

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

Fiscal Year 2020 / ML 2019 Request for Funding



Date: June 15, 2018

Program or Project Title: Dakota County Habitat Protection/Restoration Phase VII

Funds Requested: \$4,200,000

Manager's Name: Lisa West

Organization: Dakota County

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County Locations: Dakota

Regions in which work will take place:

- Southeast Forest
- Metro / Urban

Activity types:

- Protect in Easement
- Restore
- Protect in Fee

Priority resources addressed by activity:

- Wetlands
- Forest
- Prairie
- Habitat

Abstract:

This project will restore approximately 545 acres of permanently protected habitats, and acquire approximately 400 acres of permanent conservation easements and/or fee title lands. Project sites include converting cultivated areas to wetlands in the southern two-thirds of the County, and various habitats, including forest, grassland, riparian areas, and other wetlands throughout the County. This initiative includes identified sites and flexibility for opportunities that will arise. This project will allow the County to continue its integrated comprehensive and successful land conservation efforts through its partnership with the LSOHC and others.

Design and scope of work:

Historic settlement, modern-day development, and agriculture have replaced, degraded and fragmented natural resource systems throughout Dakota County. Nearly every monitored waterbody in the County is impaired, and many habitats have been reduced to small pocket remnants. The County encompasses a wealth of high-quality soils and a vibrant agricultural economy. And even with conservative, the potential changes that could result from climate change should be considered. These large-scale impacts and trends require a comprehensive, collaborative, long-term approach to maintain and improve the County's natural resource heritage and associated benefits. Sound plans have been adopted that collectively focus on protecting and improving the natural infrastructure.

The project scope and scale encompass some of the best natural resource features found in the metropolitan region, across urban, suburban and rural landscapes. A sound fiscal and prescriptive ecological systems approach to conservation, attempts to balance the interests, rights and responsibilities of private landowners, with the public's concerns about water and habitat quality and protection.

The County effectively works with a variety of agencies, jurisdictions and organizations to implement land protection. Beginning in 2003, the County implemented its Farmland and Natural Areas Program, following two years of LCMR-funded plan development. This and other programs are now blended into a comprehensive Land Conservation Program; through which, the County developed

conservation policy project evaluation criteria, and practices to acquire, monitor and administer 112 conservation easements, totaling 9,534 acres, and to assist other public entities in acquiring 20 properties totaling 1,989 acres. In 2017, the County Board approved a Natural Resource Management System Plan to restore, enhance and maintain the majority of natural resources within its parks, greenways, and conservation easements. In 2018, the County began developing a next generation, Land Conservation Plan to identify, coordinate, and prioritize future land protection and management needs on public and private properties throughout the County.

All permanent easements require Natural Resource Management Plans (NRMPs) that reflect existing ecosystem health and recommend potential restoration management strategies, including workplans and budgets. A Natural Resource Management Agreement (MA) is signed by the landowner and County, identifying NRMP priorities, activities, responsibilities, shared costs, and schedules. The proposed habitat restoration and enhancement projects in this funding request are based on these workplans. This project has direct benefits to fish, game, and wildlife, beyond the increased and interconnected terrestrial habitat.

The proposed and anticipated acquisition projects involve riparian areas along the Minnesota, Mississippi, and Cannon rivers (including Dutch, Mud, Chub, Darden and Pine Creeks, and Trout Brook) and Vermillion River (including North, Middle and South Creeks, the South Branch and tributaries), and shoreland along Chub and Marcott lakes. Additional habitat focuses include woodlands, wetlands, hydric soil areas, and unique landscape features and ecosystems.

Environmental Audits and/or Phase I Assessments are completed for all projects, resulting in waste removal, well sealing, and septic system upgrades, if needed, as program participation conditions. Baseline Property Reports are prepared; and each permanent easement is annually monitored. Project information is entered into a data base.

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

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

Which other plans are addressed in this proposal:

- Minnesota's Wildlife Management Area Acquisition - The Next 50 Years
- Outdoor Heritage Fund: A 25 Year Framework

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

This proposal is especially well-aligned with Minnesota's WMA Acquisition - The Next 50 Years plan. The County successfully partnered with the DNR on several projects, including: the Vermillion River WMA, Vermillion Highlands Research, Recreation and WMA, donated Spring Lake Islands WMA, and Gores Pool WMA addition. With OH funding assistance, the County purchased and helped restore 198 acres of historic woodland habitat in the newly created Hampton Woods WMA, which was transferred to the DNR for ownership and management. The WMAs are open to public hunting. The County's WMA partnerships further the plan goals for Ecological Section 6, by acquiring plan-identified, priority habitat areas, open to hunting, in close proximity to the metropolitan area. This proposal aligns well with the OHF: A 25 Year Framework plan by furthering the priority actions identified for the state Metropolitan Urbanizing and Southeast Forest Areas, focusing on protecting, enhancing and restoring priority area habitats.

