

From: [Sandy Smith](#)
Subject: LSOHC Hearing Information Follow-up
Date: Wednesday, September 11, 2013 1:28:04 PM
Attachments: [LSOHC Hearing Questions Answered.pdf](#)
[Information requests from project managers SS.docx](#)

Members: Below is the information that was asked during the hearings that staff has followed up on. Please note that the two in yellow did not respond.

Attached (71 pages) in alpha order are the responses to the question as we received them.

Proposal	Title and Manager	Request
PA 02	DNR Wildlife Management Area and Scientific & Natural Area Acquisition --Phase VI, Pat Rivers	Number of bargain sales that PF has had with WMA proposal
PRE 01	DNR Grassland -- Phase VI, Mike Tenney	Outcomes tables clarification; cite easement acres and dollars, but not contained within the proposal. Please provide the Council with the number of acres of WMA land hayed and grazed in 2012 and 2013
PRE 02	Anoka Sandplain Habitat Restoration and Enhancement - - Phase III, Wayne Ostlie	Break out activities described on pp 2 & 3 of proposal by entity, cost, priority. Will the Refuge allow private bee hives on land?
FA01	Dynamic Forest Conservation, George Fenwick	Cordage, general fund to DNR for forest practices? (IS this the same question as DNR Forestry Division below?) How much money are you transferring to the Conservation Fund as a partner?
FA 04	Northeastern Minnesota Sharp-tailed Grouse Habitat Partnership --Phase V, Ward Julien	What are the goals of the sharp tailed grouse plan?
WA 01	RIM-WRP Partnership -- Phase VI, Tim Koehler	Would RIM-WPR agree to no grazing and haying requirements?
HA 01	MN DNR Aquatic Habitat Program - Phase VI, Brian Nerbonne	Could you provide the Council with a copy of the most recent bi-annual budget for the Fisheries Section in DNR? The detail should show at the program level so as to provide numbers for the AMA acquisition and AMA restoration/enhancement programs. If possible, break the numbers down by program and DNR Regions as well. Number of easement violations? Value of aggregate removed from land? Re: HA03 Vermillion
HA 06	Habitat Protection/Restoration in Dakota County --Phase V, Al Singer	What are legal actions have taken by county for shoreland infractions?
HA 07	Mustinka River Fish and Wildlife Habitat Corridor Rehabilitation, Joe Roeschlein	Map showing all amenities along the Mustinka River. Provide an amended budget and output tables for decreased request?
HRE 01	MN Trout Unlimited Coldwater	Provide cost estimates for each parcel on list

	Fish Habitat Enhancement & Restoration --Phase VI, John Lenczewski	
HRE 03	Duluth 2012 Flood: Stream Habitat Restoration Program, Kate Kubiak	If appropriated the money for this project will be appropriated through the Board of Water and Soil Resources and be available to you on a reimbursement basis. This means you have to cash flow the work. Do you have the cash on hand to pay for the work and wait up to 30 days for reimbursement? Please rank your sub-projects on the basis of habitat value and urgency. Re-do budget to accurately show leverage.
HRE 04	Knife River Habitat Rehabilitation -- Phase II, Scott Kuiti	List of past activities on Knife River
DNR Forestry Division		Would you please provide the LSOHC with a technical review of this program and, given the supplemental funding for Forestry in M.L. 2013, describe the DNR efforts that might be directed toward the objectives of this request?

Sandy Smith
 Lessard -Sams Outdoor Heritage Council
 Room 95, State Office Building
 St. Paul, MN 55155
 651-297-7141
www.lsohc.leg.mn

A

Heather Koop

From: Joe Pavelko [jpavelko@pheasantsforever.org]
Sent: Wednesday, September 04, 2013 1:15 PM
To: Heather Koop
Subject: Wma donations - PF

PA 2

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hi Heather,

To date we have acquired 19 wmas below appraised value or 59% of our wma acquisitions.

Thanks



Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Division of Fish and Wildlife, Prairie Habitat Team

500 Lafayette Rd

St. Paul, MN 55155

Mike Tenney's phone (651)259-5230

michael.tenney@state.mn.us

9/11/2013

Heather E. Koop
Project Analyst Manager
Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
95 State Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

Re: FY15/ML14 L-SOHC Proposal DNR Grassland Phase 6

Dear Ms. Koop,

I would like to thank the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council for this opportunity to provide additional information regarding proposal listed above.

During my testimony regarding this proposal on Wednesday September 4, Councilor Kingston asked for clarification regarding Tables 1-4 that describe easement protection acreage and funding targets that are not explained in the text of the document. I used the Output Tables to describe the impact that the Farm Bill Assistance Positions would have if funded. Through consultation with Farm Bill Assistance partners, I assigned an estimated 4000 acres of easement accomplishments and 4000 acres of enhancement accomplishments to those positions. The funding amounts shown in the "Protect in Easement" rows on Tables 2 and 4 represent 1/2 of the dollar amount we have requested for those positions to represent 1/2 of the accomplishments. I have sought guidance from Council staff and DNR supervisors and I have concluded that since L-SOHC funds will not be used to purchase easements or enhancements directly, the Farm Bill Assistance portion of this proposal will be removed. A revised accomplishment plan has been prepared and submitted.

Councilor Rall asked for information regarding the use of Haying and Grazing on WMA's in Minnesota in 2012 and 2013 and on the recent Emergency Grazing and Haying practice in which we are currently engaged. In any given year, the Section of Wildlife uses conservation grazing or haying on about 10,000 acres via Cooperative Farming Agreements (CFA) on WMAs. In 2013 we had Cooperative Farming Agreements on 657 sites totaling 29,982 acres, roughly one third of which used conservation grazing or haying as a habitat management tool.

[The State utilizes CFAs or leases to be compensated for the value of the forage on WMAs. CFAs use standard forage value rates to barter for services from the cooperator. In a lease situation, the forage value would simply be charged to the cooperator. [The DNR sets grazing and haying rates using National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) data and advice from University of Minnesota Department of Applied Economics and County Extension. Current

Comment [GW1]: Do we not have a \$\$ rate or range we can give? This sounds indirect.

pasture rates set in 2010 range from \$5.00/acre in Lake of the Woods County to \$50.00/acre in Steele County. These rates are revised every five years. Conservation grazing rate reduction numbers for grazing infrastructure installation, maintenance and removal costs born by a cooperator have been set through consultation with our interagency grazing work group.

As you know, Governor Mark Dayton asked the USDA Secretary Tom Vilsack to designate Minnesota as eligible for emergency grazing and haying practices on CRP acres this past spring (see attached letter). The Governor also asked his state agencies that manage conservation lands to assist affected farmers by making public lands available for grazing and haying. Wildlife Managers were asked to do so only where actions were consistent with the purpose of WMA's and achieve a habitat management objective. . DNR Wildlife responded by identifying no grazing sites and 69 sites totaling 922 acres where haying could be used to provide a habitat benefit such as sites where:

- prescribed fire disturbance was needed but burning prescriptions haven't been met
- planned future haying or mowing needs could be expedited
- haying equipment could be used to create firebreaks
- haying equipment could help control seedling woody invasive species encroachment

Managers are currently reporting whether or not any farmers took advantage of the available forage. We can provide a report with this information once it is compiled.

Finally, Councilor Schara raised an inconsistency he saw between DNR's Conservation Grazing on WMAs brochure (attached) and what was being requested in our proposal for fencing, and I'd like to clarify. State owned perimeter fencing and water systems on grazed WMAs are critical to both assure effective boundary fencing to keep livestock in and to avoid the perception of ownership or entitlement by a particular cooperator. The cooperator (livestock owner) is still responsible for providing and managing interior fencing, often portable single-strand energized design, and for maintenance of watering structures and perimeter fencing. The brochure states that CFAs are used to barter for services, such as fence materials and fence work in exchange for the value of the forage. In this proposal, DNR seeks funds for perimeter fencing, watering systems, other permanent infrastructure the cooperator will still be responsible for interior fence and maintenance.

Comment [GW2]: And water systems???

Thanks you again for this opportunity to provide the Council with additional information. If you have any questions or comments, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Mike Tenney
Prairie Habitat Team Leader
500 Lafayette Rd
St. Paul, MN 55155
(651)259-5230
michael.tenney@state.mn.us

B

Request for Funding

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council Fiscal Year 2015 / ML 2014

PRE-01

Program or Project Title: DNR Grassland Phase 6-Keep

Funds Requested: \$2,397,200

Manager's Name: Mike Tenney

Title:

Organization: DNR Wildlife

Street Address: 500 Lafayette Rd

City: St. Paul, MN 55155

Telephone: 651-259-5230

E-Mail: michael.tenney@state.mn.us

Organization Web Site:

County Locations: Anoka, Becker, Beltrami, Big Stone, Blue Earth, Brown, Carver, Clay, Clearwater, Dakota, Douglas, Fillmore, Goodhue, Grant, Houston, Hubbard, Kandiyohi, Kittson, Lac qui Parle, Lyon, Mahnommen, Marshall, Meeker, Mille Lacs, Morrison, Nicollet, Norman, Olmsted, Otter Tail, Polk, Pope, Red Lake, Redwood, Roseau, Scott, Sherburne, Stevens, Swift, Todd, Traverse, Wabasha, Washington, Wilkin, Winona, and Yellow Medicine.

Ecological Planning Regions:

- Forest / Prairie Transition
- Southeast Forest
- Prairie
- Metro / Urban

Activity Type:

- Restore
- Enhance

Priority Resources Addressed by Activity:

- Prairie

Abstract:

Restoration and Enhancement of Prairie on WMA's, SNA's, AMA's and Native Prairie Banks in Minnesota.
Restoration and Enhancement of Bluff Prairies on State Forest Land in Southeast Minnesota.

Design and Scope of Work:

Minnesota's Wildlife Management Area system, started in 1951, has over 60 years of support . Over 1.3 million acres of habitat in over 1,400 WMAs are protected by the DNR. Restoration and enhancement of habitat on WMA's are core management principles. These networks provide diverse year-round food and cover for local wildlife, as well as resources for migratory wildlife. The Minnesota Prairie Conservation Plan stresses strategic habitat complexes that provide multiple benefits including water quality improvements, seed sources and local economic diversity.

Minnesota's Aquatic Management Area system was instigated in 1992. Over 800 miles of important shoreline fish and wildlife habitat have been protected, restored and enhanced. This proposal includes an additional 2000 acres of grassland enhancement projects on AMA's

Minnesota's Scientific and Natural Area program, created by the 1969 Minnesota Legislature, currently administers over 140 natural areas and 100 Native Prairie Bank easements. Most restoration and enhancement

practices being applied with this proposal have been proven to provide desired outcomes on existing state-managed lands. Through this funding, the state will be able to accelerate restoration and enhancement habitat improvements on state land and lands protected by permanent easement thereby providing for improved critical wildlife habitat and a more functional prairie landscape. Habitat improvement actions enhance existing degraded habitat to directly increase the productivity of nesting habitat for pheasants, waterfowl and a variety of non-game grassland species such as meadowlarks, longspurs, Species of Greatest Conservation Need and a suite of critical pollinator species.

Although Minnesota DNR has the training and know-how to restore high quality prairie vegetation current funding has been insufficient to meet all needs. Many sites on state lands are currently not being actively managed to full potential. Furthermore exotic and/or invasive plants are encroaching into them. Woody cover encroachment is an especially troublesome problem. Enhancement and restoration of prairie requires periodic disturbance such as prescribed burning, conservation grazing, haying, inter-seeding grasslands with native species, and up to five years post-seeding management. Newly acquired areas and state-owned marginal croplands also need to be seeded and treated. Harvesting and using high quality seed from established prairie sites to plant at other locations has proven to be highly cost-effective.

WMA Habitat Work (4,000 acres over 4 years) - Total \$721,000

Grassland restoration and enhancement work will be through techniques such as brush and tree removal, bare-ground seeding, grassland conversion, chemical treatment, mowing, inter-seeding, conservation grazing and burning. Seed will be obtained via harvesting of local native or restored prairie when possible and purchase of seed from vendors when necessary (following Operational Order 124). DNR will contract much of this work. Seed mixes used for prairie restoration and enhancement will be adequately diverse to provide pollinator habitat throughout the growing season. All other work will be done using Best Management Practices to ensure pollinator habitat consistent with MN Statute 84.973.

AMA Habitat Work (2000 acres over 4 Years)-Total \$217,920

Grassland enhancement will be through techniques such as grassland conversion, interseeding, chemical treatment, mowing and invasives control. As above, seed source and diversity will be via DNR Operational Order 124 and will address MN Statute 84.973.

WMA Conservation Grazing (9 miles of fence for 730 Acres)-Total \$46,035

There is an increasing willingness by Area Wildlife Managers to employ periodic planned disturbance regimes that mimic historic effects of large prairie grazers. Partnerships with private livestock owners will be formed to perform conservation grazing operations on WMA's in an attempt to increase grassland species and structural diversity. This application request funds the construction of 9 miles of perimeter fence to enable the treatment of 730 acres of prairie on Wildlife Management Areas in Big Stone and Swift counties.

Ecological and Water Resources Habitat Work (approximately 7280 acres over 4 years) - Total \$1,412,150

Restoration of prairie will occur on 15 acres of severely altered lands by reconstructing native plant communities. These restorations are either in-holdings within a native prairie, or lands surrounding a native prairie. Seed will be collected from native prairies adjacent to the restorations or purchased from vendors with local seed sources. Seed mixes will be adequately diverse to provide pollinator habitat throughout the growing season. These restorations will expand existing prairie habitat and buffer native prairies from the impacts of adjacent land uses. Funding requested for restoration projects will cover all costs and activities associated with reconstructing a prairie including project design, seedbed preparation, seed harvest, seed installation, and first year weed control. Prairie enhancement activities will be implemented on 7265 acres of existing SNA's, State Forest Land and Prairie Bank Easement sites. Funding requested for enhancement projects will cover all project costs and activities including project design, contract administration, staff time, equipment and supplies. These enhancement activities will focus on native prairies, but may include some restored prairies within the project sites. Many of these native prairie sites harbor rare and unique features, or are located on steep terrain, which require low impact management techniques (e.g. hand cutting of woody encroachment). These specialized prairie management techniques, and the skilled crews that implement them, can incur higher costs than similar lower diversity grassland projects.

Restoration and enhancement practices will be designed and administered by DNR staff, while implementation will use a combination of DNR staff and contracted services. There is a backlog of management needs on DNR administered lands and implementation of restoration and enhancement can begin immediately upon receipt of

funds. Restoration and enhancement projects would be completed by the end of FY 18.

