Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council
Fiscal Year 2019 / ML 2018 Request for Funding

Date: June 06, 2017

Program or Project Title: Shallow Lake & Wetland Protection & Restoration Program - Phase VII

Funds Requested: $13,500,000

Manager's Name: Jon Schneider
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County Locations: Big Stone, Clay, Cottonwood, Fairbault, Jackson, Lac qui Parle, Lincoln, Lyon, Murray, Nicollet, Nobles, Redwood, and Sibley.

Regions in which work will take place:

- Prairie

Activity types:

- Protect in Fee

Priority resources addressed by activity:

- Wetlands
- Prairie

Abstract:

This Phase 7 request for Ducks Unlimited's land acquisition and restoration program. DU will acquire and restore 1,500 acres of prairie and wetlands on state Wildlife Management Areas and managed shallow lakes in the Prairie Pothole Region of SW Minnesota for transfer to the Minnesota DNR for inclusion in the WMA system. This land acquisition and restoration work will focus on land that buffers shallow lakes and wetlands, and restores breeding habitat for ducks and other prairie wildlife. DNR will help seed uplands, and DU engineers will survey, design, and hire private sector contractors to complete wetland restorations.

Design and scope of work:

This is Phase 7 of Ducks Unlimited's ongoing program to both Acquire and Restore wetlands and prairie on land for sale adjacent to existing Minnesota DNRs State Wildlife Management Areas (WMA). DU works with willing seller private landowners adjacent to WMAs that have drained wetlands and converted prairie uplands, and land on shallow lakes in need of protection. DU purchases and holds land title through it's Wetlands America Trust (WAT), DU's supporting land-holding fiduciary organization, of which DU is the sole corporate member.

Our goal is to help create functioning prairie-wetland habitat complexes and complement other conservation efforts to protect intact native prairie. Our work addresses the habitat goals in Minnesota's Long-range Duck Recovery Plan, Minnesota's Prairie Conservation Plan, and the North American Waterfowl Management Plan. This work is time-sensitive because farmland adjacent to state WMAs is rarely offered for sale for conservation, and tracts are only available for a short time. DU works quickly, and has already spent most ML2016 OHF funds to purchase six tracts.

DU works in close partnership with the Minnesota DNR Section of Wildlife and coordinates with Pheasants Forever and other national and state NGO partners, and with local sportsmen clubs such as Swan Lake Area Wildlife Association and Cottonwood County Game and Fish League. Although pre-approval resolutions are not requested from county boards for DU land acquisitions, DU shares

information with counties to ensure public awareness of our conservation work, and routinely attends county board meetings to discuss questions. The acquisitions and restorations proposed represents the amount of work DU can accomplish in three to five years, is scalable, and benefits game and non-game wildlife species alike - from mallards to monarch butterflies.

Because 90% of our prairie wetlands have been drained and 99% of our prairie uplands converted in Minnesota, acquisition and restoration of prairie and small wetlands is critical – especially for breeding waterfowl in the Prairie Pothole Region of SW Minnesota where DU focuses our efforts. Furthermore, most remaining wetlands here are in poor ecological condition due massive landscape prairie conversion to cropland and wetland drainage that degrades both wetland condition and habitat function for prairie wildlife. Although many of our remaining prairie wetlands and shallow lakes are contained within state WMAs or federal Waterfowl Production Areas (WPA), these small public land patches rarely provide optimal wildlife habitat due to their fragmented size and juxtaposition. Similarly, most prairie shallow lakes are surrounded by a thin ribbon of uplands that fail to adequately buffer them from surrounding agricultural land runoff. Therefore, acquisition and restoration of drained wetlands and cultivated prairie lands in close proximity to our public lands will improve and buffer our public shallow lakes and wetlands, and help create functioning prairie-wetland complexes of habitat for breeding ducks and other prairie wildlife.

DU professional engineers and biologists work closely with DNR field staff to plan and implement both robust prairie and wetland restorations, including diverse native forb/grass seed plantings and complex wetland restorations that often involve extensive drainage systems.