Which LSOHC section priorities are addressed in this proposal:

Metro / Urban:

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

Southeast Forest:

- Protect, enhance, and restore habitat for fish, game, and nongame wildlife in rivers, cold-water streams, and associated upland habitat

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:

Programs in Metropolitan Urbanizing region:

Our goal is a network of natural land and riparian habitats that will connect corridors for wildlife and species in greatest conservation need. The County developed an integrated, long-term habitat protection system involving public and private lands to provide multiple public benefits. Enlarging and improving existing protected habitat complexes and providing key connections will continue to be a focus. The County will prioritize its land protection and improvement efforts, in part, based on wildlife species, by devoting staff time and resources to create baseline wildlife and habitat quality information and monitor indicator and other species seasonally/annually

to determine if our efforts are producing the desired results over time and to adapt or re-prioritize as appropriate.

Programs in Southeast Forest Region:

Our goal is healthier populations of endangered, threatened, and special concern species, as well as more common species. A small portion of the County is included in this region. The County will prioritize its land protection and improvement efforts, in part, based on priority wildlife species. We will devote staff time and resources to create baseline wildlife and habitat quality information and monitor indicator and other species seasonally/annually to determine if our efforts are producing the desired results over time and to adapt or re-prioritize as appropriate.

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:

There was significant overlap between the County Biological Survey, the 2002 Farmland and Natural Area Protection Plan, and the Metro Conservation Corridors in identifying habitat complexes and key corridors. Based on updated land cover mapping, DNR rare species data, the Vermillion Corridor Plan, new SNA analysis, previously protected areas, County and local comprehensive plans, watershed plans, and park and greenway plans, the County has refined its priority natural areas and the Metro Conservation Corridor Focus Areas. Using Dakota County's premier Geographic Information Systems (GIS) tools and expertise, County staff can further prioritize areas where important protection and improvement opportunities exist, using other available data layers, such as ownership parcels, soils, aspect, historical photography, and LIDAR. Project selection criteria have been revised to reflect this refined vision, and further refinements will occur as up-to-date information and data are collected.

A substantial portion of the County has had its original natural landscape significantly altered through agriculture. Extensive wetland areas were drained, filled, and tiled. In 2018, County staff consulted with BWSR and DNR staff to use new LiDAR-based GIS tools to target wetland restoration projects within Dakota County. The tools require a hydrologically-conditioned digital elevation model (DEM) that was previously unavailable within the County. Dakota County Environmental Resources staff created a "base-level" hydrologically-conditioned DEM and ran a series of ArcGIS tools developed by the DNR/BWSR. The GIS tools predicted hydric soils and wetlands via the Compound Topographic Index, smoothed ditches, and created ditch plugs in the landscape to generate storage areas. The resulting areas were inventoried and prioritized based on area (acres) and volume (acre-feet). Then, a GIS dataset of known cultivated hydric soils developed by the Dakota Soil and Water Conservation District was used to narrow the inventory further. Finally, a map of restoration sites and list of property owners in 4,502 acres was developed for restoration program implementation.

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:

The proposal integrates a number of state and regional County plans, involving different aspects of habitat and wildlife. In 2017, the County Board approved a Natural Resource Management System Plan (NRMSP) for all regional parks, regional greenways and conservation easements located throughout the County. Vegetation, water, and wildlife were the three main elements for each land type. The NRMSP identified rare and endangered species, and species of greatest conservation need throughout the County, based on different data sources. The NRMSP includes different Natural Resource Management Plan (NRMP) templates of each property type that will provide much more detail for individual sites that typically include a variety of habitat and plant community types. The County will prioritize the habitats preferred by these species for acquisition, restoration and enhancement activities. These habitats and associated species include, but are not limited to: Forest - northern long-eared bat, American woodcock, oven bird, rose-breasted grosbeak, least flycatcher, red-shouldered hawk; Prairies and Grasslands- badger, Franklin's ground squirrel, prairie vole, loggerhead shrike, eastern meadowlark, grasshopper sparrow and regal fritillary; Lakes, Ponds and Rivers - common snapping turtle and smooth soft shell turtle; Wetlands - sedge wren, sand hill crane, Blanding's turtle, and dragonflies. The County continues to assemble baseline data and will prioritize the habitats preferred by these species for acquisition, restoration and enhancement activities.