Planning

MN State-wide Conservation Plan Priorities:

- H5 Restore land, wetlands and wetland-associated watersheds
- H7 Keep water on the landscape

Plans Addressed:

- Driftless Area Restoration Effort
- Grassland Conservation Plan for Prairie Grouse
- Long Range Duck Recovery Plan
- Long Range Plan for the Ring-Necked Pheasant in MN
- Minnesota DNR Nongame Wildlife Plans
- Minnesota DNR Scientific and Natural Area's Long Range Plan
- Minnesota DNR Strategic Conservation Agenda
- Minnesota Prairie Conservation Plan
- Outdoor Heritage Fund: A 25 Year Framework
- Partners in Flight Grassland Bird Plan
- Tomorrow's Habitat for the Wild and Rare
- U.S. Prairie Pothole Joint Venture Plan

LSOHC Statewide Priorities:

- Address Minnesota landscapes that have historical value to fish and wildlife, wildlife species of greatest conservation need, Minnesota County Biological Survey data, and rare, threatened and endangered species inventories in land and water decisions, as well as long-term or permanent solutions to aquatic invasive species
- Are ongoing, successful, transparent and accountable programs addressing actions and targets of one or more of the ecological sections
- Ensures activities for "protecting, restoring and enhancing" are coordinated among agencies, non profits and others while doing this important work; provides the most cost-effective use of financial resources; and where possible takes into consideration the value of local outreach, education, and community engagement to sustain project outcomes
- Produce multiple enduring conservation benefits
- Restore or enhance habitat on permanently protected land

LSOHC Prairie Section Priorities:

- Protect, enhance, or restore existing wetland/upland complexes, or convert agricultural lands to new wetland/upland habitat complexes
- Protect, enhance, and restore remnant native prairie, Big Woods forests, and oak savanna
- Restore or enhance habitat on public lands
- Protect, enhance, and restore migratory habitat for waterfowl and related species, so as to increase migratory and breeding success

LSOHC Forest Prairie Transition Section Priorities:

- Protect, enhance, and restore wild rice wetlands, shallow lakes, wetland/grassland complexes, aspen parklands, and shoreland that provide critical habitat for game and nongame wildlife
- Protect, enhance, and restore rare native remnant prairie
- Protect, enhance, and restore migratory habitat for waterfowl and related species, so as to increase migratory and breeding success

LSOHC Metro Urban Section Priorities:

- Protect, enhance, and restore remnant native prairie, Big Woods forests, and oak savanna with an emphasis on areas with high biological diversity

LSOHC Southeast Forest Section Priorities:

- Protect, enhance, and restore remnant goat prairies

Relationship to Other Constitutional Funds:

- No Relationships Listed

Accelerates or Supplements Current Efforts:

This restoration and enhancement proposal plans for work on Wildlife Management Areas and Aquatic Management Areas that is supplemental to normal work load. WMA Conservation grazing contracts (Cooperative Farming Agreements or Agricultural Leases) will add needed disturbance regimes and will build and strengthen community relationships. SNA and Prairie Bank restoration and enhancement will improve structural and species diversity for this extremely important and rare prairie habitat.

Sustainability and Maintenance:

WMA and AMA

Routine maintenance will be accomplished by Area and Fisheries and Wildlife staff as part of their public land management responsibilities within future operating budgets. Cooperative Farming Agreement barter will allow for some maintenance to perimeter grazing fences. Periodic enhancements such as invasive species removal, prescribed burning, or supplemental vegetation planting will be accomplished through annual funding requests from a variety of funding sources including but not limited to Game and Fish Fund, Bonding, Gifts, Federal Sources, Environmental Trust Fund, and Outdoor Heritage Fund.

SNAs

The Division of Ecological and Water Resources and its protection, restoration, and enhancement activities are supported largely by special project funds. The ongoing maintenance of SNA administered lands requires the program to continually seek additional funds to perform its mission. In the future the SNA program will continue to seek Outdoor Heritage Funds as well as other project appropriations to protect, restore, and enhance natural areas.

Permanent Protection:

Is the activity on permanently protected land and/or public waters per MS 103G.005, Subd. 15? - Yes (WMA, SNA, AMA, Private Land, State Forests)

Accomplishment Timeline

Activity	Approximate Date Completed
WMA Restoration and Enhancement Habitat Work	6/30/18
Conservation Grazing via Perimeter Fence Construction Contracts	6/30/18
SNA and Prairie Bank Easement Restoration and Enhancement and SE Bluff Prairie Enhancement.	6/30/18
AMA Enhancement Habitat Work	6/30/18

Outcomes

Programs in forest-prairie transition region:

- Protected, restored, and enhanced nesting and migratory habitat for waterfowl, upland birds, and species of greatest conservation need *Grassland monitoring project by DNR Fish and Wildlife and Ecological and*

Water Resources, waterfowl and farmland wildlife surveys

- Remnant native prairies are part of large complexes of restored prairies, grasslands, and large and small wetlands *Remnant prairie protection is the primary goal of the Prairie Plan and will be monitored yearly.*

Programs in metropolitan urbanizing region:

- A network of natural land and riparian habitats will connect corridors for wildlife and species in greatest conservation need

Programs in southeast forest region:

- Remnant bluff prairies will be enhanced and expanded through the elimination of competing woody invasive species. EWR staff will monitor the progress of enhancement contracts.

Programs in prairie region:

- Improved condition of habitat on public lands *FAW and EWR restoration and enhancement project completion reports prepared annually*
- Increased participation of private landowners in habitat projects *The highly successful Prairie Bank Easement program will be continued and evaluated. Farm Bill Assistants will report success annually.*
- Key core parcels are protected for fish, game and other wildlife *Prairie Bank Easement procurement will be reviewed annually. Farm Bill assistants will report success annually. Local Technical Teams will target key core parcels.*

Budget Spreadsheet

Total Amount of Request: \$2,397,200

Budget and Cash Leverage

Budget Name	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	\$536,300	\$0		\$536,300
Contracts	\$1,411,700	\$0		\$1,411,700
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	\$0	\$0		\$0
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	\$0	\$0		\$0
Easement Acquisition	\$0	\$0		\$0
Easement Stewardship	\$0	\$0		\$0
Travel	\$45,000	\$0		\$45,000
Professional Services	\$0	\$0		\$0
Direct Support Services	\$198,100	\$0		\$198,100
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	\$0	\$0		\$0
Capital Equipment	\$0	\$0		\$0
Other Equipment/Tools	\$34,000	\$0		\$34,000
Supplies/Materials	\$172,100	\$0		\$172,100
DNR IDP	\$0	\$0		\$0
Total	\$2,397,200	\$0	-	\$2,397,200

Personnel

Position	FTE	Over # of years	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Position	1.75	4.00	\$367,500	\$0		\$367,500
Position	1.25	4.00	\$168,800	\$0		\$168,800
Total	3.00	8.00	\$536,300	\$0	-	\$536,300

Capital Equipment

Item Name	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
	\$0	\$0		\$0
Total	\$0	\$0	-	\$0

Output Tables

Table 1. Acres by Resource Type

Type	Wetlands	Prairies	Forest	Habitats	Total
Restore	0	214	0	0	214
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	0	0	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	13,796	0	0	13,796
Total	0	14,010	0	0	14,010

Table 2. Total Requested Funding by Resource Type

Type	Wetlands	Prairies	Forest	Habitats	Total
Restore	\$0	\$101,300	\$0	\$0	\$101,300
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$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	\$2,295,900	\$0	\$0	\$2,295,900
Total	\$0	\$2,397,200	\$0	\$0	\$2,397,200

Table 3. Acres within each Ecological Section

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	Northern Forest	Total
Restore	0	0	50	164	0	214
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	0	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Easement	0	0	0	0	0	0
Enhance	656	3,661	1,775	7,704	0	13,796
Total	656	3,661	1,825	7,868	0	14,010

Table 4. Total Requested Funding within each Ecological Section

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	Northern Forest	Total
Restore	\$0	\$0	\$32,500	\$68,800	\$0	\$101,300
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Easement	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Enhance	\$364,300	\$300,200	\$780,100	\$851,300	\$0	\$2,295,900
Total	\$364,300	\$300,200	\$812,600	\$920,100	\$0	\$2,397,200

Table 5. Target Lake/Stream/River Miles

0 miles

Parcel List

Section 1 - Restore / Enhance Parcel List

Anoka

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
Blaine Preserve SNA	03123226	8	\$20,000	Yes
Ham Lake AMA	03223221	19	\$8,000	Yes
Linwood Lake AMA	03322217	46	\$30,000	Yes

Becker

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
Bog Lake AMA	14036217	20	\$15,000	Yes
Straight River AMA	14036205	80	\$40,000	Yes
Straight River AMA	14036236	80	\$40,000	Yes

Beltrami

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
Balm Lake AMA	15035223	150	\$15,000	Yes
Big Turtle Lake AMA	14833227	28	\$30,000	Yes
Blackduck Lake AMA	14931209	15	\$15,000	Yes
Red Lake WMA (Area Wide)	15935208	650	\$47,000	Yes
Turtle River Lake AMA	14732212	3	\$5,000	Yes

Big Stone

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
Big Stone 6-1 NPB	12246206	7	\$2,500	Yes
Bonanza Prairie SNA	12348220	41	\$5,000	Yes
Johnson NPB	12247212	80	\$8,000	Yes
Lac Qui Parle	12045203	14	\$5,600	Yes
Schellberg NPB	12146201	35	\$5,000	Yes
Victory WMA	12245231	650	\$32,250	Yes

Blue Earth

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
Ida Lake AMA	10528212	3	\$5,000	Yes

Brown

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
Eden 19-1 NPB	11233219	22	\$40,000	Yes

Carver

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
Bavaria Lake AMA	11623219	6	\$5,000	Yes
Lotus Lake AMA	11623211	9	\$8,000	Yes
Zumbra Lake AMA	11624201	3	\$5,000	Yes

Clay

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
Assinaboia Prairie SNA	14245221	200	\$6,000	Yes
B-B Ranch NPB	14146213	512	\$6,000	Yes
Bicentennial Prairie SNA	14145205	150	\$6,000	Yes
Blanket Flower Prairie SNA	13744214	200	\$6,000	Yes
Felton Prairie County Land	14145206	150	\$6,000	Yes
Rogers NPB	13746227	40	\$2,000	Yes
Shrike Prairie SNA	14245230	45	\$2,000	Yes
Strand N NPB	14244219	45	\$2,000	Yes
Strand S NPB	14244230	160	\$6,000	Yes
Ulen 29 NPB	14244229	37	\$2,000	Yes

Clearwater

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
Long Lost Lake AMA	13437218	9	\$10,000	Yes

Dakota

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
Chimney Rock SNA	11417231	4	\$10,500	Yes
Vermillion River AMA	11418219	75	\$50,000	Yes

Douglas

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
Engelbrecht WMA	12737225	30	\$7,240	Yes
Lund 21 NPB	13040221	40	\$2,000	Yes
Lund 2 NPB	13040221	20	\$5,600	Yes
Lund 2 NPB	13040202	300	\$6,000	Yes
Lund 2 NPB	13040202	555	\$20,000	Yes
Roger M. Holmes WMA	12936214	78	\$18,120	Yes

Fillmore

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
Chosen Valley WMA	10412206	195	\$35,000	Yes
Dr. Johan C. Hvoslf WMA	10209226	14	\$10,500	Yes
Nosek WMA	10113224	11	\$19,000	Yes
Pin Oak Prairie SNA	10412224	17	\$4,250	Yes
Spring Valley WMA	10313208	43	\$8,000	Yes

Goodhue

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
River Terrace Prairie SNA	11217201	5	\$7,000	Yes
Spring Creek Prairie SNA	11315234	40	\$6,000	Yes
Spring Creek Prairie SNA	11315234	35	\$73,000	Yes

Grant

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
Olsen NPB	12841206	40	\$2,000	Yes
Woodke NPB	12741232	15	\$5,000	Yes
Woodke NPB	12741232	43	\$2,000	Yes

Houston

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
Ferndale Ridge WMA	10407232	15	\$10,000	Yes
Jefferson Twp State Forest	10104220	35	\$84,000	Yes
Mound Prairie SNA	10405234	20	\$3,000	Yes
Wetbark State Forest	10307212	50	\$120,000	Yes

Hubbard

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
Grace Lake AMA	14532205	12	\$12,000	Yes
Straight Lake AMA	13935210	7	\$7,000	Yes

Kandiyohi

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
Dietrich Lange WMA	12133229	23	\$50,600	Yes

Kittson

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
Karlstad Area Wide	15945217	700	\$74,000	Yes
Karlstad Area Wide	15945217	500	\$75,000	Yes
Lake Bronson SNA	16146225	100	\$4,000	Yes

Lac qui Parle

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
Lac Qui Parle	11845230	20	\$8,000	Yes
Lac Qui Parle	12045213	251	\$15,000	Yes
Salt Lake WMA	11746205	47	\$18,800	Yes
Wild Wings WMA	11643222	40	\$16,000	Yes

Lyon

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
Gadwall WMA	10942217	32	\$15,000	Yes
Garvin WMA	10941221	80	\$15,000	Yes

Mahnomon

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
Santee Prairie SNA	14541206	200	\$6,000	Yes

Marshall

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
Frank Rose AMA	15750230	110	\$11,000	Yes
Marsh Grove 36 NPB	15045236	300	\$6,000	Yes

Meeker

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
Jennie Lake AMA	11829233	6	\$5,000	Yes
Minniebelle Lake AMA	11831212	16	\$8,000	Yes
North Fork Crow River AMA	12132224	44	\$5,000	Yes
Thompson Lake AMA	11732217	54	\$50,000	Yes

Mille Lacs

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
Chuck Davis AMA	03626203	48	\$25,000	Yes

Morrison

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
McDougall AMA	03932229	30	\$20,000	Yes
Shamaineau AMA	13231216	47	\$25,000	Yes

Nicollet

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
Swan Lake WMA (Area Wide)	11029224	295	\$55,000	Yes

Norman

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
Detroit Lakes Area Wide	14341205	250	\$65,000	Yes
Home Lake 28 NPB	14344228	18	\$2,000	Yes
Prairie Smoke Dunes SNA	14644217	450	\$6,000	Yes
Sandpiper Prairie SNA	14345204	200	\$6,000	Yes

Olmsted

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
Oronoco Prairie SNA	10814222	25	\$6,250	Yes
Oronoco Prairie SNA	10814222	12	\$29,400	Yes
Oronoco Prairie SNA	10814222	30	\$30,000	Yes

Otter Tail

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
Dead River-Walker Lake AMA	13440211	86	\$40,000	Yes
Nidaros 21 NPB	13239221	30	\$2,000	Yes
Otter Tail Prairie SNA	13144217	100	\$4,000	Yes
Wallace NPB	13140235	100	\$4,000	Yes

Polk

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
Crookston Prairie SNA	14944218	200	\$6,000	Yes
Foxboro Prairie SNA	14845203	80	\$3,200	Yes
Gully Fen SNA	15039224	300	\$6,000	Yes

Pope

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
Anderson Prairie	12438229	200	\$6,000	Yes
Blue Mounds 10-1	12439210	15	\$5,000	Yes
Blue Mounds 10-1	12439210	150	\$6,000	Yes
Glenwood AMA	12537208	197	\$50,000	Yes
Lake Johanna 31-2	12336231	66	\$10,000	Yes
Lake Johanna 31-2	12336231	30	\$2,000	Yes
Langhei Prairie SNA	12339232	20	\$2,000	Yes
Sedan Pond WMA	12537235	7	\$25,350	Yes
Selix NPB	12439209	15	\$2,000	Yes
Vegoe NPB	12438228	55	\$2,000	Yes

Red Lake

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
Lake Pleasant 22	15044222	25	\$2,000	Yes

Redwood

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
Cedar Rock SNA	11336203	30	\$65,000	Yes
Riverside AMA	11335228	212	\$30,000	Yes
Sanborn Lake AMA	10936227	61	\$15,000	Yes
Swedes Forest 22-1 NPB	11437222	15	\$35,000	Yes
Whispering Ridge	11436230	178	\$50,000	Yes

Roseau

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
Two Rivers Aspen Parkland SNA	16044220	500	\$6,000	Yes

Scott

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
Carls Lake AMA	11322201	3	\$5,000	Yes
Eagle Creek AMA	11521218	168	\$60,000	Yes
ODowd Lake AMA	11523224	6	\$7,000	Yes
Savage Fen SNA	11521217	80	\$169,000	Yes
St. Catherine Lake AMA	11322202	40	\$30,000	Yes

Sherburne

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
Uncas Dunes SNA	03427221	65	\$16,250	Yes

Stevens

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
Bill Freeman WMA	12342220	27	\$4,000	Yes
Verlyn Marth Prairie SNA	12642206	15	\$2,000	Yes

Swift

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
Clair Rollings WMA	12140221	80	\$10,000	Yes
Josart WMA	12140235	28	\$12,000	Yes

Todd

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
Little Birch AMA	12733224	24	\$20,000	Yes

Traverse

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
Spafford Prairie	12648212	60	\$2,000	Yes
Walls 18-1 NPB	12947207	24	\$2,000	Yes
Walls 7-1 NPB	12547207	40	\$2,000	Yes
Walls 7-2 NPB	12647207	15	\$2,000	Yes
Walls 8-1	12647208	40	\$2,000	Yes

Wabasha

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
Kellogg Weaver Dunes SNA	10909206	70	\$5,600	Yes
Kellogg Weaver Dunes SNA	10909201	135	\$22,800	Yes
McCarthy lake WMA	10910202	10	\$6,000	Yes
Whitewater WMA	10909231	40	\$26,500	Yes

Washington

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
Demontreville Lake AMA	02921204	7	\$10,000	Yes
Forest Lake AMA	03221211	87	\$50,000	Yes
Grey Cloud Dunes SNA	02721229	16	\$24,000	Yes
Grey Cloud Dunes SNA	02721232	30	\$7,500	Yes
Grey Cloud Dunes SNA	02721232	14	\$17,600	Yes
Lost Valley Prairie SNA	02720228	14	\$21,000	Yes
Lost Valley Prairie SNA	02720229	80	\$12,000	Yes
St. Croix Savanna SNA	02920215	10	\$2,500	Yes
St. Croix Savanna SNA	02920215	9	\$11,000	Yes

Wilkin

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
Bilden NPB	13545215	50	\$2,000	Yes
Tanberg 20 NPB	13545220	100	\$4,000	Yes

Winona

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
Whitewater WMA	10710202	85	\$204,000	Yes
Whitewater WMA (Area Wide)	10909231	600	\$20,000	Yes

Yellow Medicine

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
Mound Spring Prairie SNA	11546218	60	\$5,000	Yes
Mound Spring Prairie SNA	11546217	31	\$5,000	Yes
Mound Spring Prairie SNA	11546217	15	\$8,000	Yes
Swede Forest SNA	11438212	5	\$7,200	Yes

Section 2 - Protect Parcel List

No parcels with an activity type protect.