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

- H4 Restore and protect shallow lakes
- H5 Restore land, wetlands and wetland-associated watersheds

Which other plans are addressed in this proposal:

- Long Range Duck Recovery Plan
- Minnesota Prairie Conservation Plan

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

Breeding ducks require prairie-wetland complexes containing at least 20% upland nesting cover and small wetlands. Restoring and protecting viable patches of prairie and small wetlands around existing shallow lakes to create functioning prairie-wetland habitat complexes is a goal of both Minnesota's Long Range Duck Recovery Plan and Minnesota Prairie Conservation Plan. Thus, it is imperative that prairie and wetlands be restored around existing public habitat patches to increase their patch size and connectivity, and ultimately their function to provide viable habitat complexes capable of producing prairie wildlife. Science indicates that breeding ducks require at least 20% or more of a four square-mile area be intact prairie grass with small wetlands for positive duck nesting success. Therefore, our goal will be to acquire and restore land to increase the habitat patch size of existing state WMAs to help them become functioning, viable landscapes for breeding ducks and other prairie wildlife.

Which LSOHC section priorities are addressed in this proposal:

Prairie:

- Protect, enhance, or restore existing wetland/upland complexes, or convert agricultural lands to new wetland/upland habitat complexes

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 permanently protect and restore prairie and wetlands adjacent to existing state WMAs to increase their patch size and viability as habitat for wildlife, and lands acquired and restored will be transferred to the Minnesota DNR for long-term management and public outdoor recreational use. The goal of this work is to create functioning prairie-wetland complexes for breeding and migrating waterfowl and other prairie wildlife species. It has taken over 100 years to fragment the prairie landscape, and it will take a long-term approach to restore wildlife habitat here, piece by piece and prairie wetland complex by complex. Therefore, our work will help add to the significant and permanent conservation legacy for the public, and in the long-term will result in improved and viable habitat patches and complexes for both wildlife and people alike.

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:

Ducks Unlimited uses science-based targeting to evaluate land acquisitions, and focuses on tracts adjacent to existing state WMAs with restorable wetlands that build prairie-wetland complexes for ducks. Science-based models such as the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) "Thunderstorm Maps" and "Restorable Wetlands Inventory" help us determine landscape importance to breeding waterfowl. We prioritize parcels with relatively high biological diversity and significance based on the Minnesota DNR County Biological Survey (MCBS), and focus on those tracts that help improve the ecological functionality of existing public WMAs by acquiring and restoring grass and small wetlands around them. Several current examples include:

The 160-acre Tract 13 on Sweetwater WMA in Lac qui Parle County is a prairie-wetland complex less than 0.5 mile from a site of moderate level of biodiversity. It currently supports 31-40 breeding waterfowl pairs per square mile, and restoring prairie uplands will increase suitability for nesting waterfowl.

Indian Lake WMA Tract 8A, 61 acres in Sibley County lies adjacent to Indian Lake, a shallow lake with a high level MCBS biological significance and moderate biodiversity significance, and will buffer both Indian Lake and the WMA.

Walnut Lake WMA Tract 20/21 in Faribault County is a 203-acre three-sided inholding in state land containing an 80-acre restorable wetland. Walnut Lake is identified as having a moderate level of significance for both biological value and biodiversity according to the MCBS, and the WMA is estimated to be capable of providing nesting habitat for 31-40 breeding ducks per square mile according to USFWS.

The 279-acre Tract B16 on Lac Qui Parle WMA is adjacent to the 25-acre Perry tract previously acquired by DU via OHF along Marsh Lake, and contains 62 acres of native wet prairie, a native plant community of importance identified by the MCBS. Acquisition and restoration will help buffer Marsh Lake, identified as a lake of outstanding biological significance surrounded by areas of high biological significance and importance to breeding waterfowl near a Core Area of Minnesota's Prairie Conservation Plan. These two tracts drain into Marsh Lake, which DNR is enhancing now with past OHF grant funds.