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

Acquisition and restoration sites consist of a variety of habitat and community types, including: 1) prairie/savanna, 2) oak woodland, 3) floodplain/lowland forest, 4) wetlands (large river backwaters to small ephemeral pools), and 5) Shoreline. Some indicator species, with typical associated quantities for each habitat type are as follows:

- 1) monarch butterfly (20-50 per acre), regal fritillary (10-20 per acre), plains pocket gopher (15 per acre), Franklin's ground squirrel (4-8 per acre), prairie vole (10-30 per acre), eastern meadowlark (2 per 5 acres), and bobolink (6 per acres)
- 2) rusty-patched bumble bee (20-100 per acre), American racer (4-8 per acre), grey fox (2-3 per square mile), ovenbird (2 per 3 acres), and brown thrasher (2 per 3 acres)
- 3) blue-spotted salamander (10-20 per acre), wood turtle (2-4 per acre), northern long-eared bat (50-300per acre), and red-shouldered hawk (2 per square mile)
- 4) Blanding's turtle (2-4 per acre), green frog (20-50 per acre), yellow-headed blackbird (10-20 per acre), and sedge wren (4-6 per acre); and
- 5) tiger beetles (50-100 per acre), spiny softshell turtle (10-20 per acre), northern map turtle (5-10 per acre).

In addition to these, the western Lake Byllesby delta is used by many migrant shorebirds birds during the spring and fall. This has been

designated as an Audubon Important Bird Area and includes the following species: common tern, trumpeter swan, piping plover, whimbrel, Wilson's phalarope, Dunlin, ruddy turnstone, white-rumped sandpiper, American avocet, Franklin's gull, Forsters's tern, and marbled godwit.

Outcomes:

Programs in metropolitan urbanizing region:

- A network of natural land and riparian habitats will connect corridors for wildlife and species in greatest conservation need *The County developed an integrated, long-term habitat protection system involving public and private lands to provide multiple public benefits. Enlarging and improving existing protected habitat complexes and providing key connections will continue to be a focus, with protected acres and shoreline as success indicators. The County will prioritize land protection and improvement efforts, in part, based on wildlife species by devoting staff time and resources to create baseline wildlife and habitat quality information and monitoring indicator and other species seasonally/annually to determine if our efforts are producing the desired results over time and to adapt or re-prioritize as appropriate.*

Programs in southeast forest region:

- Healthier populations of endangered, threatened, and special concern species as well as more common species *A small portion of the County is included in this region. Enlarging and improving existing protected habitat complexes and providing key connections will continue to be a focus, with protected acres and shoreline as success indicators. The County will prioritize its land protection and improvement efforts, in part, based on priority wildlife species. It will devote staff time and resources to create baseline wildlife and habitat quality information and monitoring indicator and other species seasonally/annually to determine if our efforts are producing the desired results over time and to adapt or re-prioritize as appropriate.*

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

The Dakota County Board has maintained a remarkable, 16-year commitment to land conservation, and recently established "a healthy environment and quality natural areas" as one of four priority goals. Adopting a comprehensive land conservation vision, expanding dedicated natural resource staff, reorganizing departments to effectively achieve land conservation goals, approving capital improvement program budgets, and providing an operating budget for annual monitoring, are further evidence that the County has the interest, capacity and commitment to sustain this work. The County's Natural Resource Management System Plan commits to maintaining areas after restoration and enhancement investments are made.

Approximately half the land protection/restoration work will occur on public lands and half on private lands, all designed to achieve maximum, fiscally efficient, conservation benefits. Relationship building, developing and implementing NRMPs and Management Agreements, and annual monitoring, provide opportunities to share updated natural resource information and best management practices with landowners, and achieve a higher likelihood of increased private stewardship. The Natural Resource Management System Plan, using a public/private cost-share formula, is further testament to this commitment. This comprehensive wildlife habitat and water quality approach on public and private lands provides the best opportunity to effectively protect and improve these community assets.