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.

U

PREP

Heather Koop

From: Wayne Ostlie [wostlie@greatrivergreening.org]
Sent: Monday, September 09, 2013 10:11 AM
To: Heather Koop
Cc: Sandy Smith; Bill Becker
Subject: RE: Follow-up questions from LSOHC meeting
Attachments: Priority Rank by Site by Submitting Organization.xls

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Heather:

I hope this finds you well. I have heard from all of the partners and have attached (via Excel spreadsheet) a breakdown of priorities by participating partner. Included in that is a rank order by site, site description (as in the proposal), and funding amount. Please let me know if this format works or if you'd like me to recast in any way.

In addition, I am supplying text from the USFWS related to the potential use of bee hives on refuge property, as submitted by Steve Karel, refuge manager for Sherburne and Crane Meadows NWRs. I am inserting the full text of that email below, including an inserted text from Steve Karel.

Again, please let me know if you would like additional information.

Best,

Wayne

Wayne, please pass the following information on to the council members in response to the question about bee hives. If there was a request for any particular refuge to have bee hives, It first would have to be approved by the refuge manager and then go out for public comment through the "compatibility determination" process and finally be approved by the Regional Chief.

I have seen bee hives placed in visitor centers for educational purposes but I am doubtful that refuge managers would want to promote pollination of invasive plant species as the following information states. This response is from Cindy Kane in the Washington office. She can provide literature citations if requested.

Steve Karel
Project Leader
Sherburne/Crane Meadows/Rice Lake NWR Complex
17076 293rd Ave.
Zimmerman, MN 55398-6000
Office 763-389-3323 ext.11
Cell- 763-244-0060
Fax-763-389-3493

In response to the question posed by email on April 24, 2013 to the Federal IPM Coordinating Committee members: "Can managed honey bees be placed on the lands that your Federal agency manages," in general the U.S. Fish and Wildlife

Service (Service) does not allow managed, or commercial, beekeeping on National Wildlife Refuge System (NWRS) lands, as it is an activity that is generally not compatible with a refuge mission. The Service has had few requests for this use of NWRS land.

The Service's departmental manual Compatibility policy (603 FW 2) requires that the Service undertake a review for compatibility of all proposed and existing uses of national wildlife refuge lands in light of the establishing purposes of the particular refuge. Beekeeping activities, as a potential use, (as well as many other activities) would be reviewed under this policy. Often, a refuge mission includes the conservation of native species and their habitats. Conducting the compatibility analysis of a requested use (such as beekeeping) is the responsibility of the Refuge Manager in concurrence with a regional Refuge Chief. If a proposed use is determined to be compatible with a refuge mission, goals, and objectives, the proposed use would be authorized by a special use permit issued by the refuge.

Literature indicates that the non-native honey bees often preferentially contribute to pollination of non-native (European) plants, often these are invasive species that we may be actively trying to control or eradicate as they degrade or diminish the quality of the native habitat. Honeybees are not native to North America and are not needed for pollination of any native plant. Evidence indicates that non-native honey bees visiting a nectar source can leave behind disease in the nectar, and that can then be transferred to native bees visiting the same nectar source.

Many native North American bees are solitary. Many native plant species have adapted to attract a specific native bee. Native plants are not often adapted to receive honey bees visits, which usually come in large numbers, depleting the food source the native plants provide to native pollinators, and potentially contributing to plant extinction by not having its specific pollinator.

Cindy Kane
National Integrated Pest Management Coordinator
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
4401 North Fairfax Drive, Suite 657
Arlington, Virginia 22203

Office: 1 703/358-1831
cell: 1 703/283-6635
Fax: 1 703/358-1800

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The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's mission is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people.

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Wayne Ostlie

Director of Conservation Programs: Great River Greening

p. 651.665.9500 x19 | c. 651.894.3870 | wostlie@greatrivergreening.org | www.greatrivergreening.org

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From: Heather Koop [mailto:heather.koop@lsohc.leg.mn]

Sent: Friday, September 06; 2013 11:10 AM

To: Wayne Ostlie

Cc: Sandy Smith; Bill Becker

Subject: RE: Follow-up questions from LSOHC meeting

Wayne,

Thanks much. You indeed have provided the cost information, but if you wouldn't mind putting the cost and priority together, I'd greatly appreciate it, along with FWS formal response.

Heather

From: Wayne Ostlie [mailto:wostlie@greatrivergreening.org]

Sent: Friday, September 06, 2013 11:10 AM

To: Heather Koop

Cc: Sandy Smith; Bill Becker

Subject: RE: Follow-up questions from LSOHC meeting

Heather:

Thank you for the reminder.

Related to request #1 (pages 2-4), my confusion as to this request, both at the hearing itself and now, is that these costs are detailed in the attached parcel list (pages 13 and 14). I will ask partners to identify priorities among their respective sites and provide that, but wonder whether we haven't already addressed the first part of the request. Please advise accordingly.

I will ask Steve Karel for a formal response to the question of bees, but he did answer that question at the hearing. Due to FWS regs, beekeeping is not allowed on the refuge.

Stay tuned.

Wayne

Wayne Ostlie

Director of Conservation Programs

Great River Greening

35 W Water Street, Suite 201

St. Paul, MN 55107

651 894-3870 (cell)

651 665-9500 x19 (office)

-----Original Message-----

From: Heather Koop [<mailto:heather.koop@lsohc.leg.mn>]
Sent: Fri 9/6/2013 10:36 AM
To: Wayne Ostlie
Cc: Sandy Smith; Bill Becker
Subject: Follow-up questions from LSOHC meeting

Hi, Wayne,

During your presentation of Anoka Sand Plain Habitat Restoration and Enhancement, Ph. III proposa, Council members requested that you provide additional information.

* Pages 2 and 3 list a series of activities to be undertaken by the partners. Please send us the list with cost and priority of projects, by entity.

* A question was posed as to whether the Refuge would allow private bee hives on Refuge land. Please confirm whether this activity would be allowed.

Please respond no later than 3 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 10. Thanks much.

Heather

Organization Priority Rank/Site Name	Description	Funding Request
Great River Greening		
1. Sand Dunes State Forest	<p>The new SDSF <i>Operational Plan</i> (2013), developed to bring balance between economic and ecological assets of the Forest, identifies 630 acres of the 5,700-acre forest for immediate action to address imperiled native plant communities and rare species. <u>Actions:</u> Enhancement of 375 acres of priority habitat through pine removal, prescribed burning, and invasive species control.</p> <p>This 30,700-acre refuge was created to protect/restore habitats for migratory birds and other wildlife, with a focus on oak savanna, wetlands and Big Woods habitat. <u>Actions:</u> Enhancement of 2,400 acres of wetland/meadow and oak savanna habitat through prescribed fire, herbicide cattail control, and initiation of a grazing regime (with construction of a 9.5 mile fence).</p>	\$ 420,300
2. Sherburne NWR	<p>This 569-acre WMA includes forest interspersed with wetlands, offering diverse recreational opportunities ranging from hunting/fishing to skiing. <u>Actions:</u> Enhancement of 322 acres of mixed forest and wetland habitat through woody invasive species control.</p> <p>This 228-acre WMA of high-quality floodplain forest, oak woodland and restored prairie, lies along the Mississippi River and is home to more than 30 SGCN. <u>Actions:</u> Enhancement of 200 acres of oak woodland and savanna through woody invasive species control.</p>	\$ 454,600
3. BenLacs WMA	<p>Crane Meadows was established to preserve the state's largest sedge meadow wetland complex and associated breeding sandhill crane population, and includes a diverse mix of native prairie, savanna, and wetlands. <u>Actions:</u> Enhancement of 480 acres of habitat through woody thinning/control, seeding, and tree planting.</p> <p>This 700-acre WMA is characterized by prairie and aspen/oak woodland, and is the first designated Environmental Education Area in the state, providing strong connections to local schools/colleges. <u>Actions:</u> Enhancement of 62 acres of oak woodland through invasive species control.</p>	\$ 189,400
4. McDougal WMA	<p>This 718-acre WMA is a mosaic of marsh, brushland, prairie and hardwood forest that provides habitat for game and non-game species alike. <u>Actions:</u> Enhancement of 88 acres of hardwood forest through woody invasive species control.</p> <p>Situated on Round Lake, the park's woodlands and restored prairies provide habitat for many species ranging from waterfowl and songbirds to Blanding's turtles. <u>Actions:</u> Enhancement of 35 acres of Big Woods forest through invasive species control and planting.</p>	\$ 105,300
5. Crane Meadows NWR	Enhancement of 62 acres of oak woodland through invasive species control.	\$ 150,790
6. Sand Prairie WMA	Enhancement of 88 acres of hardwood forest through woody invasive species control.	\$ 56,300
7. Mud Lake WMA	Enhancement of 35 acres of Big Woods forest through invasive species control and planting.	\$ 68,400
8. Kelsey Round Lake Park		\$ 57,400

Anoka Conservation District

1. Rum River Riparian Restoration, Cedar Creek Nature Reserve and Rum River Central Regional Park	One mile of eroding riverbank has been identified along Anoka County's Rum River on public park lands, impacting habitat for fish species. <u>Actions:</u> Enhancement of 850 feet of riparian and instream habitat through installation of weirs, cedar revetments, and willow staking.	\$	170,000
2. Anoka Nature Preserve	On the banks of the Rum River, this 200-acre forest/wetland preserve provides habitat for a diversity of species. <u>Actions:</u> Restoration of 55 acres of old field into prairie.	\$	40,195
3. Buckthorn Clean Sweep	Anoka County supports over 3,000 acres of high quality (MCBS mapped) natural habitat on public lands, <u>Actions:</u> Enhancement of 760 acres of MCBS forest habitat on public lands through buckthorn control.	\$	33,000

Isanti County Parks

1. Vegsund County Park	This 80-acre park consists of oak woodland, restored prairies, wetlands, along 1/2 mile of Lake Seventeen's undeveloped shoreline, an attractive fishery. <u>Actions:</u> Enhancement of 18 acres of woodland through removal of woody invasive species and prescribed burning.	\$	12,303
2. Cambridge City Park	This 151-acre park protects floodplain forest situated along 1.5 miles of the Wild & Scenic Rum River. <u>Actions:</u> Enhancement of 67 acres of floodplain forest through woody invasive control.	\$	95,088
3. Springvale County Park	This 211-acre park is situated on Johnny's Lake and lies on rolling eskers of prairie, woodlands and wetlands. <u>Actions:</u> Enhancement of 34 acres of oak woodland through removal of woody invasive control and prescribed burning.	\$	15,530
4. Anderson County Park	The 1/4-acre park lies adjacent to Horseshoe and Horse Leg lakes, and consists of wetlands, prairie and oak savanna/woodland in the process of restoration. <u>Actions:</u> Enhancement of 18 acres of oak woodland through removal of woody invasive control and prescribed fire.	\$	9,350

Stearns SWCD

1. Mississippi River County Park	This 340-acre park contains 1.3 miles of Mississippi River frontage, and 80 acres of upland forest and restored prairie managed in their natural state. <u>Actions:</u> Enhancement of forest through invasive species control; restoration of 630 feet of river shoreline.	\$	118,000
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AMERICAN BIRD CONSERVANCY

Shaping the future for birds

September 10, 2013

OFFICERS

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David Hartwell
Chair

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard
State Office Building Room 95
St. Paul, MN 55155

Re: Dynamic Forest Conservation (FA 01)

Dear Chair Hartwell:

Thank you and the Council members again for the opportunity to appear before you on September 5th to present our proposal.

DIRECTORS

Kenneth Berlin

Victor Emanuel

Jonathan Franzen

Kathryn A. Hale

David Harrison

Jennifer Haverkamp

Carolyn B. Hendricks

Nicholas Lapham

William H. Leighty

R. James Macaleer

Jeff Rusinow

Lawrence A. Selzer

Craig D. Thompson

Robert E. Weeden

Nancy L. Weiss

Jeff Woodman

Several questions were asked about our proposal and I would like to address them here. First, Council Member Schara requested a map of the focal areas. We attached that map to the Phase I proposal, and are happy to provide it again here. It is based upon the best science regarding Golden-wing Warbler distribution in Minnesota and we will continue to target our work according to the priorities established by our partners in Minnesota.

You and others inquired about what happens to wood products generated by our restoration activities. As you know, we received the funding contract to proceed with restoration from LSOHC just this past August so no wood products have been generated as yet. In cooperation with our partners at the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the DNR, (building on their successful, but limited, efforts using Conservation Partners Legacy funding from previous grants), we will engage contractors to perform the needed forest management on targeted sites. Where there is the possibility of generating a saleable product, we will, as USFWS and DNR have done so well in the past, aggressively seek out opportunities to leverage LSOHC funding via sales. Any generated revenue will be used exclusively for management activities consistent with



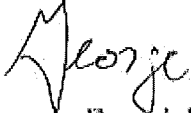
the purpose of this grant. **ABC will not keep any profits generated from the land.** That said the opportunities for generating revenue from the restoration efforts are likely to be very limited which is why this funding is so desperately needed.

Representative Hansen mentioned that there was funding for forest enhancement projects within the General Fund. We have asked our partners at DNR as to how this may be used and their response is that the General Fund appropriation is spread throughout the state forests and there is not adequate funding to achieve the goals put forth in this Dynamic Forest Proposal.

Thank you again for the funding we received in Phase I of this project. As we stated, we are off to a very successful start having already exceeded, with the help of The Conservation Fund, the acquisition goals within just a month of the start of the project and at substantially less money than was budgeted. Likewise, our recent hire has already identified hundreds of acres within the Tamarac NWR to be targeted this fall for restoration work. We are proud of our work thus far and with your help we can continue this terrific momentum.