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:

This proposal protects and restores prairie lands, which are identified as critical habitats for many "Species of Greatest Conservation Need" listed in Minnesota's "Tomorrow's Habitat for the Wild & Rare: An Action Plan for Minnesota Wildlife." Specific species listed in the Action Plan as requiring prairie (page 255) include seven species of butterflies and three bird species that are native prairie specialists: chestnut-collared longspur, Sprague's pipit, and Baird's sparrow. The Prairie Parkland has 139 species listed on the SGCN with 13 of these species being unique to the section.

In addition to these specific wildlife species listed as SGCN examples in the Action Plan, restored prairie in the Prairie Parkland will provide habitat of significant value for other species listed in Appendix B of the Action Plan too. Restored and protected prairie will provide habitat of significant value for other SGCN including bird species: upland sandpiper, bobolink, burrowing owl, le conte's sparrow, grasshopper sparrow, eastern meadowlark, swamp sparrow, sharp-tailed grouse, short-eared owl, northern harrier, dickcissel, Henslow's sparrow, and Nelson's sharp-tailed sparrow. Upland nesting waterfowl will also benefit including waterfowl listed as SGCN; northern pintail and lesser scaup, which have both seen declines in continental populations. Wetland associated birds such as trumpeter swan, black tern, American bittern, Wilson's phalarope, and marbled godwit will benefit from wetlands either restored or buffered in the prairie landscape. Mammals such as northern grasshopper mouse and Richardson's ground squirrels, reptiles such as lined snake and Blanding's turtle, and amphibians such as northern cricket frog and common mudpuppy are listed as SGCN for the Prairie Parkland.

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

Ducks Unlimited proposes to acquire and restore 300 acres of wetlands and 1,200 acres of prairie uplands adjacent to existing state WMAs to improve their function as prairie-wetland habitat complexes for waterfowl and many other prairie and wetland-dependent wildlife species. Science-based guidance provided by Minnesota DNR indicates that 300 acres of wetlands and 1,200 acres of prairie uplands may be estimated to:

Support approximately 122 pairs of mallards based on the biological model of the Upper Mississippi River Great Lakes Joint Venture of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan that indicates one pair of mallards needs 2.47 acres of wetlands with adequate adjacent upland nesting habitat to support population growth;

Support at least 2 or more pairs of trumpeter swans assuming one pair for every 150 wetland acres, depending on the size, type, and number of wetland basins restored or enhanced;

Support up to 706 pairs of bobolinks and 571 pairs of grasshopper sparrows, based on guidance that breeding territory size of bobolinks and grasshopper sparrows is 1.7 and 2.1 acres, respectively, in high quality habitat in Wisconsin;

Produce approximately 400 harvested rooster pheasants based on ratios of CRP acres to pheasant harvest in Minnesota; and,

Contribute 3,600 to 9,600 monarch butterflies to the overwintering population, assuming 100-250 stems of milkweed plants per prairie acre restored.

Outcomes:

Programs in prairie region:

- Protected, restored, and enhanced shallow lakes and wetlands *Land bordering shallow lakes and land containing drained wetlands will be acquired and restored back to functioning wetlands with native grass and forb wildflowers in uplands surrounding them as habitat for pollinators, migratory birds, and resident wildlife. Lands will transferred into the state Wildlife Management Area system to provide additional prairie habitat for migratory species and public use, both of which will be monitored by Minnesota DNR. Restored wetland basins will be monitored by DNR area wildlife field staff, and managed to optimize wetland habitat conditions. Prairie uplands will be managed to minimize trees and encourage native plant species.*

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

All lands acquired will be transferred to the Minnesota DNR for inclusion in the state's Wildlife Management Area system. Thus, Minnesota DNR Wildlife land managers will sustain and maintain the prairie and wetlands acquired and restored by Ducks Unlimited in perpetuity, and manage them to provide optimal wildlife habitat and for public use.