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

Year	Source of Funds	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3
2019	State, County, landowner or other project partner contribution	Restore and enhance existing and newly protected lands, and acquire easements and/or fee title	Monitor easements and restoration projects, and use adaptive management for restoration and enhancement activities	Monitor required landowner maintenance of restored areas over at least the next three years
2020	State, County, landowner or other project partner contribution	Restore and enhance existing and newly protected lands, and acquire easements and fee title	Monitor easements and restoration projects and use adaptive management for future restoration and enhancement activities	Monitor required landowner maintenance of restored areas over at least the next three years
2021	State, County, landowner or other project partner contribution	Restore and enhance existing and newly protected lands, and acquire easements and/or fee title	Monitor easements and restoration projects, and use adaptive management for restoration and enhancement activities	Monitor required landowner maintenance of restored areas over at least the next three years
2022	State, County, landowner or other project partner contribution	Restore and enhance existing and newly protected lands, and acquire easements and/or fee title	Monitor easements and restoration projects, and use adaptive management for restoration and enhancement activities	Monitor required landowner maintenance of restored areas over at least the next three years
2023	State, County, landowner or other project partner contribution	Restore and enhance existing and newly protected lands, and acquire easements or fee title	Monitor easements and restoration projects, and use adaptive management for restoration and enhancement activities	Monitor required landowner maintenance of restored areas over at least the next three years

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

Dakota County works with willing sellers and wants to continue the momentum of its ongoing conservation programs, with an increased focus on natural resource management. And, with the updated comprehensive plan process for municipalities underway, there is a critical opportunity to work even more collaboratively with other public entities. Staff continues to see marginal agricultural land converted to row crops and installation of more drain tile. Creating larger scale restoration areas within the rural agricultural landscape can provide multiple public benefits. After the recent recession, residential development is increasing significantly in the County and natural areas are attractive areas for new development. Through its programs, the County can expand protected complexes and fill in habitat gaps between previously protected lands within multipurpose corridors. The wetland restoration project within the Minnesota River Valley, involving three public landowners, can serve as an important model for working with multiple public entities.

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

Dakota County proposes to provide up to a 24 percent cash match or \$1,000,000. These County funds would become part of an approved five-year County Capital Improvement Program budget. In addition, the County will also provide all County staff time as an in-kind, up to 17.5 percent match, including staff from Environmental Resources, Survey, GIS, County Attorney's Office, Financial Services, and Administration. The County estimates its in-kind staff contribution will equate to 2.5 FTEs each year, for five years, or an approximate value of \$700,000.

Other leveraged funds could include landowner donations of easement or fee title value, typically at least ten percent of the total easement value for acquisitions. In addition, landowner contributions are required for restoration and ongoing management of County easement property, and would range between 10 and 25 percent of estimated costs.

Relationship to other funds:

- Environmental and Natural Resource Trust Fund
- Parks and Trails Fund

Describe the relationship of the funds:

The County has applied for and been awarded a number of ENRTF grants primarily for planning purposes in the past. The County has used Conservation Partners Legacy Funds for individual, smaller restoration and enhancement projects in Regional Parks and Regional Park Reserves. The County now completes an individual NRMP with each new park Master Plan update to ensure natural resource protection and improvements are priorities. Recently, \$150,000 of county funds per year has been dedicated as part of the base natural

resource management budget for restoration projects in regional parks. The County has used Parks and Trails Legacy funds primarily for regional greenway capital improvements in order to leverage significant federal funding to implement the County's 200-mile multi-purpose greenway vision. This funding initiative is designed to protect two of the few remaining trout streams in the metro area by working in the watershed and to model these practices for other portions of the state to increase habitat, improve water quality and reduce erosion and flooding.

Per MS 97A.056, Subd. 24, Any state agency or organization requesting a direct appropriation from the OHF must inform the LSOHC at the time of the request for funding is made, whether the request is supplanting or is a substitution for any previous funding that was not from a legacy fund and was used for the same purpose:

Dakota County's request for funding is not supplanting, nor is it a substitution for any previous funding that was not from a legacy fund.

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

Not Listed

Activity Details

Requirements:

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

Will county board or other local government approval be formally sought prior to acquisition? - **No**

The County has excellent working relationships with its' cities and townships. Coordination takes place for each project with the respective jurisdiction. However, the County Board has historically not required respective jurisdictional approval if a private landowner desires to convey an easement to the County.

County Board approval is ultimately sought for each acquisition.

