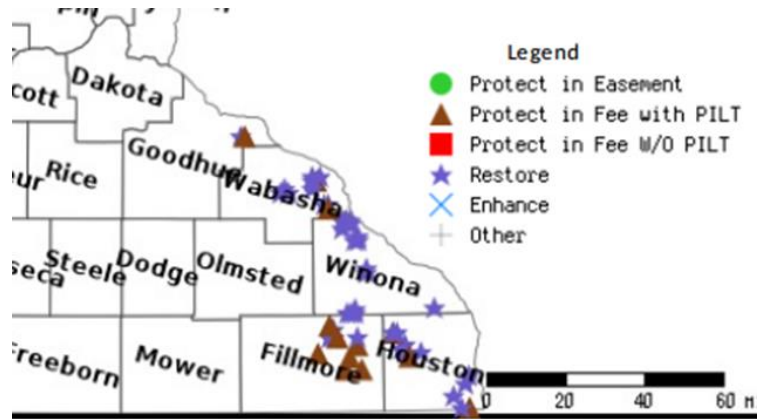
Total Project Goal = 4700 acres to consolidate state forest in SE Minnesota to improve critical habitat and forest access.

Phase V Proposal

Protection with PILT Plans: 750 acres
 Restoration Plans: 900 acres

Funds Requested: \$3,707,500

- Fee Acquisition - \$2,880,000
- Restoration/ Enhancement - \$695,300
- Professional Services \$60,000
- Direct Support Services – Business & Financial work to manage the grant - \$12,200
- DNR Land Acquisition Costs \$60,000



Protection

- Wildlife mobility - move through critical forest habitat types
- User experience -Better access and less private landowner conflicts
- Less demand on local infrastructure through reducing isolated parcels.

Restoration

- restore early successional habitat,
- riparian areas,
- terrestrial invasive species control,
- oak savanna
- mixed deciduous forests.

Expected Outputs & Outcomes

- Protection of 750 acres of southeast Minnesota forest habitat.
- Restoration of 900 acres of habitat.
- Public access to 3200 acres of existing state land: Enhancing forest user experience.
- Management efficiency and improved public use from reduction in state/private boundaries by 4 miles.
- Forest Fragmentation Reduction by 3% in RJ Dorer forest: Improving wildlife habitat.

Typical Challenges

- Offers rejected on parcels – setting back the timeline, requiring amendments to substitute other priority parcels
- Additional survey required – setting back the timeline and increasing professional services costs
- Title issues – set back timeline
- Professional service fees

Coordinated efforts

- Supporting interest from the Wildlife Management Institute, MN Deer Hunters Association, Pheasants Forever, Ruffed Grouse Society. The Nature Conservancy and other partners to protect forest habitat in southeast Minnesota.

Past Phase Accomplishments

Phase I – IV

Funds Requested: \$ 17,200,000

Funds Received: \$ 4,155,000

Goal: Protection with PILT: 4300 Acres

Ability with funding: 1050 Acres

Current Results: 658 Acres

Estimated In queue: 320 Acres (\$1,280,000)

Funds remaining (including ML17) \$1,000,000

Strategic Land Asset Management

Key Definitions

SLAM Goal Definitions	
Goal	Definition
Protection of significant natural resources (such as rare resources, groundwater resources, habitats)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acquisition protects site of outstanding and high biodiversity significance. <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acquisition protects sensitive or priority water and fisheries resources. <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acquisition protects priority waterfowl, game or wetland resources.
Targeted conservation of MN's prairie-grasslands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parcels conserve remnant native prairie as found in the MN Biological Survey (MBS) layer. Parcels may be located anywhere in the state.
Consolidation of land ownership, creating larger, more contiguous blocks of DNR lands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parcels share a boundary with another pre-existing DNR-administered parcel. <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parcels are within the border of a pre-existing unit of the Outdoor Recreation Act.
Improved access to existing land holdings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parcel has legal access via a public road. <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parcel is adjacent to a public road. <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Easement acquisition provides legal access to existing DNR-administered parcels. <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parcel is adjacent to an existing DNR-administered parcel that has legal access, as defined by one of the above methods.
More close to home outdoor recreational opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parcels are within 30 miles of a population center over 50,000 people. <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acres of land within 30 miles of a destination recreation hub.
Meeting our fiduciary responsibilities on Trust Fund lands	Our responsibility in this trustee relationship extends to all who make decisions affecting the School Trust Lands. See Operational Order 121 for more information.