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

Year	Source of Funds	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3
2020	DNR G&F Fund, OHF	Mow restored prairie for weed control	Periodically burn native prairie every 5 years as needed	Assess and manage water levels in larger restored wetlands as vegetation and ecological conditions warrant action

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

Most wetlands and nearly all native prairie uplands have been drained and converted for agricultural use in southern Minnesota. Most prairie public wildlife lands are small and fragmented, and do not provide viable productive patches of functioning habitat for prairie wildlife. Thus, restoration of prairie lands for sale is a key component of our overall Minnesota Prairie Plan conservation efforts to restore and protect wildlife habitat. This work is time-sensitive because private land adjacent to state WMAs and within DNR-approved state WMA project boundaries only rarely becomes available for sale to conservation interests, and it thus it is important to be responsive to these land acquisition and restoration opportunities when they arise. Most private landowners will wait and work with conservation NGO land buyers for short time, but will not wait indefinitely for conservation funding, and a generation may pass before these key parcels become available for purchase again.

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

DU strives to use all of our non-federal expense to leverage federal NAWCA grant funds to further our conservation mission. However, NAWCA is highly competitive and complex, and proposal success is uncertain. Nonetheless, DU works closely with Minnesota DNR, and NGO partners to offer recent past state OHF acquisitions as non-federal match to leverage federal NAWCA funds to help fund OHF land restoration and also acquire additional lands too. For example, several recent past OHF acquisitions were pledged as match in two current NAWCA proposals likely to be funded later in 2016 that will help pay for restoration costs on those lands. DU fully intends to partner with DNR and other NGOs to pursue NAWCA grant funds in the future to help restore wetlands purchased through this appropriation too.

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
2009	DU private	$26,500
2010	DU private	$10,000
2013	DU private	$56,600
2015	DU private and federal NAWCA	$150,000 (ongoing)
2016	DU private and federal NAWCA	$200,000 (ongoing)
2017	DU private and federal NAWCA	$200,000 (pending)

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**

Discussions with local government officials will be held in conjunction with acquiring lands, and timing of notification depends upon the situation. DU strives to have discussions and provide notification prior to land acquisition. Because land acquisition deals are very private and sensitive matters, disclosing details in advance of purchase agreements can jeopardize land deals with private landowners. Because requesting formal local approval requires county board members to vote on private land deals, which invites local politics and makes private landowner intentions public, DU does not seek local government pre-approval of our land acquisitions but instead meets with county boards in person to inform and discuss to ensure local government awareness of the public benefits of our land acquisition and restoration work, and changes in future tax payments. DU pays taxes in full at the county assessed rate during our hold time, and because state PILT amounts have been higher than previous assessed county tax rates for land acquired by DU in the Prairie Section of SW Minnesota, county boards have been very pleased with DU land acquisitions for the Minnesota DNR.

Is the land you plan to acquire free of any other permanent protection - **No**

Some tracts may be contain a USFWS wetland easement protecting intact wetland basins, prohibiting drainage or filling but allowing farming when dry, so the value of these areas can be accommodated in the appraisal.

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

Are the funds confirmed - **No**

What is the approximate date you anticipate receiving confirmation of the federal funds - **July 2020**

Land Use:

Will there be planting of corn or any crop on OHF land purchased or restored in this program - **Yes**

Explain

DU purchases land in Minnesota to protect and restore prairie, wetlands, and shallow lake shoreland for ducks and other prairie and wetland-dependent wildlife. Lands acquired will be transferred to the Minnesota DNR for inclusion in state Wildlife Management Areas (WMA) for long-term management and public use. Initial Development and Restoration Plans are developed in partnership with Minnesota DNR and area wildlife manager approval according to WMA management plan goals. The primary purposes of WMAs are to develop and manage habitat for the production of wildlife and for compatible outdoor recreation. To fulfill those goals, the DNR may use limited farming specifically to enhance or benefit the management of state lands for wildlife.

Lands proposed to be acquired for prairie restoration as WMAs may utilize limited farming to prepare previously farmed sites for native plant seeding. This is the standard prairie restoration practice across the Midwest. On a small percentage of WMAs (less than 2.5%), DNR uses farming to provide a winter food source for a variety of wildlife species in agriculture-dominated landscapes largely devoid of winter food sources. DU will work closely with DNR through our cooperative acquisition and restoration planning process to avoid purchasing tracts where DNR requires placement of food plots and instead defers those to DNR to acquire directly, as restoration of prairie and wetlands for waterfowl is our strategic focus and mission.