Thank you and please do not hesitate to call if you have any questions.

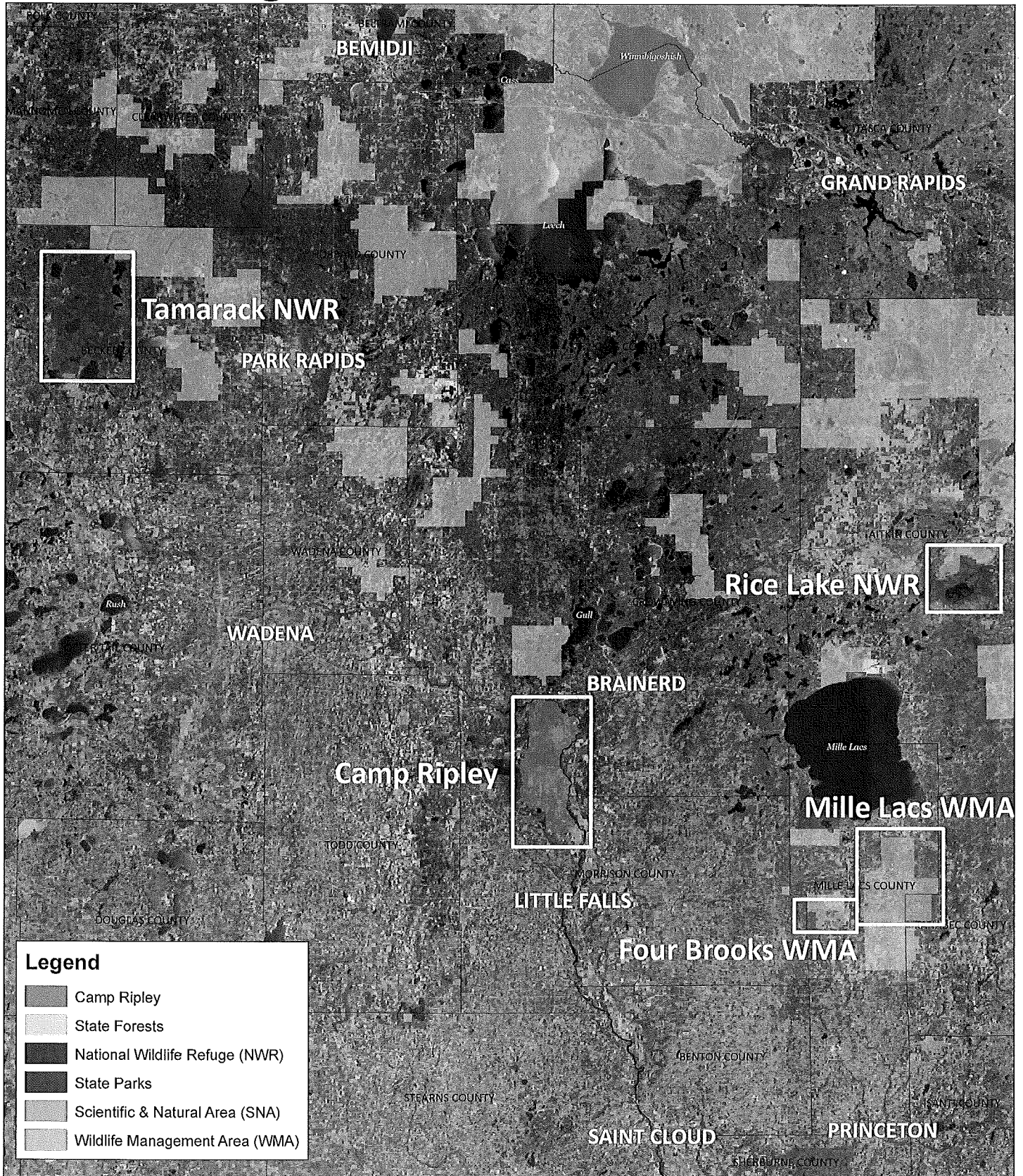
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "George".

George Fenwick
President
American Bird Conservancy

Golden-winged Warbler Focus Areas

THE CONSERVATION FUND
America's Partner in Conservation



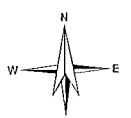
0 5 10 20 30 40 50 Miles
0 5 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 Kilometers



Data courtesy of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Minnesota Department of Transportation, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 2010 FSA Aerial Photo.

Map by Ned Phillips for The Conservation Fund

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GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER FOCAL AREAS

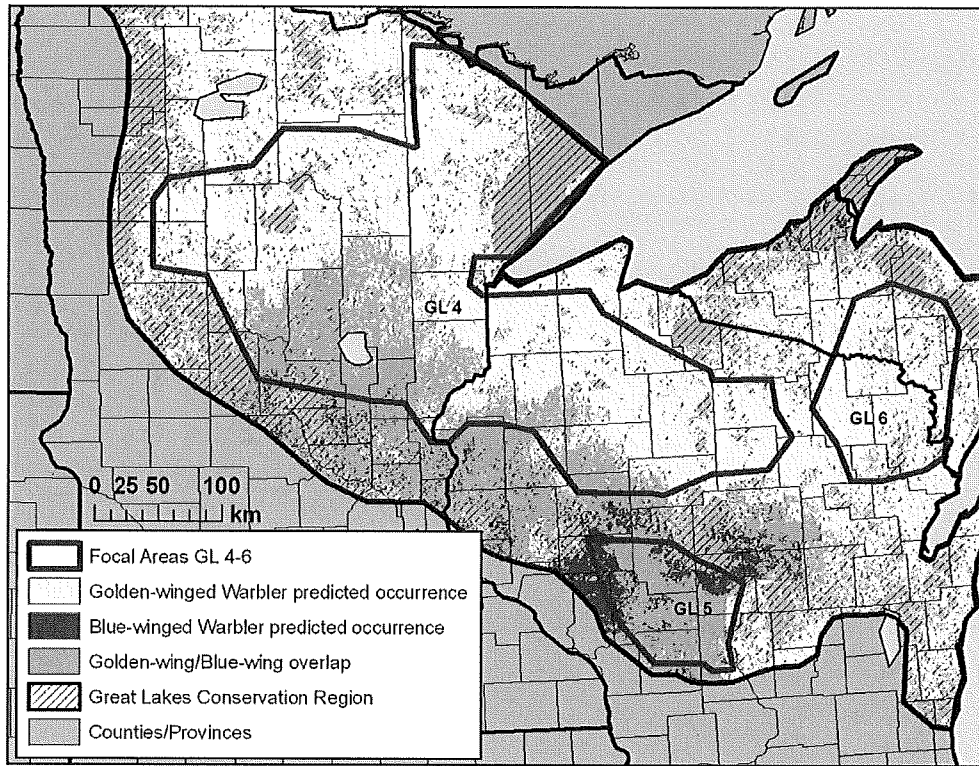


Image 1. Golden-winged Warbler Focal Area for “Dynamic Forest Conservation” in Minnesota. This focal area labeled GL- 4 has been identified by the Golden-winged Warbler Working Group as part of the Golden-winged Warbler Status Assessment and Conservation Action Plan.

Comment: Within the GL-4 Focal Area, American Bird Conservancy and partner The Conservation Fund have identified opportunities for dynamic forest conservation. These initial sites area show in the attached PDF.

Heather Koop

From: Koehler, Tim (BWSR) [Tim.Koehler@state.mn.us]
Sent: Tuesday, September 10, 2013 12:45 PM
To: Heather Koop
Cc: Strommen, Sarah (BWSR); Penning, Bill (BWSR); Koehler, Tim (BWSR)
Subject: BWSR RIM LSOHC Emergency Hay/Graze Response

Heather:

As you requested, here is BWSR's response to the question that was posed at last week's LSOHC hearings regarding a possible prohibition on emergency haying and grazing on RIM lands.

To respond, we'd like to point out that in ML2013 LSOHC appropriation language for both the Grasslands for The Future and Minnesota Buffers for Wildlife and Water – Phase III projects included the following language, "Easements funded under this appropriation are not subject to emergency haying and grazing orders." BWSR accepted this appropriation language and is working to implement guidance to comply with this provision.

We'd also like to provide a bit of context to this issue:

- RIM is governed by Minnesota Statutes 103F.5, Reinvest In Minnesota Resources Law. Alteration of wildlife habitat is only currently allowed for management purposes or extreme drought as approved by the BWSR Board and detailed in a management plan.

In addition, BWSR adopted policy on December 17, 2008 titled, Vegetative Management And Enhancement of Conservation Easement Lands that provides guidance to local SWCD's on management of easement lands. This includes specifications on mowing and grazing of existing cover for management purposes to increase diversity and enhance the site for wildlife habitat.

The key to both the statute and the policy guidance is the need to have management plan approved by the local SWCD and BWSR. A landowner does not have the authority to alter vegetation on easement lands without this approved plan in place.

- Through the RIM Reserve program, BWSR currently holds, or is processing, more than 6,250 easements covering more than 250,000 acres. Emergency haying and grazing has had a very minor impact on the total RIM easements. In 2007 24 counties were declared disaster, and only 2 easements were approved for 30 acres of haying. In 2012 when a USDA declared emergency occurred due to extreme drought conditions, 77 easements were approved for 1,346 acres of haying and 7 easements were approved for 100 acres of grazing. When a disaster was declared in 2013 due to wet and cold conditions, emergency haying and grazing of RIM was not authorized since it was not due to an extreme drought. Management plans to improve existing cover have been approved in 2013 on 12 easements for 250 acres, not due to an emergency situation. So as you can see emergency haying and grazing has had a tiny impact on the total easements and acres throughout the state.

Finally, we also want the LSOHC members to know that BWSR staff will be discussing this issue with the BWSR Board at the September Board Meeting. We will look at current policy and alternatives related to stand-alone RIM to address concerns raised by the LSOHC. As you already know when we are combining easements with the federal government (like RIM-WRP) for the first thirty years the site is protected with a Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP) easement and federal rules superseded those of the state. Once the federal easement expires RIM will then be stand-alone and not be subject to federal rules or orders.

Therefore, in conclusion BWSR will accept the same language as last year, "Easements funded under this appropriation are not subject to emergency haying and grazing orders" when RIM is stand-alone. We also will update you regarding any discussion and/or action by the BWSR Board.

If you have further questions or would like to discuss this item further feel free to contact me. Thanks for working with BWSR to clarify this issue.

Tim Koehler

RIM Program Coordinator
Board of Water Soil Resources
651-296-6745

G

HA-01

Heather Koop

From: Nerbonne, Brian A (DNR) [brian.nerbonne@state.mn.us]
Sent: Monday, September 09, 2013 10:23 PM
To: Heather Koop; Bill Becker; Sandy Smith
Cc: Wilson, Grant (DNR)
Subject: RE: Council follow up questions - DNR
Attachments: restore-enhance%20by%20region(1).xlsx; OHF%20Funded%20Acquisitions.xlsx; Game%20and%20Fish%20Fund%20Expenditures.docx

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Heather,

My responses reflect my best effort to answer the council's requests regarding the DNR's Aquatic Habitat Program proposal. You should have already received a prioritized parcel list from Pat Rivers; I have attached a copy so that responses to all requests are together.

Attached you will also find a summary of expenditures for the most recent biennium from the Game and Fish Fund (Fishing license funds), as well as spreadsheets that breakdown acquisitions and restoration/enhancement projects through 6/2013 by DNR region.

I believe the aggregate question is related to the DNR's Vermillion AMA - Cemstone Acquisition proposal. I've forwarded that request to project manager Pat Rivers, who will respond to that question.

Regarding the question of violations of DNR easement, I am not able to provide information for the past 10 years because prior to the creation of our easement monitoring positions and the database they use there was no tool to track easement violations. Instead, I have attached a summary of easement monitoring conducted since the hiring of easement monitoring positions in July of 2012. Also, I would like to mention that I incorrectly stated during my testimony that the DNR plans to visit all trout stream easements once every 5 years; the correct interval goal is once every 3 years.

If there is additional information or clarifications needed, please let me know.

Brian Nerbonne
MN DNR

From: Heather Koop
Sent: Friday, September 06, 2013 11:04 AM
To: brian.nerbonne@state.mn.us; Wilson, Grant (DNR)
Cc: Sandy Smith; Bill Becker
Subject: Council follow up questions

Hi, Brian,

During the hearing of the DNR Aquatic Habitat Program, Ph. VI proposal, council members had questions regarding the following:

- Provide the council with the most recent biennial budget for the fisheries section of DNR. If possible, members would like to see a break-down of AMA acquisition and AMA restoration/enhancement by regions.
- The number of conservation easement violations over the last 10 years.
- The value of aggregate removed from land.

Please respond by 3 pm on Tuesday, Sept. 10. Thanks much.
Heather

Unit	Region	County	Description
Round Lake	1	Becker	Fish passage
Ottertail River	1	Becker	Fish passage
Buffalo River	1	Clay	Channel restoration
Buck's Mill	1	Becker	Shoreland enhancement
Long Lake	1	Becker	Prescribed burn, shoreland enhancement and invasive control
Deer Lake	2	Itasca	Fish passage
Chester Creek	2	St. Louis	Fish passage
Sargent Creek	2	St. Louis	Fish passage
Kingsbury Creek	2	St. Louis	Trout stream enhancement
Cuyuna AMA	2	Crow Wing	Shoreland enhancement
Big and Steamboat Islands Whitefish Lake	2	Crow Wing	Shoreland enhancement
Trout Lake Public Access	2	Itasca	Invasive control and shoreland enhancement
Sylvia Lake	3	Stearns	Fish passage
Ike's Creek	3	Hennepin	Fish passage
West Beaver Creek	3	Houston	Trout stream enhancement
Eagle Creek	3	Scott	Trout stream enhancement
Rush Creek	3	Fillmore	Trout stream enhancement
Fish Lake Dam	3	Kanabec	Fish passage
N. Fork Zumbro River	3	Olmstead	Fish passage
Mille Lacs	3	Mille Lacs	Shoreland enhancement
Miss. R.-Weaver Bottoms	3	Wabasha	Backwater habitat enhancement
Etna	3	Fillmore	Shoreland enhancement
Coolridge	3	Winona	Invasive control
Keller Lake	3	Ramsey	Invasive control and shoreland enhancement
Simley Lake	3	Dakota	Invasive control and shoreland enhancement
Gemini	3	Goodhue	Prescribed burns and invasive control work
Miller Creek	3	Wabasha	Prescribed burns and invasive control work
Gemini	3	Goodhue	Prescribed burns and invasive control work
Miller Creek	3	Wabasha	Prescribed burns and invasive control work
Eagle Creek	3	Scott	Prescribed burns and invasive control work
Loon Lake AMA	4	Jackson	Invasive control and shoreland enhancement
West Fork of Des Moines River	4	Jackson	Invasive control and shoreland enhancement
Gorman Lake	4	LeSueur	Invasive control and shoreland enhancement
Rays Lake	4	LeSueur	Invasive control and shoreland enhancement
Cedar Lake	4	Martin	Invasive control and shoreland enhancement
East Stay Lake	4	Lincoln	Prescribed burns and invasive control work
Whispering Ridge	4	Redwood	Shoreland enhancement
Horseshoe Lake	4	Rice	Shoreland enhancement and wetland creation
Blue Earth River	4	Faribault	Invasive species control
Middle Lake	4	Kandiyohi	Invasive control
Ida Lake	4	Blue Earth	Invasive control and shoreland enhancement

