From:	Sandy Smith
Subject:	LSOHC Hearing Information Follow-up #2
Date:	Wednesday, September 11, 2013 2:00:06 PM
Attachments:	LSOHC parcel prioritization.pdf

During the LSOHC hearings last week there was a great deal of discussion around parcel priorities. Attached (49 pages) are responses from project managers of acquisition programs who were asked to prioritize a list of parcels.

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

From:	Koehler, Tim (BWSR) [Tim.Koehler@state.mn.us]
Sent:	Monday, September 09, 2013 2:05 PM
To:	Heather Koop
Cc:	Strommen, Sarah (BWSR); Penning, Bill (BWSR); Garms, Jason (DNR); Steward, Dan (BWSR); Hoek, Tabor (BWSR); Mclennan, Helen - NRCS-CD, Little Falls, MN (helen.mclennan@mn.nacdnet.net); Koehler, Tim (BWSR)
Subject:	RE: Council follow up question: Priority acquisitions
Follow Up Flag:	Follow up
Flag Status:	Flagged

### Heather:

Thanks for speaking to Sarah and me earlier today related to this information request. As we discussed, I am forwarding information regarding each of the 5 RIM proposals. In each of the proposals that include RIM funding we have already explained our parcel prioritization or have included a listing of parcels. This includes:

- ( RIM-WRP No parcel list was attached. Sign-ups that generate eligible applicants are utilized. The Minnesota Wetland Restoration Evaluation Worksheet (attached to the proposal) is then utilized to score each application with the highest scoring applications providing the maximum wildlife habitat.
- HT MN Buffers No parcel list was attached. Sign-ups that generate eligible applicants are utilized. The RIM Buffers for Wildlife & Water Scoring Form (attached to the proposal) is then utilized to score each application with the highest scoring applications providing the maximum wildlife habitat.
- A GRIM-NPB No parcel list was attached. Sign-ups that generate eligible applicants will be utilized. Local Technical Teams and priority landscapes will then be used to score and rank each applicant.
- Wild Rice A parcel list was submitted that included Wild Rice Lakes as a focus for easements and parcels associated with priority pieces for each listed WMA. Sign-ups that generate eligible applicants are utilized. The local technical team then reviews each applicant to determine priority of funding order based on criteria developed.
- 43 Camp Ripley/ACUB "Protect Parcel List" is attached for each county.

Let me know if you need additional information related to how RIM applicants are prioritized to attain the highest wildlife benefits possible.

Tím Koehler

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

From: Heather Koop [mailto:heather.koop@lsohc.leg.mn] Sent: Friday, September 06, 2013 1:04 PM

**To:** (al.singer@co.dakota.mn.us); Bob McGillivray (bob.mcgillivray@tpl.org); (1231TLC@charter.net); Nerbonne, Brian A (DNR); Steward, Dan (BWSR); Schuller, Dave (DNR); (DLoon@mnvalleytrust.org); (gfenwick@abcbirds.org); (helen.mclennan@mn.nacdnet.net); (Jane.Harper@co.washington.mn.us); Garms, Jason (DNR); (jpavelko@pheasantsforever.org); (jshneider@visi.com); Jon Schneider; ' (josh.stevenson@co.cass.mn.us)'; (nfeeken@tnc.org); Frohnauer, Nick (DNR); Rivers, Pat (DNR); (westcom@brainerd.net); (rich\_johnson@tnc.org);

(<u>rbiske@tnc.org</u>); Peterson, Richard F (DNR); Hoek, Tabor (BWSR); (<u>thomashowes@fdlrez.com</u>); Koehler, Tim (BWSR); (<u>wjulien@peoplepc.com</u>); (<u>bdswd@frontiernet.net</u>); Wilson, Grant (DNR) **Cc:** Sandy Smith; Bill Becker **Subject:** Council follow up question: Priority acquisitions **Importance:** High

All,

From:	Rivers, Pat (DNR) [Pat.Rivers@state.mn.us]
Sent:	Monday, September 09, 2013 12:09 PM
То:	Heather Koop
Cc:	Booth, Peggy (DNR)
Subject:	RE: Council follow up question: Priority acquisitions
Attachments:	ML 14 WMA SNA parcel list xlsx
	·

Follow Up Flag: Flag Status: Follow up Flagged

Good morning Heather,

Attached is a priority list for WMAs and SNAs. Our proposal seeks \$5M for WMAs and \$2M for SNAs, and I prioritized each list separately.

Thanks for our conversation today.