Most lands to be acquired and restored through this program will be farmland with cropped fields, which DU will restore to prairie

and wetland habitat. Very limited short-duration row-cropping of soybeans or other farming activity may be required immediately after acquisition prior to restoration prior to native prairie grass and forb seeding. Increasingly, farmers are using herbicides with an 18-month carryover residual effect, that requires an additional year of farming with other compatible herbicides before native plants can be seeded. DU strives to minimize this circumstance by working with private landowners to guide their final year of cropping prior selling, but arranging such is not always possible. DU will strive to use non-GMO treated seed whenever and wherever possible if planting of crops is required.

Are any of the crop types planted GMO treated - **Yes**

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

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

No variations anticipated. All lands to be acquired are in rural areas and will be included in state Wildlife Management Areas, and open to public use as per Minnesota DNR rules.

Are there currently trails or roads on any of the acquisitions on the parcel list - **No**

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

Accomplishment Timeline

Activity	Approximate Date Completed
Appraise and acquire lands in fee-title.	December 2020
Restore lands acquired and transfer to Minnesota DNR.	June 2023

Budget Spreadsheet

Total Amount of Request: $13,500,000

Budget and Cash Leverage

Budget Name	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	$730,000	$60,000	DU Private & NAWCA	$790,000
Contracts	$1,500,000	$100,000	DU private and federal USFWS NAWCA	$1,600,000
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	$10,000,000	$0		$10,000,000
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	$0	$0		$0
Easement Acquisition	$0	$0		$0
Easement Stewardship	$0	$0		$0
Travel	$90,000	$10,000	DU private and federal USFWS NAWCA	$100,000
Professional Services	$170,000	$0		$170,000
Direct Support Services	$72,000	$10,000	DU private and federal USFWS NAWCA	$82,000
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	$108,000	$0		$108,000
Capital Equipment	$0	$0		$0
Other Equipment/Tools	$30,000	$0		$30,000
Supplies/Materials	$400,000	$50,000	DU private and federal USFWS NAWCA	$450,000
DNR IDP	$400,000	$0		$400,000
Total	$13,500,000	$230,000	-	$13,730,000

Personnel

Position	FTE	Over # of years	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Manager - Grant Administration and Program Coordination	0.40	3.00	$130,000	$0		$130,000
Biologists and Engineers - Acquire & Restore Land	2.00	3.00	$600,000	$60,000	DU Private & NAWCA	$660,000
Total	2.40	6.00	$730,000	$60,000	-	$790,000

Amount of Request:	$13,500,000
Amount of Leverage:	$230,000
Leverage as a percent of the Request:	1.70%
DSS + Personnel:	$802,000
As a % of the total request:	5.94%
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:

Minnesota DNR grants staff previously reviewed and approved DU accounting methodology for Direct Support Services, which are calculated and included in DU staff costs. DU Direct Support Services constitute approximately 10% of DU overall staff costs on average among DU conservation staff billing categories. DU breaks out and invoices for Direct Support Service expenses approved by DNR for reimbursement separately from Personnel expenses. In accordance with 2 CFR 200, DU uses the direct allocation method of allocating costs to
programs and final cost objectives. This process of allocating costs is accomplished through the use of hourly rates. The direct cost of activities, including direct support expenses, is included in these hourly rates. The rates are comprised of costs for salaries, benefits, office space, general insurance, support staff, office supplies, and other various direct expenses incurred at the regional offices and conservation department at the home office. All costs are assigned to conservation projects (net of applicable personnel and other costs that are non-conservation related.) Hourly charges represent the amount that DU charges conservation projects per hour for each staff member working on the project. These costs represent expenses that directly support the labor cost necessary for the development of a specific water/wetlands conservation project.