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Parcel Name	Appropriation	DNR Region	County	# OHF acres from this	Fee title Dollars from this approp.	Description	# of OHF Shoreline feet from this	# of OHF Shoreline miles from this	Comments
Hungry Lake 2	ML2010		1 Becker	53.3	207,375	Fee title	2,690	0.51	
Five Mile Point	ML2010		1 Cass	3.47	290,808	Fee title	205	0.04	
Toad Lake	ML2010		1 Becker	91.8	173,026	Fee title	3,715	0.70	
East Lost Lake	ML2010		1 Otter Tail	5.46	103,000	Fee title	480	0.09	
Spider Lake	ML2011		1 Hubbard	30.4	378,000	Fee title	1525	0.29	Includes 0.71 access easement
Turtle River Lake	ML2011		1 Beltrami	27.5	82,500	Fee title	1410	0.27	
Kabekona River 30	ML2011		1 Hubbard	5.62	19,523	Stream easement	2064	0.39	
Straight River	ML2011		1 Hubbard	2.91	14,570	Stream easement	1835	0.35	
East Lost Lake	ML2011		1 Otter Tail	5.36	100,000	Fee title	475	0.09	Funding from ML 10 and 11, acres/feet separated by appropriation
Lost Lake	ML2011		1 Cass	2.48	30,000	Fee title	1,003	0.19	
Maud Lake	ML2011		1 Becker	7.01	225,500	Fee title	800	0.15	Funding from ML 09 and 11, Acres/feet separated by appropriation. Donated acres to ML 11
Straight River	ML2011		1 Hubbard	9.26	34,663	Stream Easement	3,050	0.58	
Upper Whitefish Lake 2	ML2010		2 Crow Wing	13.9	225,000	Fee title	739	0.14	Funding from ML 10 and 11, acres/feet separated by appropriation
Upper Whitefish Lake 2- Leverage	ML2010		2 Crow Wing	31.72	-	Fee title	1,690	0.32	This line represents leveraged acres from other state funds (non-OHF) and donations
Cuyuna Scout Camp 3	ML2010		2 Crow Wing	6.2	225,000	Fee title	936	0.18	
French River 1	ML2011		2 St. Louis	5.19	16,702	Stream easement	1306	0.25	
French River 2	ML2011		2 St. Louis	1.32	4,529	Stream easement	439	0.08	
Knife River 40	ML2011		2 St. Louis	7.2	18,466	Stream easement	1586	0.30	
Knife River 41	ML2011		2 St. Louis	4.13	14,178	Stream easement	1627	0.31	
Stewart River 10	ML2011		2 Lake	3.1	6,388	Stream easement	616	0.12	
Stewart River 7	ML2011		2 Lake	1.79	6,495	Stream easement	784	0.15	
W. Branch Knife River 11	ML2011		2 St. Louis	2.95	10,465	Stream easement	1230	0.23	
W. Branch Knife River 14	ML2011		2 St. Louis	5.8	13,160	Stream easement	1382	0.26	
Upper Whitefish	ML2011		2 Crow Wing	3.58	60,000	Fee title	211.2	0.04	Funding from ML 10 and 11, acres/feet separated by appropriation
West Branch Knife River, 12	ML2011		2 St. Louis	4.37	10,317	Stream Easement	1,118	0.21	
West Branch Knife River, 13	ML2011		2 St. Louis	8	18,302	Stream Easement	1,929	0.37	
Sunrise Lake AMA	ML2010		3 Chicago	28.4	83000	Fee title	2,006	0.38	Funding from ML 10 and 11, acres/feet separated by appropriation
Wildcat Creek	ML2010		3 Houston	9.6	43,031	Stream Easement	3,450	0.65	
Sunrise Lake AMA	ML2011		3 Chicago	28.4	150,000	Fee title	3643	0.69	Funding from ML 10 and 11, acres/feet separated by appropriation
Mill Creek 11A	ML2011		3 Fillmore	0.21	1,353	Stream easement	100	0.02	
Pine Creek II 2	ML2011		3 Winona	6.15	29,454	Stream easement	2175	0.41	
West Beaver Creek	ML2011		3 Houston	4.66	23,217	Stream easement	1700	0.32	
Wildcat Creek 4	ML2011		3 Houston	7.11	34,586	Stream easement	3050	0.58	
Blagsvedt Creek, 1	ML2011		3 Fillmore	8.54	44,285	Stream Easement	2,900	0.55	
Little Rock Creek 4	ML2011		3 Benton	8.7	36,498	Stream Easement	3125	0.59	
Spring Valley Creek, 14	ML2011		3 Fillmore	5.5	29,045	Stream Easement	1,850	0.35	
Spring Valley Creek, 8, 11, 12, 13	ML2011		3 Fillmore	10.62	58,504	Stream Easement	3,800	0.72	
Sanborn 1, 2	ML2010		4 Redwood	44.7	106,160	Fee title	4,910	0.93	Funding from ML 10 and 11, acres/feet separated by appropriation
Sanborn 1, 2	ML2011		4 Redwood	16.4	40,000	Fee title	2,006	0.38	Funding from ML 10 and 11, acres/feet separated by appropriation

FY2011 Section of Fisheries Game and Fish Fund Expenditures by Revenue Source

Game and Fish Fund (Fishing licenses)	\$27,312,000
Dedicated Accounts (Trout and Walleye Stamps)	\$1,037,000
<u>Heritage Enhancement Account (from state lottery proceeds)</u>	<u>\$4,068,000</u>
Total Expenditures	\$32,417,000

FY2011 Fisheries Activities Expenditures

Core Function	Game & Fish	Dedicated	Heritage	Total
Populations Management	\$10,389,000	\$140,000	\$1,202,000	\$11,731,000
Habitat Management	\$3,710,000	\$166,000	\$720,000	\$4,596,000
Culture and Stocking	\$4,752,000	\$728,000	\$1,837,000	\$7,317,000
Education and Outreach	\$2,970,000	\$3,000	\$109,000	\$3,082,000
Planning and Coordination	\$3,935,000	-	\$3,000	\$3,938,000
<u>Division Support</u>	<u>\$1,556,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>\$197,000</u>	<u>\$1,753,000</u>
Total	\$27,312,000	\$1,037,000	\$4,068,000	\$32,417,000

FY2012 Section of Fisheries Game and Fish Fund Expenditures by Revenue Source

Game and Fish Fund (Fishing licenses)	\$ 23,471,000
Dedicated Accounts (Trout and Walleye Stamps)	\$949,000
<u>Heritage Enhancement Account (from state lottery proceeds)</u>	<u>\$ 3,927,000</u>
Total Expenditures	\$ 28,347,000

FY2012 Fisheries Activities Expenditures

Core Function	Game & Fish	Dedicated	Heritage	Total
Populations Management	\$7,033,000	\$ 112,000	\$ 1,239,000	\$ 8,384,000
Habitat Management	\$2,404,000	\$149,000	\$967,000	\$3,520,000
Culture and Stocking	\$4,861,000	\$688,000	\$1,695,000	\$7,244,000
Education and Outreach	\$1,766,000	-	\$1,000	\$1,767,000
Planning and Coordination	\$3,464,000	\$1,000	\$5,000	\$3,479,000
<u>Division Support</u>	<u>\$3,943,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>\$10,000</u>	<u>\$3,953,000</u>
Total	\$ 23,471,000	\$ 949,000	\$ 3,927,000	\$ 28,347,000

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DNR AMA Easement Monitoring

DNR Region and Area	Number of Easements	Number of Contacts	Number of Concerns
1	2	2	0
Bemidji	0	0	0
Brainerd	0	0	0
Fergus Falls	1	1	0
Little Falls	0	0	0
Park Rapids	1	1	0
2	168	36	12
Aitkin	0	0	0
Brainerd	1	0	0
Duluth	167	36	12
Finland	0	0	0
Grand Marais	0	0	0
Grand Rapids	0	0	0
Hinckley	0	0	0
International Falls	0	0	0
Tower	0	0	0
3	337	309	132
East Metro	0	0	0
Lake City	4	2	0
Lanesboro	333	307	132
Little Falls	0	0	0
Montrose	0	0	0
West Metro	0	0	0
4	1	1	0
Hutchinson	0	0	0
Lanesboro	1	1	0
Windom	0	0	0
Grand Total	508	348	144

The breakdown for the 144 concerns is as below:

Query8	
HeadingDesc	CountOfHeadingDesc1
	0
Public Access	1
Reserved Rights	2
Structures	70
Surface Alteration	40
Tillage	32

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HA01

FY2011 Section of Fisheries Game and Fish Fund Expenditures by Revenue Source

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FY2011 Fisheries Activities Expenditures

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Education and Outreach	\$2,970,000	\$3,000	\$109,000	\$3,082,000
Planning and Coordination	\$3,935,000	-	\$3,000	\$3,938,000
<u>Division Support</u>	<u>\$1,556,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>\$197,000</u>	<u>\$1,753,000</u>
Total	\$27,312,000	\$1,037,000	\$4,068,000	\$32,417,000

FY2012 Section of Fisheries Game and Fish Fund Expenditures by Revenue Source

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<u>Division Support</u>	<u>\$3,943,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>\$10,000</u>	<u>\$3,953,000</u>
Total	\$ 23,471,000	\$ 949,000	\$ 3,927,000	\$ 28,347,000

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HA-03

Heather Koop

From: Rivers, Pat (DNR) [Pat.Rivers@state.mn.us]
Sent: Monday, September 09, 2013 3:46 PM
To: Heather Koop
Cc: Wilson, Grant (DNR)
Subject: FW: Cemstone and gravel question

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello Heather,

See below for a response on the question of gravel. Please let me know if you need any additional information.

Pat

-----Original Message-----

From: Hobbs, Steve [<mailto:shobbs@conservationfund.org>]
Sent: Monday, September 09, 2013 2:58 PM
To: Rivers, Pat (DNR)
Subject: Cemstone

Pat,

Wendy's appraisal uses 4 categories for the land: 1) Active Gravel (that land the Cemstone as already mined with 66% of the gravel reserves unmanned); 2) Future Gravel (areas that have the full complement of gravel); 3) Agricultural (land without gravel or land that has already been reclaimed) and; 4) Future Gravel to be Mined with 10-year lease.

Category 1 land= \$23k/acre
Category 2 land= \$35k/acre
Category 3 land= \$5k/acre
Category 4 land= \$5,662/acre

I thought she might have quantified the gravel precisely as part of her analysis, but she didn't and didn't really have a reason to do so. We are buying the land on a per acre basis and she adjusted the per acre price according to the HBU and a discount for the value of the land with gravel still remaining. So, the appraisal states that the value of the land with the 10-year agreement is just approximately \$5,700/acre, but if we were to buy it without allowing Cemstone to recover the gravel, we would be paying nearly 7x that amount! As for Elizabeth's comment that they need to do restoration anyway, they do, but it would not have the seed mix nor the contouring that DNR would like so there is a substantial value to Cemstone doing the restoration along with us not paying \$35k/acre.

As for the transaction changing, Cemstone was always going to be allowed to recover the gravel for the reasons stated above, but once DNR became comfortable with owning the land that was to be mined rather than Dakota County, that's when we were able to make the deal more straightforward. If that's an impossibility, then DNR can buy everything with OHF \$ except the 166-acres to be mined with a 10-year lease, worth approximately \$940,000, and Dakota can buy that the 166 acres.

Let me know if you need anything else.

Thanks,

Steve

Steve Hobbs
Minnesota Project Director
The Conservation Fund
7101 York Avenue South
Suite 340

Edina, MN 55435

952-456-8975

<http://www.conservationfund.org/>

Rated A+ - the Nation's Top Environmental Nonprofit by the American Institute of Philanthropy and one of the Top Ten Charities in America as determined by Charity Navigator

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Request for Funding

HA-07

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council Fiscal Year 2015 / ML 2014

Program or Project Title: Mustinka River Fish and Wildlife Habitat Corridor Rehabilitation

Funds Requested: \$2,723,200

Manager's Name: Jon Roeschlein

Title:

Organization: Bois de Sioux Watershed District

Street Address: 704 Highway 75 South

City: Wheaton, MN 56296

Telephone: 320-563-4185

E-Mail: bds wd@frontiernet.net

Organization Web Site: www.bds wd.com

County Locations: Grant, and Traverse.

Ecological Planning Regions:

- Prairie

Activity Type:

- Restore
- Protect in Fee

Priority Resources Addressed by Activity:

- Habitat

Abstract:

This habitat project presents a unique opportunity within the prairie region to convert 5.5 miles of ditched river to 8+ mile long stream channel within a 260 acre fish and wildlife habitat corridor composed of riparian wetlands and grasslands.

Design and Scope of Work:

In the past 100 years, thousands of miles of rivers and streams in Minnesota were straightened and thousands of acres of riparian wetland and grassland habitat has been lost in the interest of improving drainage. The Mustinka River was first channelized as a state ditch in 1896 and again as an Army Corps of Engineers project in the early 1950's. This channelization resulted in a direct conversion of about 43 miles of natural sinuous channel and floodplain corridor to about 25 miles of straightened channel without a functional riparian corridor. The Mustinka River (Judicial Ditch 14) currently provides little functional aquatic or riparian corridor habitat. This stream corridor project will rehabilitate a 5.5 mile portion and directly provide both fish and wildlife habitat benefits in the prairie region.

This stream corridor rehabilitation project will convert 5.5 miles of the upper reaches of the Mustinka River to a more functional 8 to 9 mile long meandering channel within a 300 foot wide, 260 acre floodplain corridor. The stream rehabilitation will be based on the principles of natural channel design with an understanding of the hydrology and fluvial geomorphology at the site. The enhanced stream and associated riparian wetland habitats will provide seasonal spawning and nursery habitat to a variety of fish species including northern pike and walleye and some of the other 30+ fish species that are found in the Lake Traverse watershed.

In addition to the fish habitat directly provided in the 8 to 9 mile stream channel, the associated floodplain grassland and wetland habitat elements in the restored and protected 260 acre river corridor will provide year-

round wildlife habitat. An estimated 90% of Minnesota's prairie wetlands have been lost due to agricultural drainage and development. The land adjacent to the Mustinka river was historically wet prairie and wetlands but was converted to farmland more than 80 years ago.

The Bois de Sioux Watershed District has led the development of this project through a "project team" process. This process has been a collaborative effort with members of the project team including the Traverse County Soil and Water Conservation District, the Natural Resource Conservation Service, MN DNR, MPCA, USFWS, conservation groups, and landowners. The Bois de Sioux Watershed District will continue to lead the project and the MNDNR, as a non-funded collaborator, will provide technical assistance during the structure design phase and the development of the operating plan as well as ongoing project monitoring and evaluation of the operation, outcomes, and user groups.

The watershed district will be responsible for final design, engineering, and construction of the project. Minnesota Department of Natural Resource stream habitat experts will be consulted throughout project development and implementation. If funding for this corridor rehabilitation is not secured, the opportunity to rehabilitate this reach of the Mustinka River Corridor will be lost and it will remain a ditch.