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

Is the land you plan to acquire (easement) 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 restoration and enhancement activity on permanently protected land per 97A.056, subd 13(f), tribal lands, and/or public waters per MS 103G.005, Subd. 15 - **Yes (WMA, SNA, AMA, Private Land, County/Municipal, Public Waters)**

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 - **Yes**

Explain

There may be situations where portions of the property may be cultivated. As part of a negotiated sale, the owner may be allowed to continue cultivating the same land for a short, defined period of time as defined and allowed in the Natural Resource Management Plan (NRMP). In other situations it may be advantageous to allow a final soybean crop, which can enhance the restoration process, by reducing weeds and residue. Also, in some NRMP-approved situations, food plots for wildlife are allowed within a natural area easement.

Are any of the crop types planted GMO treated - **No**

Is this land currently open for hunting and fishing - **Yes**

Private lands with easements may be open for hunting and fishing at the discretion of the landowner, but are subject to local ordinances.

Many public lands are also open for hunting and fishing, but are also subject to local ordinances.

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

Land protected through partial OH funding may be open to hunting and fishing as appropriate, based on whether or not it remains in private ownership or becomes public land. Individual landowner consent would be required on private lands. In all cases, the types of hunting (i.e., bow or firearm) and fishing will be allowed only per local ordinances.

Will the eased land be open for public use - **Yes**

The County has acquired some easements that are open for limited public use. In all cases, the decision to allow public use is determined by the landowner, and is often granted to responsible, conservation-minded and purposed groups and individuals.

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:

In some cases there are existing soft-surface trails and non paved roads used for personal recreation or to access portions of the property for various purposes.
Continued use is allowed, as defined by the easement and the NRMP, provided that such use does not compromise the conservation intent of the easement or the NRMP.

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

How will maintenance and monitoring be accomplished:

Existing soft-surface roads or trails may be retained, improved, removed or relocated. The new underlying fee owner of public land will be responsible for all maintenance and as included in a jointly developed NRMP. On easement land, the underlying fee owner is responsible for maintenance, but any changes to the existing trails or roads are subject to review and approval by the County. Review of trails and roads are part of the County's annual monitoring process.

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:

It is possible that some acquisition projects may result in the creation of new, soft surface trails for low-impact recreational use by landowner and/or allowed guests, and in part, to assist in access for natural resource management.

How will maintenance and monitoring be accomplished:

The landowner will be responsible for all maintenance. A jointly developed NRMP will determine any changes to trails and roads. Review of trails and roads are part of the County's annual monitoring process.

Accomplishment Timeline

Activity	Approximate Date Completed
Easement or Fee Title Acquisition	June 30, 2023
Restoration	June 30, 2023

Budget Spreadsheet

Total Amount of Request: \$4,200,000

Budget and Cash Leverage

Budget Name	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	\$0	\$700,000	Dakota County	\$700,000
Contracts	\$1,800,000	\$475,000	Dakota County	\$2,275,000
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	\$400,000	\$100,000	Dakota County	\$500,000
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	\$0	\$0		\$0
Easement Acquisition	\$2,000,000	\$700,000	Dakota County	\$2,700,000
Easement Stewardship	\$0	\$0		\$0
Travel	\$0	\$0		\$0
Professional Services	\$0	\$0		\$0
Direct Support Services	\$0	\$0		\$0
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	\$0	\$0		\$0
Capital Equipment	\$0	\$0		\$0
Other Equipment/Tools	\$0	\$0		\$0
Supplies/Materials	\$0	\$0		\$0
DNR IDP	\$0	\$0		\$0
Total	\$4,200,000	\$1,975,000		\$6,175,000

Personnel

Position	FTE	Over # of years	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Land Acquisition, Attorney, Survey, etc.	2.50	4.00	\$0	\$700,000	Dakota County	\$700,000
Total	2.50	4.00	\$0	\$700,000		\$700,000

Amount of Request: \$4,200,000
 Amount of Leverage: \$1,975,000
 Leverage as a percent of the Request: 47.02%
 DSS + Personnel: \$0
 As a % of the total request: 0.00%
 Easement Stewardship: \$0
 As a % of the Easement Acquisition: -%

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

Yes - 100%

Describe and explain leverage source and confirmation of funds:

The County Board authorized up to a 30 percent match of OHF with County grant-match funds. The County is also contributing all County staff time, equivalent to approximately 2.5 FTEs over four years, totaling at least \$700,000 in value. Landowner contributions, typically 10 percent, are also anticipated.