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

Yes, all of the budget requested for Contracts is for restoration (and to a much lesser extent enhancement) contractor charges to restore wetlands and prairie on lands acquired. Wetland restoration work is very expensive, especially in the southern portion of the Prairie Section where most wetlands are intensively drained by a complex network of underground private and legal/public tile and

surface ditches that often affect neighboring lands too, and thus requires detailed professional survey and engineering design, and often drain tile re-routing to maintain neighboring drainage. Also, sediment removal within drained/restorable wetlands is an important component to ensure full restoration and to limit invasive plant species invasion post-restoration. Finally, contract charges will also include invasive tree removal and contracted native prairie grass/forb seeding costs too.

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:

None - DU travel costs consist of in-state mileage, food, and lodging only (primarily mileage and lodging for field biologists and engineering field staff).

Describe and explain leverage source and confirmation of funds:

DU will work hard to leverage OHF grant funds with additional sources of private support from individuals, foundations, and corporations and via federal NAWCA grants for specific projects, especially by using OHF grant land acquisition expense to leverage federal grants to restore wetlands and prairie uplands on lands acquired.

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:

This project can be scaled approximately proportionally to funding recommended on a cost per acre basis for both land acquisition and restoration. Administrative costs can be reduced too if less funding is recommended than requested, albeit not proportionately due to base costs of program and grant administration and reporting.

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	300	1,200	0	0	1,500
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Easement	0	0	0	0	0
Enhance	0	0	0	0	0
Total	300	1,200	0	0	1,500

Table 1b. How many of these Prairie acres are Native Prairie?

Type	Native Prairie
Restore	0
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	15
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	0
Protect in Easement	0
Enhance	0
Total	15

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	$2,700,000	$10,800,000	$0	$0	$13,500,000
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Protect in Easement	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Enhance	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Total	$2,700,000	$10,800,000	$0	$0	$13,500,000

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	0	0	1,500	0	1,500
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	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	1,500	0	1,500

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	$0	$0	$13,500,000	$0	$13,500,000
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Protect in Easement	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Enhance	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Total	$0	$0	$0	$13,500,000	$0	$13,500,000

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	$9,000	$9,000	$0	$0
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	$0	$0	$0	$0
Protect in Easement	$0	$0	$0	$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	$0	$0	$9,000	$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	$0	$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:

Ducks Unlimited prioritizes purchase of prairie farmland with restorable wetlands adjacent to existing public lands, and land adjacent shallow lakes managed by DNR for inclusion in the Minnesota DNR's state Wildlife Management Area (WMA) system. DU focuses on acquiring and restoring converted/cultivated prairie and drained wetlands adjacent to existing WMAs to enlarge existing WMAs to create functioning prairie-wetland habitat complexes that benefit ducks and other prairie wildlife. This work also complements other conservation efforts to protect intact native prairie.

DU works in close partnership with the Minnesota DNR Section of Wildlife and coordinates with other national and state NGO partners including Pheasants Forever, The Conservation Fund, and The Nature Conservancy to periodically review parcels for sale that DNR desires for WMAs. DU selects priority prairie parcels in the southern region that are highly regionally ranked by DNR and that add a good mix of prairie and wetland restorations to existing WMAs. DU is especially interested in tracts with restorable wetlands that DU wetland engineers can survey, design, and restore, and land bordering shallow lakes managed managed by DNR that will buffer those shallow, ecologically-sensitive wildlife lakes.

Section 1 - Restore / Enhance Parcel List

No parcels with an activity type restore or enhance.

Section 2 - Protect Parcel List

Big Stone

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
Lac qui Parle WMA - Tract TB15 Steinke/Hoffman	12044210	279	$1,465,000	No	Full	Full
Lindquist WMA - Tract 2 Sitter	12245228	220	$400,000	Yes	Full	Full

Clay

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
Goose Prairie Marsh WMA - Tract 6, 6a, 6b Dahl Estate	14144227	160	$475,000	No	Full	Full

Cottonwood

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
Little Swan Lake WMA - Tract 14 Baerge	10635218	17	$125,000	No	Full	Full

Fairbault

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
Walnut Lakes WMA - Tracts 20/21 Prange	10225202	203	$1,918,000	No	Full	Full

Jackson

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
Libra WMA - Tract 2	10438221	80	$590,000	No	Full	Full
Teal Lake WMA - Wardin Tract	10436230	80	$675,000	No	Full	Full