Planning

MN State-wide Conservation Plan Priorities:

- H2 Protect critical shoreland of streams and lakes
- H5 Restore land, wetlands and wetland-associated watersheds
- H6 Protect and restore critical in-water habitat of lakes and streams
- H7 Keep water on the landscape
- LU6 Reduce Upland and gully erosion through soil conservation practices

Plans Addressed:

- Long Range Plan for Fisheries Management
- Minnesota DNR Strategic Conservation Agenda
- Minnesota Prairie Conservation Plan
- Minnesota Sustainability Framework
- National Fish Habitat Action Plan
- Northern Tallgrass Prairie Ecoregion: A River and Stream Conservation Portfolio
- Outdoor Heritage Fund: A 25 Year Framework
- Red River of the North Fisheries Management Plan
- Tomorrow's Habitat for the Wild and Rare
- Minnesota Fish Habitat Plan, Bois de Sioux Watershed District Plan; Minnesota DNR Stream Habitat Program Restoration Priority List

LSOHC Statewide Priorities:

- Are ongoing, successful, transparent and accountable programs addressing actions and targets of one or more of the ecological sections
- Attempts to ensure conservation benefits are broadly distributed across the LSOHC sections
- Ensures activities for "protecting, restoring and enhancing" are coordinated among agencies, non profits and others while doing this important work; provides the most cost-effective use of financial resources; and where possible takes into consideration the value of local outreach, education, and community engagement to sustain project outcomes
- Leverage effort and/or other funds to supplement any OHF appropriation
- Produce multiple enduring conservation benefits
- Provide Minnesotans with greater public access to outdoor environments with hunting, fishing and other outdoor recreation opportunities
- Restore or enhance habitat on permanently protected land
- Use a science-based strategic planning and evaluation model to guide protection, restoration and enhancement, similar to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service's Strategic Habitat Conservation model

LSOHC Prairie Section Priorities:

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

- wetland/upland habitat complexes
- Restore or enhance habitat on public lands

Relationship to Other Constitutional Funds:

- No Relationships Listed

Accelerates or Supplements Current Efforts:

The Bois de Sioux Watershed District initiates projects based on priority problems, including natural resource issues that are identified in their comprehensive plan. The watershed district sets priorities in this plan and initiates projects to meet those priorities as opportunities for land acquisition become available and when there is landowner interest. Projects that restore and protect stream, riparian, wetland and upland habitats are identified as desired projects in the district's plan.

The Minnesota DNR prioritizes stream restoration projects statewide based on their ecological benefit, degree of impact, merit, and feasibility. The Mustinka River ranks number 7 among streams on the DNR's stream restoration list.

This project presents the greatest opportunities that we are aware of in Minnesota to convert a ditch back to a functional natural channel. Final engineering is complete under watershed law. Environmental review, permitting, and the land acquisition associated with this project is in process. Without additional funding for the stream and riparian wetland habitat benefits of this project, the district will likely proceed to improve the ditch using established methods in ditch law rather than restore and protect 260 acres of a functional riparian corridor to this area.

Sustainability and Maintenance:

The Bois de Sioux Watershed District will be responsible for long term maintenance of this project. Sustainability and maintenance of this channel rehabilitation is required within watershed district law (Minnesota Statutes 103D). Long term project maintenance is authorized and funded through established watershed district construction and maintenance funds.

The watershed district is leading the land acquisition, project development, and engineering of this project with full cooperation of a watershed-based "project team" composed of landowners and representatives of local, state, and federal agencies.

Government Approval:

Will local government approval be sought prior to acquisition? - **Yes**

Permanent Protection:

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

Hunting and Fishing Plan:

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

No variation from state regulations.

Permanent Protection:

Is the activity on permanently protected land and/or public waters per MS 103G.005, Subd. 15? - **Yes (Public Waters)**

Accomplishment Timeline

Activity	Approximate Date Completed
Environmental Review	December, 2013
Land Acquisition	December, 2014
Permitting (USACE 408 and 404;Public Waters Work Permit; MPCA 401)	December, 2014
Finalize Plans and Specifications	December, 2014
Construction	December, 2015

Outcomes

Programs in prairie region:

- Expiring CRP lands are permanently protected *Several parcels along proposed corridor are currently enrolled in CRP. The amount of CRP converted to permanent protection will be reported.*
- Protected, restored, and enhanced shallow lakes and wetlands *The amount of riparian wetland restored and protected will be measured and reported.*
- Restored and enhanced upland habitats *The amount of riparian grassland acres restored and protected will be measured and reported.*
- Agriculture lands are converted to grasslands to sustain functioning prairie systems *Pre and post project amounts of agricultural lands will be measured and reported.*
- Increased wildlife productivity *The project will restore and protect 260 acres of fish and wildlife habitat including conversion of a 5.5 mile ditch into 8-9 miles of meandering channel. Fish and wildlife use of these habitats will be monitored and reported.*
- Water is kept on the land to reduce flood potential and degradation of aquatic habitat *Creating the 260 acre stream corridor will provide additional floodplain storage not currently present along the ditch. The amount of floodplain storage will be measured and the increase in stream habitats and stream stability will be assessed.*
- The enhanced stream channel and associated riparian wetland and grassland habitats will provide seasonal spawning and nursery habitat to a variety of fish species including northern pike and walleye and some of the other 30+ fish species that are found in the Lake Traverse watershed.

This project presents the greatest opportunities that we are aware of in the prairie region of Minnesota at this time to convert a ditch back to a functional stream channel. If funding for this corridor rehabilitation is not secured, the opportunity to rehabilitate this reach of the Mustinka River Corridor will be lost and it will remain a ditch.

Budget Spreadsheet

Total Amount of Request: \$2,723,200

Budget and Cash Leverage

Budget Name	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	\$0	\$0		\$0
Contracts	\$2,203,200	\$909,100	Watershed District, Red River Watershed management Board, State Flood Hazard Mitigation Funds	\$3,112,300
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	\$0	\$0		\$0
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	\$520,000	\$780,000	Watershed District, Red River Watershed management Board, State Flood Hazard Mitigation Funds	\$1,300,000
Easement Acquisition	\$0	\$0		\$0
Easement Stewardship	\$0	\$0		\$0
Travel	\$0	\$0		\$0
Professional Services	\$0	\$118,600		\$118,600
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	\$2,723,200	\$1,807,700	-	\$4,530,900

Personnel

Position	FTE	Over # of years	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
	0.00	0.00	\$0	\$0		\$0
Total	0.00	0.00	\$0	\$0	-	\$0

Capital Equipment

Item Name	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
	\$0	\$0		\$0
Total	\$0	\$0	-	\$0

Output Tables

Table 1. Acres by Resource Type

Type	Wetlands	Prairies	Forest	Habitats	Total
Restore	0	0	0	260	260
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	0	0	0	260	260
Protect in Easement	0	0	0	0	0
Enhance	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	520	520

Table 2. Total Requested Funding by Resource Type

Type	Wetlands	Prairies	Forest	Habitats	Total
Restore	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,203,200	\$2,203,200
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$520,000	\$520,000
Protect in Easement	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Enhance	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,723,200	\$2,723,200

Table 3. Acres within each Ecological Section

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	Northern Forest	Total
Restore	0	0	0	260	0	260
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	0	0	0	260	0	260
Protect in Easement	0	0	0	0	0	0
Enhance	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	520	0	520

Table 4. Total Requested Funding within each Ecological Section

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	Northern Forest	Total
Restore	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,203,200	\$0	\$2,203,200
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$520,000	\$0	\$520,000
Protect in Easement	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Enhance	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,723,200	\$0	\$2,723,200

Table 5. Target Lake/Stream/River Miles

108 miles

Parcel List

Section 1 - Restore / Enhance Parcel List

No parcels with an activity type restore or enhance.

Section 2 - Protect Parcel List

Grant

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
Tract 1	12844219	18	\$91,900	No	Full	Full
Tract 2	12844219	20	\$101,200	No	Full	Full

Traverse

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
Tract 10	12845223	37	\$187,000	No	Full	Full
Tract 11	12845224	11	\$57,300	No	Full	Full
Tract 12	12845224	11	\$56,600	No	Full	Full
Tract 13	12845224	23	\$113,400	No	Full	Full
Tract 3	12845214	1	\$3,000	No	Full	Full
Tract 4	12845215	31	\$153,700	No	Full	Full
Tract 5	12845215	27	\$136,700	No	Full	Full
Tract 6	12845216	29	\$143,300	No	Full	Full
Tract 7	12845216	14	\$70,500	No	Full	Full
Tract 8	12845216	14	\$72,300	No	Full	Full
Tract 9	12845223	23	\$117,100	No	Full	Full

Section 2a - Protect Parcel with Bldgs

No parcels with an activity type protect and has buildings.

Section 3 - Other Parcel Activity

No parcels with an other activity type.

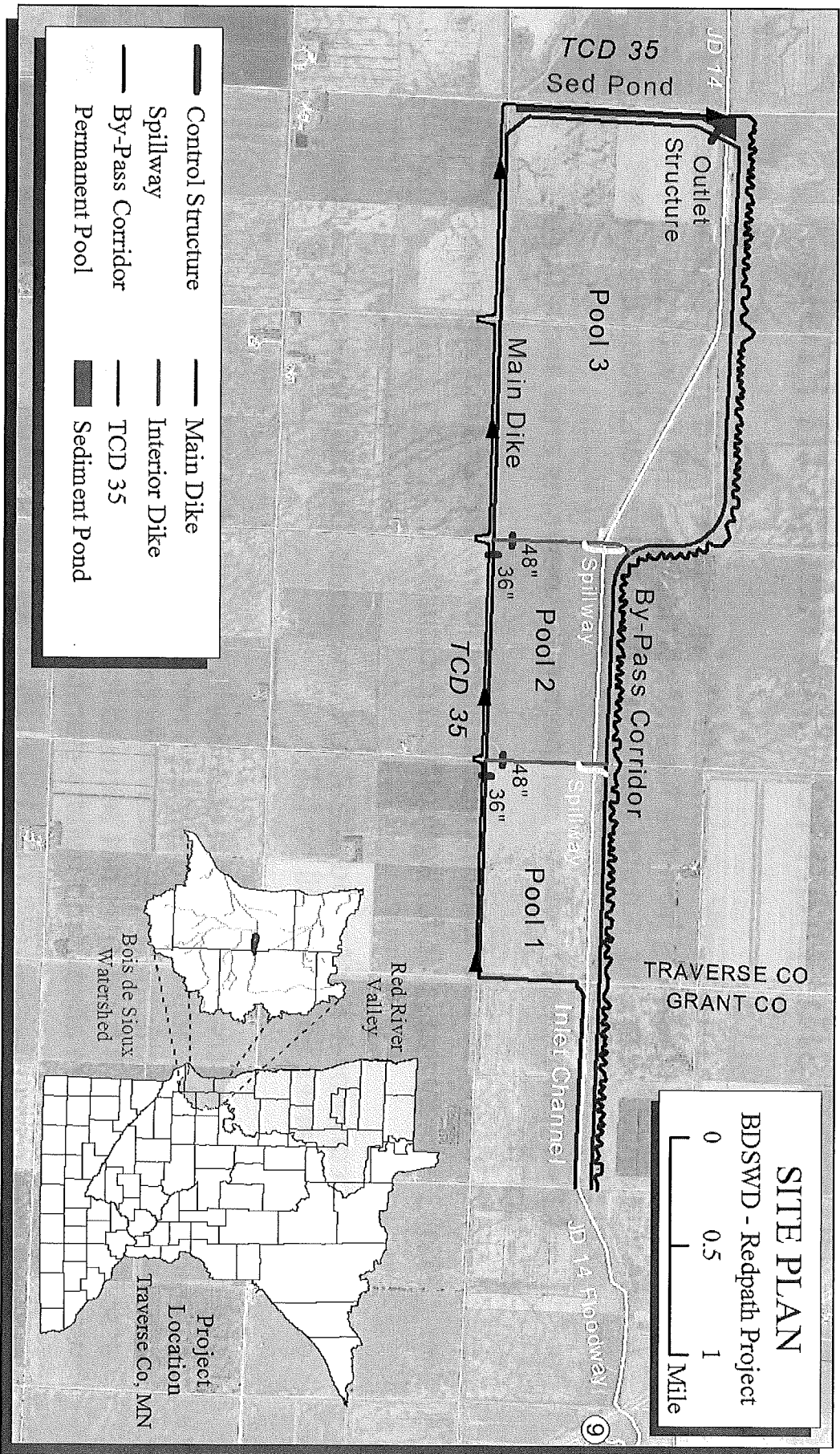
Overall site plan for the Redpath Project

The attached figure provides a response to the question posed at the September 5, LSOHC meeting regarding how the habitat corridor project fits with the adjacent Redpath Township natural resource enhancement and flood damage reduction project. The figure shows the following features:

- Pool 1 - a permanent pool and northern pike spawning area and adjacent grasslands.
- Pool 2 - designed and constructed to allow for moist soils management.
- Pool 3 - likely available for agricultural production.

The habitat corridor is located adjacent to these pools. During major spring flood events (100 year +), all pools will be full.

The opportunity to create a habitat corridor is a result of the planning for this related project. The adjacent project also reduces the overall cost of this stream rehabilitation since the materials excavated from the corridor will be used in the associated project. If funding is not secured for the habitat corridor, the watershed will move ahead and build a standard ditch.



11 J HRE1

Heather Koop

From: John Lenczewski [jlenczewski@comcast.net]
Sent: Tuesday, September 10, 2013 6:27 PM
To: Heather Koop
Cc: Bill Becker; Sandy Smith
Subject: Pre and post project photographs from one MNTU project
Attachments: West Indian overview - MNTU 2012.pdf

Hi Heather,

Attached is a compilation of pre and post project photos from one of our southeast MN projects. Mr. Schara urged we distribute such a handout and this was what I had handy. Please forward it to the Council members. Thank you.

Best regards,

John

John P. Lenczewski
Executive Director
Minnesota Trout Unlimited
612-670-1629
jlenczewski@comcast.net

41

Parcel Name	County	Budgeting Estima Description	Activity	Existing P	Open to hun	Open to fishing	p Status
Spring Creek	Goodhue	170,000 Enhance 3,100' in existing WMA	E	yes	yes	yes	
Vermillion River	Dakota	Restore meandering channel to straightened reach to provide trophy brown trout fishery within Metro area	E	yes	?	yes	
Cold Spring Brook	Wabasha	Approx. 1,200 feet in connecting habitat in large contiunus segment larger 180,000 brook trout stream	E	yes	?	yes	
East Indian Creek	Wabasha	360,000 Enhance approximately one mile of habitat for native brook trout	E	yes	?	yes	
Lost Creek	Fillmore	Enhance important spawning, nursery and summer refudge important for 250,000 brown trout from Root River	E	yes	?	yes	
Lynch Creek	Fillmore	500,000 Enhance approximately 6,600' of habitat of Root River tributary	E	yes	?	yes	
Spring Valley Creek	Fillmore	Remove shallow rooted invasive trees to provide energy inputs and prevent 90,000 stream bank blow outs on on mile reach	E	yes	?	yes	
Trout Run Creek	Fillmore	Remove excessive canaopy and streamside sediments to bloster food 120,000 production and spawning on approximately 4,000' reach	E	yes	?	yes	
Little Devil Track River	Cook	Enhance brook trout habitat on 1,500' segment just off Gunflint Trail - 30,000 National Forest land	E	yes	yes	yes	
Kadunce River	Cook	Enhance steelhead and brook trout habitat on lower 1,500' of this popular 40,000 steelhead fishery	E	yes	?	yes	
Stewart River	Lake	Enhance in-stream habitat for juvenile steelhead and brook trout in 2,000' 125,000 reach; restore riparian forests along one mile	E	yes	?	yes	
French River	St. Louis	Enhance habitat for brook trout and juvenile steelhead which ultimately 100,000 provide fry stocking source for some North Shore rivers	E	yes	?	yes	
Blackhoof River	Carlton	Degraded 2,600' segment of the premier tributary of Nemadji R. restored 270,000 for wild steelhead and brook trout	E	yes	?	yes	
Straight River	Becker	Narrow and deepen river channel by palcing whole trees to capture 30,000 sediment	E	yes	?	yes	

*open to fishing; unknown whether open to hunting

** these are very rough estimates of total project costs



HRE 03

Heather Koop

From: R.C. Boheim [R.Boheim@southstlouisswcd.org]
Sent: Tuesday, September 10, 2013 10:40 AM
To: Heather Koop
Cc: Kate Kubiak
Subject: RE: Council follow-up questions

Heather:

We have updated the proposal in the system.