Pat

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

Sent: Friday, September 06, 2013 1:04 PM

To: (al.singer@co.dakota.mn.us); Bob McGillivray (bob.mcgillivray@tpl.org); (1231TLC@charter.net); Nerbonne, Brian A (DNR); Steward, Dan (BWSR); Schuller, Dave (DNR); (DLoon@mnvalleytrust.org); (gfenwick@abcbirds.org); (helen.mclennan@mn.nacdnet.net); (Jane.Harper@co.washington.mn.us); Garms, Jason (DNR); (jpavelko@pheasantsforever.org); (jshneider@visi.com); Jon Schneider; ' (josh.stevenson@co.cass.mn.us)'; (nfeeken@tnc.org); Frohnauer, Nick (DNR); Rivers, Pat (DNR); (westcom@brainerd.net); (rich\_johnson@tnc.org); (rbiske@tnc.org); Peterson, Richard F (DNR); Hoek, Tabor (BWSR); (thomashowes@fdlrez.com); Koehler, Tim (BWSR); (wjulien@peoplepc.com); (bdswd@frontiernet.net); Wilson, Grant (DNR)
Cc: Sandy Smith; Bill Becker
Subject: Council follow up question: Priority acquisitions

All,

Parcel Name	County	Towns Ra hip	Towns Range Direction hip	i Section TRDS		# of Acres Budg Estim	Budgeting Description Estimated Cost	Pro Pro	Existing Open to hunting per Protection? State of Minnesota Remilation?	er Open to fishing per State of Status a Minnesota Regulations?		# of Buildings/ Buildings/ Improvements Improvements Description	Value of Buildings / Improvements	lidings / Disposition of nts improvements
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×	Swift	121			12140213		This proposed actualition lies in two pieces adjacent to the Chippenen River. The area is dominated Protect in Fee with PILT by od Rood plain for each mange, and contenwood and and micer. These may prove will note used in manyity tarkwarm determining opportunities. This Chippenen River confaor is a major deter wintering area. Several species of massels, Including black sandbriel, creek heetspiliter, and mucket have been found in the Chippenen River heat this area caceas could also be \$232,0000.00 considered risks in the Chippenen River.	ith PILT No	Fuel	Full	Proposed	<ol> <li>An old one room log cabin, locarted on the eastern parcel</li> </ol>	m log Minimal, If any on the	Remove
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Beaver Falls WMA	Renville	EII	32	2 23 1	11335223	8	The parter would attract accension of copievalito would recreation and nature particle. Protect in Fee with PML wegteration for enhance the aircraft pripreduce grashinal working on south side of the subting VMAA. This with would be an excellent produce of phosenet, blue-winged text, and \$50000000 mailtaid.	ith PILT No	Full	Futt	Proposed	0 N/Y	N/N	NA
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	Meeker	ន	3	2 29	12132229		Tr.J of proposed new WM complex with 15-20 restor topography, woodland, w property would provide a very good wetland comple as many non-game wildlife	tth PiLT No	Full	fut	Proposed	o N/A	N/A	N/A
is Forest WMA-		*******					This tract is colling topography with a mhatre of grassiands, forest and wetlands. The area is attractive to many widdle speeds rative so such certral Minnesca, particularly important gune grobel such a traps with the straps and other and grans, and missial edder. In fract encompasses a portion of a majob-busewood for ext community identified on the natural Inversion Located rear Located in easy reach of the Twin Cities metro area, New Pagues and Fairbault.	ICH PILT No	177 17	Fut	Proposed	V/V 0	N/A	N/A
Greie La R	Rice Steele	106	2 61 2 61	2 15 11	1121211	170	S600,000.00 Demand for public hunding opportundits in this area greatly exceeds the supply of available hands. This track is a roundout for the hearb Wird. The track contains good hearl musch character is fee with PILT 57300000 and heart weaterform hands in this wetland.	ith PILT No	Full	Full	Proposed	0 N/A	N/A	N/A
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Creek	Wabasha				10810224	\$	980,000 MBS-mapped bluff prairle, forest, & cliff native plant communities; providing connectivity to Whitewater WMA parcels		Full	Full	Proposed	D		
Drake Woods Chanaramble Creek M Prairie Coteau SNA P addition	Hairbault Murray Pipestone	101 27 105 43 108 44	n n n	988	1012/20/ 10543203 10844233	300 \$ 120 \$ 200 \$	1,200,00 Bet man Missenangen binawood rotarina MM 1,200,000 Bet man Missenangen binawood rotarina MM 200,000 Praine Ban Gree Area: dry hill praine granter madow 200,000 Praine Ban Gree Area: dry hill praine; margersise	ith Pilit No ith Pilit No ith Pilit No	19 19 19	Fud Fud	Proposed Proposed	000		