Lincoln

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
Altona WMA - Tract 10 Skime	10946236	40	$100,000	No	Full	Full
Tyler/Discors WMA - Tracts 2/3 Goehle Trust	10944204	146	$1,220,000	No	Full	Full

Lyon

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
Grandview WMA - Tract 6 Johnson	11242217	160	$960,000	No	Full	Full
Grandview WMA - Tract 7 Fischer	11242219	120	$720,000	No	Full	Full
Greenhead WMA - Tract 2 Gervais	10940221	119	$500,000	No	Full	Full
Prairie Marshes WMA - Tract 7 DeMuth	11043201	150	$945,000	No	Full	Full
Prairie Marshes WMA - Tract 8 Delanghe	11043201	99	$620,000	No	Full	Full

Murray

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
Dovray WMA - Tracts 19/19a Lindberg	10740213	165	$1,000,000	No	Full	Full
Peters WMA - Tract 2A Larson	10642209	127	$650,000	No	Full	Full
Stoderl Slough WMA	10542225	160	$750,000	No	Full	Full

Nicollet

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
Swan Lake WMA - Tract TBD	11029229	154	$1,232,000	No	Full	Full

Nobles

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
Bigelow WMA - Tract TBD	10141225	155	$1,160,000	No	Full	Full
Peterson WMA - Larson Tract	10140221	43	$225,000	No	Full	Full

Redwood

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
Daubs Lake WMA - Tract 2/2a Goudy	11137211	160	$1,300,000	No	Full	Full
Daubs Lake WMA - Tract 6/6a McGuiggan	11137210	40	$100,000	No	Full	Full

Sibley

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
Indian Lake WMA - Tract 8a Muchow	11329228	61	$450,000	No	Full	Full