The South St. Louis SWCD does have experience working with state Professional Technical Services contracts, and we do have the cash flow capacity to the funds requested.

Thanks for your help.

From: Heather Koop [<mailto:heather.koop@sohc.leg.mn>]
Sent: Friday, September 06, 2013 1:21 PM
To: r.boheim@southstlouisswcd.org
Subject: Council follow-up questions
Importance: High

Kate,

During your presentation on the Duluth 2012 Flood: Stream Habitat Restoration Program, council members requested additional information and/or clarification on the following items:

- As discussed with staff, the online system has been re-opened for you to reconfigure your budget to reflect more accurately the leverage associated with the proposal.
- Please rank the individual projects on the basis of habitat value and urgency.
- Please affirm that the SWCD has the cash flow capacity to handle the funds being requested, as the appropriations are done on a reimbursement basis.

Please respond no later than 3 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 10.

Thanks much,
Heather

K

Request for Funding

HRE-03

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council Fiscal Year 2015 / ML 2014

Program or Project Title: Duluth 2012 Flood: Stream Habitat Restoration Program

Funds Requested: \$5,667,500

Manager's Name: Kate Kubiak

Title: Conservation Leader - Specialist

Organization: South St. Louis SWCD

Street Address: 215 North 1st Avenue East, Rm 301

City: Duluth, MN 55802

Telephone: 218-723-4867

E-Mail: Kate.Kubiak@southstlouisswcd.org

Organization Web Site: <http://www.southstlouisswcd.org/index.html>

County Locations: No Counties Listed

Ecological Planning Regions:

- Northern Forest

Activity Type:

- Restore

Priority Resources Addressed by Activity:

- Habitat

Abstract:

Responding to the fundamentally changed nature of trout streams in the wake of Duluth and NE Minnesota's 2012 floods, a coalition organizations and agencies prioritize habitat recovery through a comprehensive stream habitat restoration program.

Design and Scope of Work:

The flood of 2012 had devastating consequences for the trout streams of Duluth. Channels shifted location or down cut, sediment and rocks filled aquatic habitats in pools and riffle areas, and steep eroding banks were created. Federal and state financial assistance helped repair infrastructure and private property damage. However, the task of restoring fish habitat and public use of these resources remains.

This proposal targets restoration of seven trout streams in the Duluth Metropolitan area. Stream projects included in the proposal were selected based on 1) public ownership, 2) trout fishery potential, and 3) habitat requirements. To design and accomplish restoration projects, the Stream Habitat Restoration Program (SHRP) will draw upon the expertise of a coalition of partners including the PCA, DNR, and Trout Unlimited. Participants with expertise in stream habitat, public involvement, watershed and water quality management, civil engineering, and fisheries biology and ecology will be heavily engaged in the projects. Because of the scope of the program, design and construction oversight work will be contracted to private consultants with oversight by project partners. Public participation will be facilitated using non-LSOHF funds.

Stream projects will be prioritized based on available funding, resource need, and potential to support a coldwater fishery. Although no additional leverage is currently allocated, project partners will work to secure funds from other sources (e.g. Clean Water Fund, Great Lakes Restoration Initiative) that will allow completion of all stream projects listed, and additional sites if possible.

Restoration of the trout streams of Duluth will create quality trout fishing opportunities in an urban setting. These unique resources will allow fishing where people live, including access for kids to fish in their own neighborhoods, fostering a greater connection to the natural environment of Duluth.

Proposed projects:

A. Stewart Creek, Mile 0.0 to 0.9, Estimated Restoration (\$370,000), Priority #2 - Access, Trout Populations

A large culvert failure at the Munger Trail crossing deposited a substantial quantity of sediment in this reach. MN DNR Parks and Trails plans to replace the trail bridge using their own funds, creating an opportunity for this proposal to restore approximately 150 feet of natural stream channel beneath the bridge and eliminate a barrier to fish passage. Vertical eroding banks throughout this reach will also be stabilized. When MNDOT reconstructs the culvert under Highway 23, an opportunity exists to daylight and restore an additional 150 feet of stream.

1) Construction Contracts \$300,000, 2) Grant Administration \$15,000, 3) Engineering and Design \$40,000, 4) Construction Oversight \$15,000

B. Kingsbury Creek, Mile 0.0 to 1.9, Estimated Restoration (\$250,000), Priority #6 - Brown Trout Populations, Sediment Problems

This stream reach has been severely impacted by sediment deposition and erosion. While a portion of this reach (approximately 1500') will be repaired, additional work is needed to permanently stabilize it. A large bluff slump on the upstream end of the reach is contributing to sediment loading and stream instability. Kingsbury Creek has some naturally reproducing brown trout, and is managed with stocked brook and brown trout.

1) Construction Contracts \$200,000, 2) Grant Administration \$10,000, 3) Engineering and Design \$30,000, 4) Construction Oversight \$10,000

C. Keene Creek, Mile 0.3 to 1.5, (\$910,000), Priority #3, Wild Brook Trout Fishery

Three culvert failures during the flood contributed significant quantities of sediment to the channel. The city is replacing culverts with properly-sized ones, but restoration of stream habitat remains. The stream will need be relocated during this project to avoid several electrical towers with footings directly in the stream, currently contributing to log jams and bank erosion. Keene Creek supports a wild brook trout fishery throughout this reach, along with stocked brown trout.

1) Construction Contracts \$750,000, 2) Grant Administration \$15,000, 3) Engineering and Design \$110,000, 4) Construction Oversight \$35,000

D. Coffee Creek, Mile 1.2 to 1.6, (\$250,000), Priority #1, Wild Brook Trout Fishery, Public Access, Stream Barriers

A section of this reach was part of a small impoundment prior to the 2012 flood. Flood flows cut through the dam embankment and created an extremely unstable channel through the bed of the former pond. In addition, the new channel cut into a steep embankment causing additional erosion/slumping. This reach will be restored to a shaded, free flowing natural channel. Coffee Creek supports a wild brook trout population.

1) Construction Contracts \$200,000, 2) Grant Administration \$10,000, 3) Engineering and Design \$30,000, 4) Construction Oversight \$10,000

E. Chester Creek, Mile 1.3 to 2.0, (\$490,000), Priority #5, Substantial Public Access

This section of Chester Creek flows through Chester Park and was impounded prior to the 2012 flood. The dam failed during the flood, leaving behind an unstable channel with highly erodible banks. A properly size stream channel with enhanced fish habitat will be created to address ongoing erosion problems and restore fish habitat. Tree planting will replace those lost during the flood to help restore cooler stream temperatures. Chester Creek contains naturally reproducing brook trout in its upper reaches, and is managed with stocked brook trout through the park.

1) Construction Contracts \$400,000, 2) Grant Administration \$20,000, 3) Engineering and Design \$55,000, 4) Construction Oversight \$15,000

F. Amity Creek, Mile 2.4 to 3.3 and East Amity Creek Mile 0.0 to 0.3 (\$370,000), Priority #4, Significant Public Ownership, Wild Brook Trout Populations

Amity Creek suffered from instability and habitat loss prior to 2012 due to past land use alterations. The flood exacerbated these conditions and damaged a recently restored stream section. Recovery involves channel relocation, bank stabilization and habitat creation. Amity Creek supports a wild brook trout fishery.

1) Construction Contracts \$300,000, 2) Grant Administration \$15,000, 3) Engineering and Design \$40,000, 4) Construction Oversight \$15,000

G. Mission Creek, Mile 0.0 to 2.0 (\$1,800,000), Priority #7, Complementary Projects, Use by Anadromous Fish

This stream was dramatically impacted by the 2012 flood. The channel scoured by the flood includes high eroding banks, several large slumps, and tons of deposited sediment. In addition, an old dam/debris barrier that is degrading stream habitat must be removed. Mission Creek has historically been utilized by anadromous brown trout in accessible reaches, and wild brook trout are being reintroduced by MNDNR. Restoration will require creation of a new stream channel with improved trout habitat, and addressing ongoing erosion areas. The Minnesota Department of Transportation (MNDOT) is working with the project team to properly size the concurrent Highway 23 bridge replacement.

1) Construction Contracts \$1,500,000 2) Grant Administration \$50,000 3) Engineering and Design \$250,000

Planning

MN State-wide Conservation Plan Priorities:

- H2 Protect critical shoreland of streams and lakes
- H6 Protect and restore critical in-water habitat of lakes and streams
- H7 Keep water on the landscape
- LU6 Reduce Upland and gully erosion through soil conservation practices

Plans Addressed:

- Lower St. Louis River Habitat Plan
- Minnesota DNR Strategic Conservation Agenda
- National Fish Habitat Action Plan
- Lake Superior Basin Plan, Lake Superior Lakewide Management Plan

LSOHC Statewide Priorities:

- Are ongoing, successful, transparent and accountable programs addressing actions and targets of one or more of the ecological sections
- Attempts to ensure conservation benefits are broadly distributed across the LSOHC sections
- Ensures activities for "protecting, restoring and enhancing" are coordinated among agencies, non profits and others while doing this important work; provides the most cost-effective use of financial resources; and where possible takes into consideration the value of local outreach, education, and community engagement to sustain project outcomes
- Leverage effort and/or other funds to supplement any OHF appropriation
- Produce multiple enduring conservation benefits
- Provide Minnesotans with greater public access to outdoor environments with hunting, fishing and other outdoor recreation opportunities
- Restore or enhance habitat on permanently protected land
- Use a science-based strategic planning and evaluation model to guide protection, restoration and enhancement, similar to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service's Strategic Habitat Conservation model

LSOHC Northern Forest Section Priorities:

- Protect shoreland and restore or enhance critical habitat on wild rice lakes, shallow lakes, cold water lakes, streams and rivers, and spawning areas

Relationship to Other Constitutional Funds:

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

The Stream Habitat Restoration Program (SHRP) is a local adaptation of the Clean Water Council and Clean Water Fund's (CWF) approach to restoration and protection of Minnesota's watersheds and surface water quality. CWF support underlies the large scale efforts by state natural resource agencies and their partners to assess state-wide watershed conditions, to identify stressors and to develop and implement strategies to restore water quality and aquatic habitat. The Duluth 2012 Flood: Stream Habitat Restoration Program (SHRP) is simply a localized version of the same approach, with an emphasis on restoring heavily damaged cold-water streams and watersheds draining into the St. Louis River Area of Concern (AOC) and Lake Superior. The SHRP will serve as the framework and core of this new effort. However, the true measure of success for this local collaborative model will be realized when project partners recognize the need, and apply for funds from the Trails and Parks Fund, the CWF and other federal and state funding sources.

Accelerates or Supplements Current Efforts:

The storm of June 19th and 20 completely altered physical conditions in Duluth area streams. As such, this situation amounts to resetting the physical and biological conditions of these cold-water stream systems. Much of the modeling and assessment work completed to date will have to be repeated. New surveys will have to be undertaken to assess cold-water habitat availability, channel dimensions, stream flow characteristics and water quality conditions. Equipment will have to be replaced and ongoing assessment and evaluation restarted. Some studies and restoration work completed under the auspices of the St. Louis River Remedial Action Plan (RAP) and Miller Creek Total Maximum Daily Load may have to be revisited and revised.

On a positive note, this storm also provides an unprecedented opportunity for natural resource agencies and partners to implement low impact development techniques and strategies to reduce the likelihood of severe property and ecological damage from another large scale precipitation event. This project does build on a highly successful history of partners working together to restore the St. Louis River AOC and to protect the gem of the Great Lakes, Lake Superior.

Sustainability and Maintenance:

The collaboration and good will engendered by the SHRP will pay dividends into the future. The SHRP will serve as a magnet for scientific research and innovation; which, in turn, drives entrepreneurship. This critical mass will likely spawn spin-off businesses, research ventures and organizations that generate wealth and provide employment. These dividends will essentially turn an ecological and social disaster into an opportunity for new growth and scientific and technical development. Maintaining the investment of the SHRP will be part of an adaptive management strategy as the project moves into maintenance mode (likely 10 to 15 years from now). The SHRP will simply enhance a collaborative atmosphere that has existed for years in the Duluth area. Collaborators will continue to share resources, data and expertise through programs like the Natural Resource Research Institute's Lake Superior Streams web portal and the Regional Storm-water Protection Team. Evaluation and ongoing oversight will be paid for by a combination of state and federal sources as part of their mandates under the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement, the Clean Water Act, the Coastal Zone Management Act, the Safe Drinking Water Act and a wide variety of state and local statutes.

Permanent Protection:

Is the activity on permanently protected land and/or public waters per MS 103G.005, Subd. 15? - Yes
(County/Municipal, City owned land)

Accomplishment Timeline

Activity	Approximate Date Completed
Develop Project Work Plan	10-31-2014
Organize the Stream Habitat Restoration Program (SHRP), Define Partner Roles, Communication Methods	11-30-2014
Scope Out Projects, Identify Data and Fieldwork Needs	05-30-2014
Complete Field Work, Data Collection and Surveying (Topographic Surveys, Geomorphic Assessments, Hydraulic Parameters)	12-30-2014
Analyze Data and Fieldwork	02-28-2015
Develop Preliminary Construction - Restoration Designs	06-30-2015
Incorporate Design Changes into the Construction Plans	09-30-2014
Develop Engineering Plans (Specifications, Plan Sheets)	03-31-2015
Prepare Environment Assessment Worksheet, Apply for Permits	06-30-2015
Publish a River Restoration Request for Proposals	08-31-2015
Select and Award Contracts	12-31-2015
Carry Out Restoration Work	12-31-2019
Inspect and Photo Document Work	05-31-2019
Evaluate Restoration Effectiveness and Develop Stage II Projects and Adaptive Strategies	05-31-2019

Outcomes

Programs in the northern forest region:

- Improved aquatic habitat indicators *Increasing fish production and survivability (population per unit area).*
- Increased availability and improved condition of riparian forests and other habitat corridors *Percent riparian corridor in forest.*
- Greater public access for wildlife and outdoors-related recreation *Reduction in shoreline hazards that limit physical access and fishing success (creel census, number of residents participating or buying licenses to fish locally)*
- Improved availability and improved condition of habitats that have experienced substantial decline

Improved connectivity between stream sections (total number of physical barriers removed that improve connectivity and fish passage)

- Reduced potential for flooding from obstructions (percent of shoreline areas subject to flooding)

Reduced property damage due to bank failure, erosion and channel movement (reduction in future property damage claims)

Budget Spreadsheet

Total Amount of Request: \$5,667,500

Budget and Cash Leverage

Budget Name	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	\$450,000	\$0		\$450,000
Contracts	\$4,150,000	\$3,338,500	Duluth, BWSR, MNDOT Stream Restoration Habitat Improvement (accommodating meandering channels, creating deep pools and fish refuge areas and keeping sediment from filling fish habitat).	\$7,488,500
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	\$0	\$0		\$0
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	\$0	\$0		\$0
Easement Acquisition	\$0	\$0		\$0
Easement Stewardship	\$0	\$0		\$0
Travel	\$50,000	\$0		\$50,000
Professional Services	\$830,000	\$500,000	MNDOT Natural Channel Design and Engineering on Two Bridge Sites (Kingsbury and Mission Creeks)	\$1,330,000
Direct Support Services	\$157,500	\$0		\$157,500
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	\$0	\$0		\$0
Capital Equipment	\$0	\$0		\$0
Other Equipment/Tools	\$7,000	\$25,000	MPCA Water Quality Monitoring Stream Flow Gaging Support to monitor project designs and impacts	\$32,000
Supplies/Materials	\$23,000	\$0		\$23,000
DNR IDP	\$0	\$0		\$0
Total	\$5,667,500	\$3,863,500		- \$9,531,000

Personnel

Position	FTE	Over # of years	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Position	1.00	5.00	\$450,000	\$0		\$450,000
Total	1.00	5.00	\$450,000	\$0		- \$450,000

Capital Equipment

Item Name	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
	\$0	\$0		\$0
Total	\$0	\$0		- \$0

Output Tables

Table 1. Acres by Resource Type

Type	Wetlands	Prairies	Forest	Habitats	Total
Restore	0	0	0	42	42
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	0	0	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	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	42	42

Table 2. Total Requested Funding by Resource Type

Type	Wetlands	Prairies	Forest	Habitats	Total
Restore	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$5,667,500	\$5,667,500
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$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	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$5,667,500	\$5,667,500

Table 3. Acres within each Ecological Section

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	Northern Forest	Total
Restore	0	0	0	0	42	42
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	0	0	0	0	0
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	0	42	42

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	\$5,667,500	\$5,667,500
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
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	\$0	\$5,667,500	\$5,667,500

Table 5. Target Lake/Stream/River Miles

7 miles

Parcel List

Section 1 - Restore / Enhance Parcel List

St. Louis

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?
Amity Creek	05113231	5	\$100,000	Yes
Amity Creek	05113232	9	\$200,000	Yes
Chester Creek	05014215	8	\$400,000	Yes
Coffee Creek	05014232	1	\$65,000	Yes
Coffee Creek	05014229	3	\$135,000	Yes
Keene Creek	04915213	0	\$50,000	Yes
Keene Creek	04914218	10	\$500,000	Yes
Keene Creek	04915212	3	\$200,000	Yes
Kingsbury Creek	04915214	11	\$300,000	Yes
Kingsbury Creek	04915213	9	\$200,000	Yes
Mission Creek	04815205	12	\$800,000	Yes
Mission Creek	04815206	8	\$600,000	Yes
Mission Creek	04915231	3	\$300,000	Yes
Mission Creek	04815208	4	\$300,000	Yes
Stewart Creek	04915227	3	\$100,000	Yes
Stewart Creek	04915226	7	\$200,000	Yes

Section 2 - Protect Parcel List

No parcels with an activity type protect.