From: Sent:	Neal Feeken [nfeeken@TNC.ORG] Tuesday, September 10, 2013 1:00 PM
To:	Heather Koop
Cc:	Isis A. Stark
Subject:	RE: Council follow up question: Priority acquisitions
Attachments:	Parcel prioritization criteria.pdf

### Hi Heather,

Consistent with past phases of the Prairie Recovery Project we have not specifically identified individual parcels in our Phase 5 proposal. As you know, our approach to the Prairie Recovery Project has been as a Program and not as a collection of individual projects. Such an approach helps to assure our focus is placed on the highest priority parcel types and activities that are identified in our proposal, while maintaining flexibility and allowing us to respond quickly and efficiently to opportunities that arise during the course of implementation. Further, there are a number of factors that inherently make identification of discrete parcels difficult for this and other landscape scale protection Programs. Included in those factors are:

- Conservation sellers who might be identified at time of application are typically unable or unwilling to wait the 12 months + for funding to arrive (or not).
- Upfront identification of parcels with estimated purchase prices may complicate future negotiations
- By practice, TNC strives to protect confidentiality of landowners with whom we are working on acquisition projects
- Changing circumstances in the lives or businesses of sellers move them in and out of the market very unpredictably, meaning that opportunity plays a strong role in the parcels we select for acquisition
- In lieu of a pre-identified parcel list we employ a robust set of prioritization criteria to screen potential acquisition opportunities as they arise. These criteria are attached and have been thoroughly tested over the first four phases of our project.

We believe our past performance, using previously established processes, have been very successful while maintaining a high level of transparency and accountability to the Council and the Legislature. We hope the Council agrees and that we be allowed to continue with those processes which include:

1. Seeking LSOHC staff, or Council as appropriate, input and approval for parcel inclusion into the Accomplishment Plan prior to final negotiations with landowners

2. Pursuing only parcels that coincide with the priority geographies identified in our proposal, the MN Prairie Conservation Plan, and our approved Accomplishment Plan

3. Adhering to the criteria for prioritization that has been provided to the Council (attached here)

Again, we believe that the above described process has been highly effective at protecting critical prairie parcels while maintaining a high level of accountability and providing the Council an opportunity to accept or reject proposed parcels before completing a deal. We hope you concur and will allow us to continue with this proven model. I'm happy to discuss any questions or suggestions at your convenience, please feel free to give me a call at any time. Thanks again for your consideration. –Neal

**Neal Feeken** *Prairie Recovery Project Coordinator* MN, ND, SD

(612) 331-0738 (Phone) (651) 357-2161 (Cell) <u>nfeeken@tnc.org</u> **The Nature Conservancy** 1101 West River Parkway Suite 200 Minneapolis, MN 55415



Protecting nature. Preserving life."

From: Heather Koop [mailto:heather.koop@lsohc.leg.mn]
Sent: Friday, September 06, 2013 1:04 PM
To: (al.singer@co.dakota.mn.us); Bob McGillivray (bob.mcgillivray@tpl.org); (1231TLC@charter.net);
(brian.nerbonne@state.mn.us); (dan.steward@state.mn.us); (david.schuller@state.mn.us); (DLoon@mnvalleytrust.org);
(gfenwick@abcbirds.org); (helen.mclennan@mn.nacdnet.net); (Jane.Harper@co.washington.mn.us);
(jason.garms@state.mn.us); (jpavelko@pheasantsforever.org); (jshneider@visi.com); Jon Schneider; '
(josh.stevenson@co.cass.mn.us)'; Neal Feeken; (nick.frohnauer@state.mn.us); (pat.rivers@state.mn.us);
(westcom@brainerd.net); Rich Johnson; Richard Biske; (richard.f.peterson@state.mn.us); (tabor.hoek@state.mn.us);
(thomashowes@fdlrez.com); (tim.koehler@state.mn.us); (wjulien@peoplepc.com); (bdswd@frontiernet.net); Wilson, Grant (DNR)
Cc: Sandy Smith; Bill Becker
Subject: Council follow up question: Priority acquisitions
Importance: High

All,

### Parcel Selection Criteria used by The Nature Conservancy for the Minnesota Prairie Recovery project funded by the Outdoor Heritage Fund

The purpose of the Minnesota Prairie Recovery Project is to accelerate and coordinate conservation activities in the prairie regions of Minnesota, and to ensure that the remaining 200,000 acres of remnant native prairie are protected, that restorations complement these remnants and provide critical buffers and corridors, and that all remnant habitats are effectively enhanced with proper use of prescribed fire and control of undesirable species.