Section 2a - Protect Parcel with Bldgs

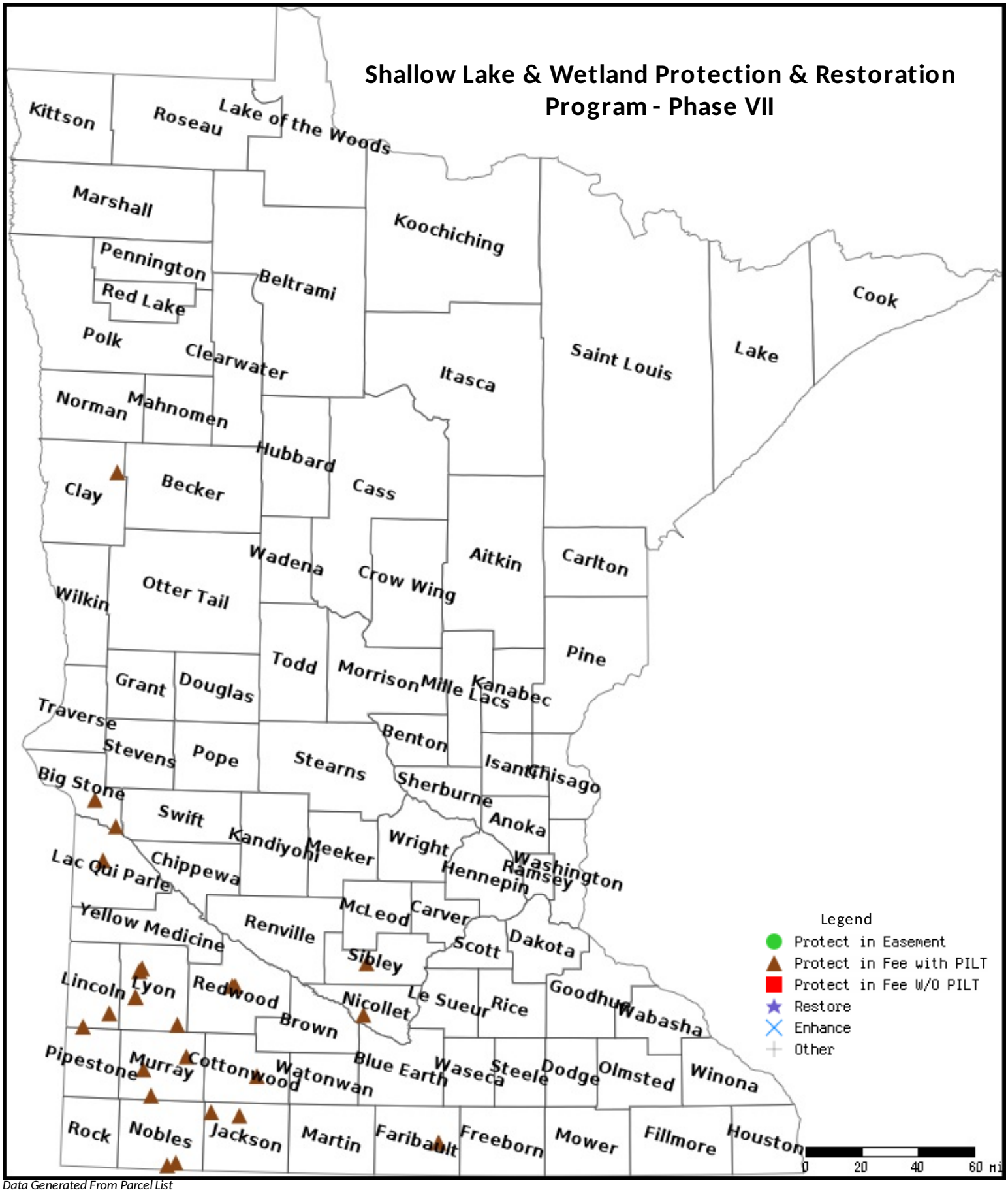
Lac qui Parle

Name	TRDS	Acres	EstCost	# Bldgs?	Bldg Imrpove Desc	Value of Bldg	Disposition of Improvements
Madrena WMA - Tract 8 Shelstad	11845212	173	$900,000	1	Steel quonset equipment shed on concrete slab	$2,000	Remove

Section 3 - Other Parcel Activity

No parcels with an other activity type.

Parcel Map

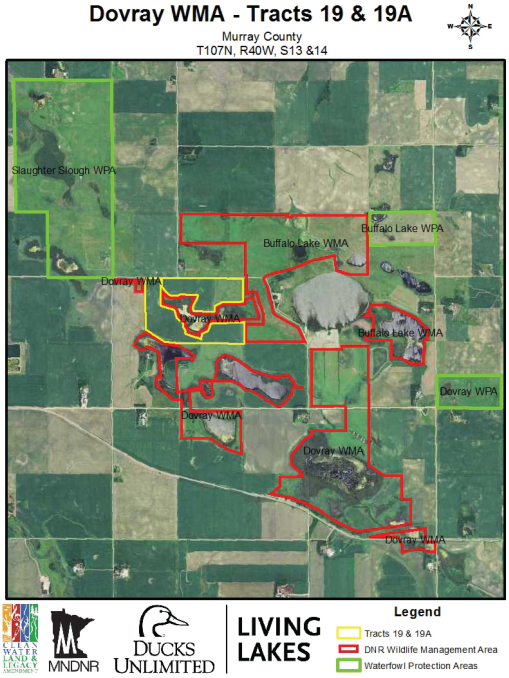


Data Generated From Parcel List

SHALLOW LAKE & WETLAND PROTECTION PROGRAM
PHASE VII

Proposal Request: $13,500,000

Proposal Abstract: This Phase 7 request for Ducks Unlimited's land protection and restoration program will acquire and restore 1,500 acres of prairie land on shallow lakes and prairie land with restorable wetlands in the Prairie Pothole Region of southwest Minnesota for transfer to the Minnesota DNR for inclusion in the state Wildlife Management Area system. This land acquisition and restoration work will focus on land that buffers shallow lakes and provides breeding habitat for ducks and other prairie wildlife. Ducks Unlimited engineers will survey and design wetland restorations, and contract with private sector firms for restoration construction and earth moving work.



SHALLOW LAKE & WETLAND PROTECTION PROGRAM
PHASE VII