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.

L

Sandy Smith

From: Scott Kuiti [skuiti@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, September 10, 2013 12:42 PM
To: Heather Koop
Cc: Sandy Smith; Bill Becker
Subject: RE: Council follow up question
Attachments: Knife River Watershed Map.pdf; Knife River Historic Habitat Work Summary.pdf

Importance: High

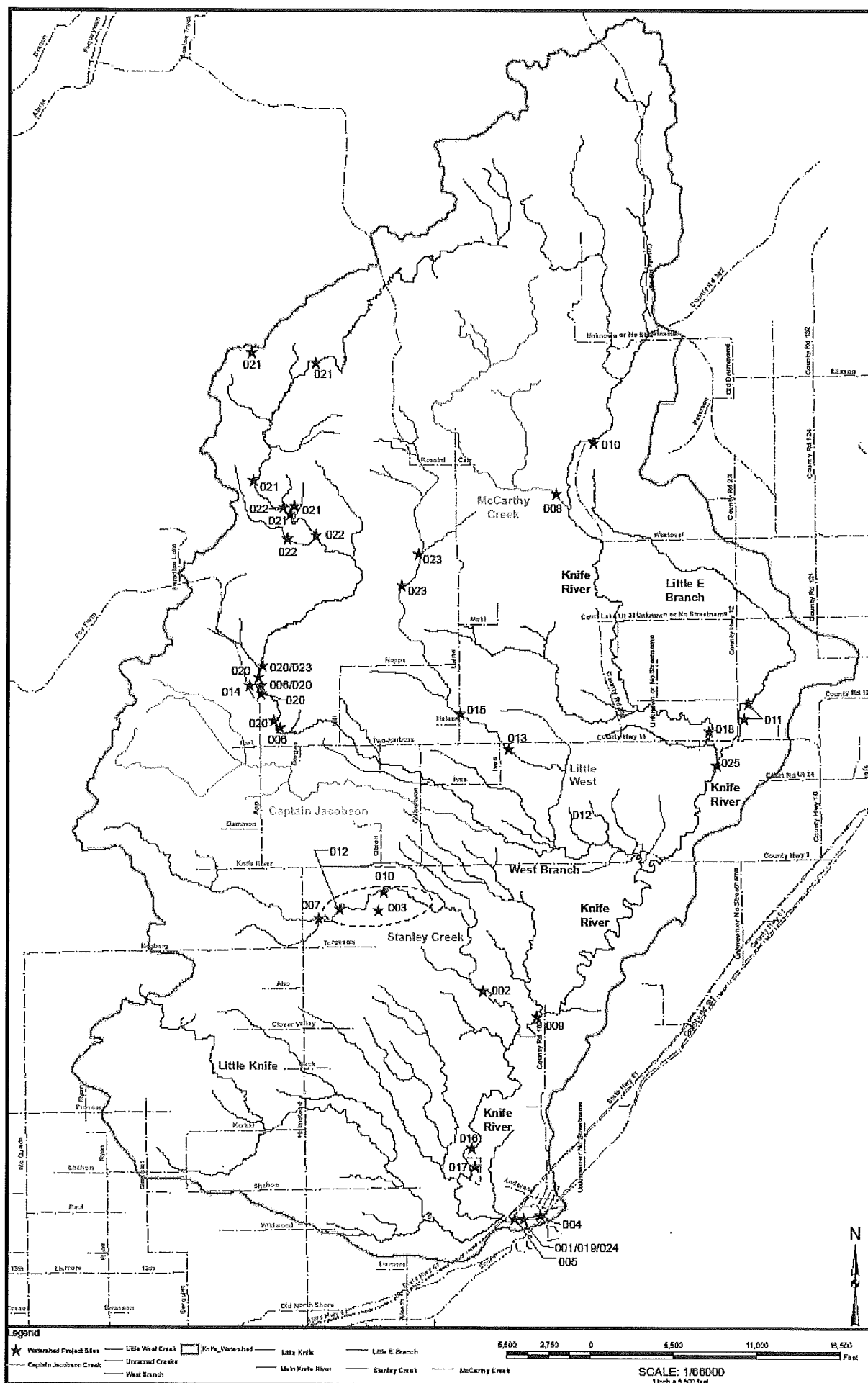
Hello Heather,

To answer the Council's question regarding past work done on the Knife River, please see the attached.

Thank you,
Scott Kuiti
VP/Grant Administrator
Lake Superior Steelhead Association

From: heather.koop@lsohc.leg.mn
To: skuiti@hotmail.com
CC: sandy.smith@lsohc.leg.mn; bill.becker@lsohc.leg.mn
Date: Fri, 6 Sep 2013 11:19:47 -0500
Subject: Council follow up question

Hi, Scott,
During the hearing of Knife River Habitat Rehabilitation, Ph. II, council members requested additional information on past work done by the Lake Superior Steelhead Association on the Knife River. Please provide a short description of this work no later than 3 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 10. Thanks much.
Heather



Knife River Watershed Historic Habitat Work Summary

Map ID No.	Year	Location	Habitat Task	Organization
001	1972	Main Branch	Falls	DNR
002	1985	Stanley Creek	Dam Removal	LSSA/DNR
003	1985	Stanley Creek	Dam Removal	LSSA/DNR
004	1989	Main Branch	Stairs to Protect Bank	LSSA/SWCA
005	1995	Main Branch	Trap	DNR
006	1995	West Branch	Tree Planting	St. Louis County
007	1999-2001	Stanley Creek	Bioengineering Stream Bank	Great Lakes Commission
008	1999	Wing Dams	McCarthy Creek	LSSA/DNR
009	2000	Main Branch	Stream Stabilization	EPA/DNR
010	2002	Main Branch	Wing Dams	LSSA/DNR
	2002	Stanley Creek	Wing Dams	LSSA/DNR
011	2003	Little East Branch	Tree Planting	USFWS/LSSA
012	2003	Stanley Creek	Dam Removal	LSSA/DNR
013	2003	Little West	Dam Removal	LSSA/DNR
014	2003	West Branch	Tree pLanting - Phase II	LSSA
015	2004	Little West	Tree Planting	LSSA
016	2006,2009 & 2013	Main Branch	Second Falls	LSSA/DNR
017	2010 & 2011	Main Branch	Tree Planting	Knife River Citizens
018	2011	Main Branch	Wing Dams	SWCD/LSSA
019	2012	Main Branch	Falls Restoration	LSSA/DNR
020	2012	West Branch	Field Work Event - 5 sites	LSSA/Lessard Grant
021	2012 - 2014	West Branch	Field Work Event - 3 sites	LSSA/Lessard Grant
022	2012	West Branch	Field Work Event - 5 sites	LSSA/Lessard Grant
023	2013	West Branch	Tree Planting - 2 sites	LSSA/Lessard Grant
024	2013	Main Branch	First Falls Trap Repair	DNR
025	2011	Main Branch	Bank Stabilization	St. Louis County /SWCD
026	1997-2013	Troughout Watershed	Dam Identification Flight	DNR
027	1990-2010	Throughout Watershed	Forest Stewardship	USDA/LSSA
028	2012-2013	Main Branch	Bank Stabilization	Lake County/SWCD

Notes:

DNR = Department of Natural Resources

EPA = Environmental Protection Agency

LSSA = Lake Superior Steelhead Association

SWCD = Soil and Water Conservation District

USDA = United States Department of Agriculture

USFWS = United States Fish and Wildlife Service



Sandy Smith

From: Wilson, Grant (DNR) [grant.wilson@state.mn.us]
Sent: Tuesday, September 10, 2013 11:22 AM
To: Heather Koop
Cc: Bill Becker; Sandy Smith; Schuller, Dave (DNR); Boe, Forrest (DNR); Boggess, Ed (DNR); Telander, Paul B (DNR); Welsh, Bob J (DNR); DonCarlos, Kathy A (DNR); Meier, Bob (DNR)
Subject: RE: Follow-up to Council questions on DNR Forestry practices

Heather, below is DNR's response, as requested.

1. The \$10.1M (per biennium) in supplemental Division of Forestry budget from the General Fund from ML 2013 will benefit young forests indirectly through:
 - a. Maintaining an annual harvest level of 800,000 cords through the hiring of 15 new FTEs. A significant majority of timber harvest is in the aspen timber type, creating young regeneration that benefits upland bird species.
 - b. Reinventorying 78,000 acres per year of forest land to better plan harvest levels and locations. This information will provide better information to plan harvests that benefit a variety of wildlife species, including warblers, woodcock and other bird species of greatest concern.
 - c. Expanding silvicultural treatments to ensure long-term productivity. The majority of this funding (\$387,000) is for intermediate treatments that enhance the health and vigor of young to intermediate aged forests which provide some benefit for wildlife, but is actually focused on increasing productivity for more desirable timber to be harvested in the future, thereby attracting additional markets that will create additional young forests through future harvest.
 - d. Restart efforts to utilize and market Minnesota's resources. The depressed wood markets in Minnesota have a direct effect on our ability to maintain young forests through timber harvest. Enhancing these markets will enable us to create the young forest needed for bird species of greatest concern through timber harvest.
2. The FA01 proposal does not directly mesh or overlap with Forestry's supplemental budget increase. FA01 will use contract work to create and maintain young forests in areas of greatest concern for bird species, often in locations with poor timber markets that would otherwise maintain young forests. The FA01 proposal and Forestry's budget greatly complement each other, but are not intended to overlap or duplicate efforts.

Let me know if you have follow up questions.

Grant

From: Heather Koop [<mailto:heather.koop@sohdc.leg.mn>]
Sent: Friday, September 06, 2013 10:42 AM
To: Wilson, Grant (DNR)
Cc: Bill Becker; Sandy Smith
Subject: Follow-up to Council questions on DNR Forestry practices
Importance: High

Hi, Grant,

During the council meetings this week, council members had a series of questions around DNR Forestry. Would you please provide the council with a technical review of this program given the supplemental funding for forestry in ML 2013, describing how it might impact young forests?

Please respond by 3 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 10.

Thanks much.

Heather

M

Sandy Smith

From: Wilson, Grant (DNR) [grant.wilson@state.mn.us]
Sent: Tuesday, September 10, 2013 12:41 PM
To: Bill Becker; Heather Koop
Cc: Sandy Smith; Peterson, Richard F (DNR); Tomlinson, Bob S (DNR); Jennings, Martin (DNR); Jacobson, Peter C (DNR); DonCarlos, Kathy A (DNR)
Subject: Pinelands Sands Question Clarification
Attachments: Protecting Pinelands Sands - Question Clarification 2013-09-10.docx

Bill,

Please submit the attached note from Dick Peterson to the Council. It helps clarify his response to a line of questions on water permitting.

Thank you,
Grant

Grant L. Wilson

Liaison to Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council
Fish & Wildlife Policy and Planning
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

651.259.5186

Grant.Wilson@state.mn.us

M

Chair Hartwell,

When presenting to the LSOHC on September 4 on DNR's request **"Protecting Pinelands Sands Aquifer Forestlands and Aquatic Habitat Phase 1,"** I received a line of questions regarding DNR's use of water appropriations permits as a tool to protect habitat. I would like to more fully respond to that issue so the Council has more complete information in considering the request.

Water appropriations permit decisions are tied to the specific limitations and authorizations in rule and statute. Permits can be issued and denied "in order to conserve and utilize the water resources of the state in the public interest" (MN Rule 6115.0600). When making permitting decisions DNR must consider economic and recreational water needs as well as water resource protection. I'm not aware of any statute or rule that allows preventing land conversion as a direct reason for denying a permit so DNR's permitting cannot be used as a tool to prevent forest habitat from being purchased, cleared and converted.

The department does have a variety of available strategies to protect these significant forest and aquatic resources. Strategies for protecting high priority acres from conversion include conservation easements, planning and zoning considerations, and fee title acquisitions. To address this accelerating new issue, DNR chartered a team of field staff to determine which of the industrial forest lands, if converted to agricultural uses would be the most detrimental to habitat loss and water quantity/quality decline. The acres proposed for acquisition in this request are an accurate reflection of their highest priorities based on scientific evaluations, and those where acquisition was deemed the best choice for habitat protection.

DNR is also taking impacts to water and aquatic habitat seriously when considering water permits. At some already converted sites in the vicinity, permits could not be denied outright due to a lack of local information about water levels, but temporary permits were issued that will expire at the end of this irrigation season (September 30th) as a precaution. Each temporary permit contains special monitoring conditions that include the installation of multiple monitoring wells, installation of electronic data collection systems in each monitoring well, installation of a lake gage to measure water levels in an adjacent surface water body, and limitations on the duration and frequency of pumping. After analysis of the collected data, and potentially, an aquifer test, DNR will make a decision on these permits.

Another strategy towards aquatic habitat and groundwater protection is the development of groundwater management areas. Within these areas DNR will collaborate with stakeholders to develop a plan for using groundwater in a sustainable manner; this plan might include water allocations and water conservation requirements. The Straight River area has been identified as a pilot groundwater management area and we have started the process of developing this project.

I would like to emphasize that the urgency of this proposed acquisition of forest was not nearly as significant a few years ago as it is today. Thousands of acres of forest have only recently been sold to agriculture interests in Hubbard and Wadena Counties. The concerns over loss of forest habitat and declines in aquatic habitat and ground water quantity/quality have since become more pronounced within the department and elsewhere. The Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources included a

stop at one of the converted sites during their recent summer tour, and due to concerns over these conversions, the House Environment and Natural Resources Committee scheduled a discussion of this item at an October hearing.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this request, and I'm happy to provide more information as needed by the Council.

Sincerely,

Richard F. Peterson, Minnesota DNR