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:

Although the County anticipates this approximate need for funds, if less OHF funding was awarded, the County would respond by scaling back it's anticipated work in acquisitions and/or restoration.

Output Tables

Table 1a. Acres by Resource Type

Type	Wetlands	Prairies	Forest	Habitats	Total
Restore	175	60	80	230	545
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	0	0	20	20
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Easement	300	0	20	60	380
Enhance	0	0	0	0	0
Total	475	60	100	310	945

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

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

Table 2. Total Requested Funding by Resource Type

Type	Wetlands	Prairies	Forest	Habitats	Total
Restore	\$820,000	\$0	\$0	\$980,000	\$1,800,000
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$400,000	\$400,000
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Easement	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000
Enhance	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total	\$820,000	\$0	\$0	\$3,380,000	\$4,200,000

Table 3. Acres within each Ecological Section

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	Northern Forest	Total
Restore	515	0	30	0	0	545
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	20	0	0	0	0	20
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	0	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Easement	350	0	30	0	0	380
Enhance	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	885	0	60	0	0	945

Table 4. Total Requested Funding within each Ecological Section

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	Northern Forest	Total
Restore	\$1,700,000	\$0	\$100,000	\$0	\$0	\$1,800,000
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	\$400,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$400,000
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Easement	\$1,800,000	\$0	\$200,000	\$0	\$0	\$2,000,000
Enhance	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total	\$3,900,000	\$0	\$300,000	\$0	\$0	\$4,200,000

Table 5. Average Cost per Acre by Resource Type

Type	Wetlands	Prairies	Forest	Habitats
Restore	\$4,686	\$0	\$0	\$4,261
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$20,000
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Easement	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$33,333
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	\$3,301	\$0	\$3,333	\$0	\$0
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	\$20,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Easement	\$5,143	\$0	\$6,667	\$0	\$0
Enhance	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Target Lake/Stream/River Feet or Miles

5

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:

Relative to acquisition parcels, the County provides annual public notices to solicit pre-applications from willing landowners. Other projects have been identified through adopted park or greenway master plans. Applications are evaluated for eligibility. Eligible applicants meet with County staff to discuss the land conservation program in detail. Final applications are submitted for evaluation, scoring and ranking against other applications, and recommendations for continued consideration. County Board-approved criteria are used to score projects based on location, natural resource components, financial considerations, and commitment to stewardship, and ongoing restoration and management. Recommended projects are appraised to determine easement and/or fee title value. Accepted offers from the County to purchase easements or fee title result in title work, surveys, legal description creation, and preparing jointly developed Natural Resource Management Plans (NRMPs) and baseline Property Reports for each easement project. Easement NRMPs are implemented through jointly developed Management Agreements between the County and the landowner that establish work plan responsibilities, mutual contributions toward restoration, and ongoing maintenance responsibilities. Relative to restoration parcels, County staff work with landowners most interested in restoring and enhancing natural resources on their property, and also identifies restoration activities where significant need is apparent or sensitive natural resources are located.

Section 1 - Restore / Enhance Parcel List

Dakota

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
Cole	02722206	20	\$40,000	No
Gergen	11318228	20	\$40,000	Yes
Jennings	11320233	15	\$40,000	Yes
Lake Byllesby	11218208	150	\$432,800	Yes
Lake Byllesby	11218211	110	\$317,200	Yes
Malecha	11220217	20	\$70,000	Yes
Marco tt Lakes	02722220	30	\$100,000	Yes
Minnesota River Valley Wetland (Cedar Ave Trailhead)	02723218	5	\$200,000	Yes
Trout Brook	11317227	20	\$40,000	Yes
Vermillion River	11419221	5	\$10,000	Yes
Wetland Restoration - Greenvale	11220210	70	\$220,000	Yes
Wetland Restoration - Hampton	11318236	40	\$145,000	No
Wetland Restoration - Waterford	11219206	40	\$145,000	No

Section 2 - Protect Parcel List

Dakota

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
Chub Lake	11320234	30	\$60,000	No	Limited	Not Applicable
Hampton Woods	11319201	20	\$50,000	No	Limited	Not Applicable
Marco tt Lakes	02722220	10	\$264,000	No	Limited	Limited
Trout Brook	11317227	30	\$200,000	No	No	No
Vermillion River	11419223	50	\$206,000	No	No	Full
Wetland Restoration - Greenvale	11220217	100	\$500,000	No	No	No
Wetland Restoration - Hampton	11318236	80	\$560,000	No	No	No
Wetland Restoration - Waterford	11219206	80	\$560,000	No	No	No

Section 2a - Protect Parcel with Bldgs

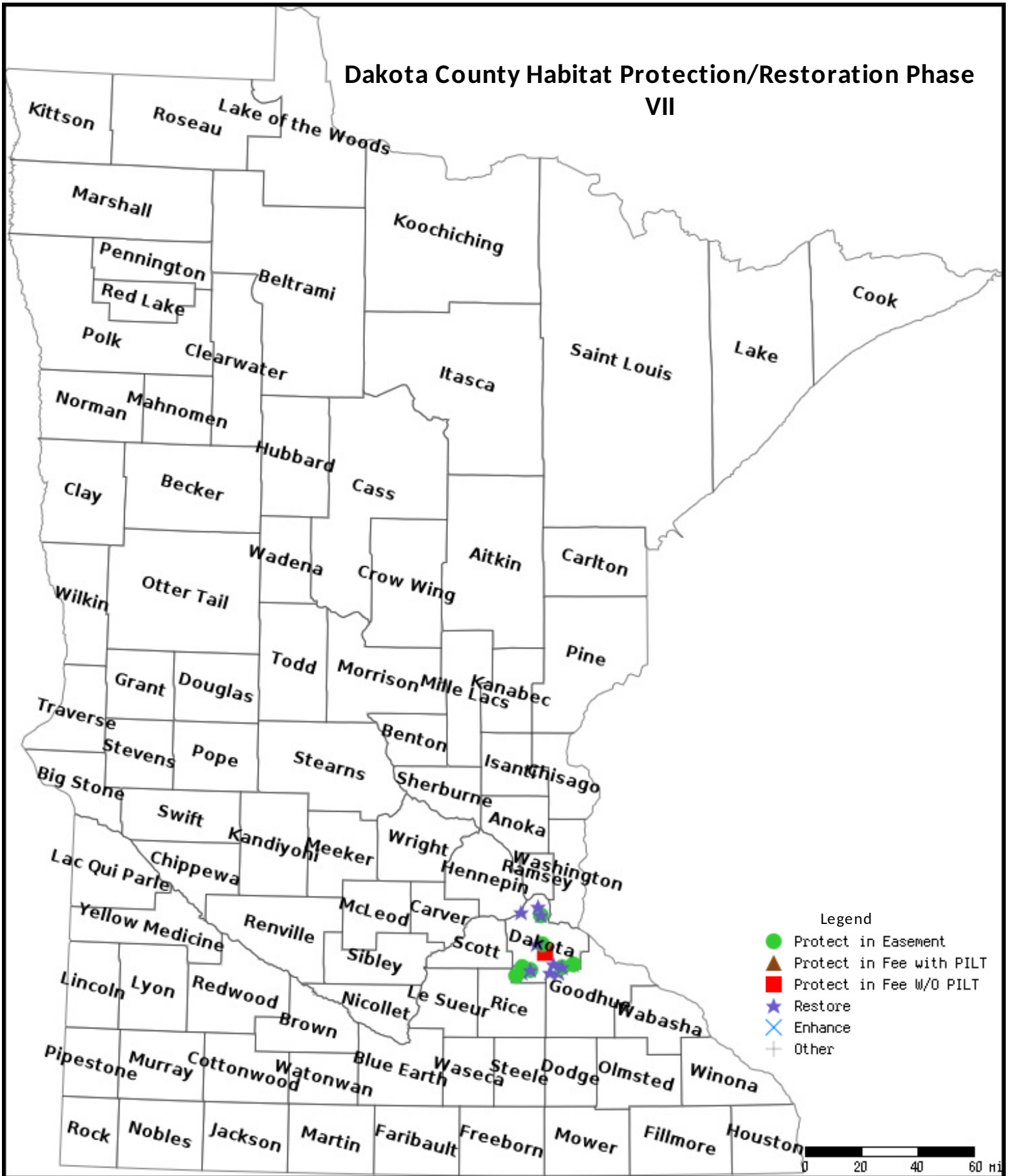
No parcels with an activity type protect and has buildings.

Section 3 - Other Parcel Activity

No parcels with an other activity type.

Parcel Map

Dakota County Habitat Protection/Restoration Phase VII



Data Generated From Parcel List