To accomplish this purpose, The Nature Conservancy proposes to acquire in fee key tracts of prairies and associated lands to provide maximum protection and opportunity for restoration and enhancement. In looking at restoring prairie functions at a landscape scale, the following criteria will be considered in our identification of appropriate parcels for acquisition:

- Native prairie on all or most of tract, or adjacency to existing native prairie. Emphasis of the
  project is protecting and enhancing native prairie, as identified by DNR County Biological Survey
  or site inspection by trained biologist. Protecting native prairie includes the need to buffer and
  connect native remnants via restoration of non-native lands. We will identify and work with
  private landowners to acquire tracts that further our goal of native prairie conservation, and in
  particular, those that meet the other criteria listed below.
- 2. Within core area boundary or in critical corridors between core areas. The project will attempt to build "functioning landscapes" by concentrating in areas with a good core of existing native prairie. We are using the DNR County Biological Survey as a starting point for identifying these core areas. While CBS has identified 38 possible core areas, we will focus within or adjacent to one of 5 areas including: Tallgrass Aspen Parkland, northern Agassiz Beach Ridge, upper Minnesota River Valley, Ordway-Glacial Lakes area, or the Prairie Coteau. Priority will be given to those parcels that are within core areas or that help form critical corridors to maintain landscape function. Selection of tracts will also be guided by the strategies and objectives... outlined in TNC's ecoregional conservation action plans.
- 3. Near existing protected lands. Building larger protected complexes is preferred to simplify and reduce overall management costs. In general, larger protected blocks are more effective at conserving the full array of wildlife species and biological diversity. Tracts near existing protected lands will be prioritized higher than those that are isolated.
- 4. Greater habitat and species diversity, or host to unique species. Parcels that host a rare habitat or a continuum of habitats, such as interconnected upland, wetland, riparian, and stream features, will be recognized as having added ecological value and given greater priority. Tracts with underrepresented, small-scale features (e.g., threatened species), will also be prioritized.
- 5. Suitability for ultimate assumption by DNR (WMA or SNA). The Conservancy is proposing to hold these lands for an indefinite period of time. However, we recognize that public ownership of some or all of the acquired properties may be preferable in the future. In order to facilitate this, we will consult with the DNR prior to acquisition regarding the suitability of proposed acquisition tracts for future consideration as a Wildlife Management Area or Scientific and Natural Area.
- 6. **No buildings or CRP issues.** Existing buildings pose a challenge because they may not be eligible for Outdoor Heritage Fund use and they require additional effort to demolish or sell. Similarly, lands enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program can complicate the appraisal and

acquisition process. We will give priority to those parcels that have neither buildings nor existing long term CRP leases.

- 7. Suitable for grazing. A principal element of this proposal is to use conservation grazing as a way to meet ecological objectives and to generate income. Lands that are suitable for grazing, or that have recently been used for grazing, will be prioritized.
- 8. Willing seller. We will only work with willing sellers, and those that can abide by the statutory process laid out for use of public funds.

9. Suitability for public recreation. Constitutional language requires that these lands be open to public taking of fish and game. We will prioritize those parcels that can foster those public uses.

10. Additional restrictions or conditions as specified by the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council, public laws and rules, and program policies that direct acquisition priorities.

From: Sent:	Rich Johnson [rich_johnson@TNC.ORG] Tuesday, September 10, 2013 1:49 PM
То:	Heather Koop
Cc:	Sandy Smith
Subject:	Council follow up question: Priority acquisitions - NTP NWR
Attachments:	NTP NWR Parcel Prioritization Criteria.docx

Heather,

Consistent with the earlier phases of the Northern Tallgrass Prairie National Wildlife Refuge Land Acquisition proposal, our Phase 5 proposal does not identify specific parcels. This project is a partnership between the US Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) and The Nature Conservancy (Conservancy). The partners approach the Northern Tallgrass Prairie project as a Program, not as a collection of individual projects.

Such an approach helps to assure our focus is placed on the highest priority parcel types and activities identified in our proposal, while maintaining flexibility and allowing us to respond quickly and efficiently to opportunities that arise during the course of implementation. Further, there are a number of factors that make identification of discrete parcels difficult for this and other landscape scale protection Programs. Included in those factors are:

- Conservation sellers who might be identified at time of application are typically unable or unwilling to wait the 12 months+ for funding to arrive (or not).
- Upfront identification of parcels with estimated purchase prices may complicate future negotiations
- By practice, the Service and Conservancy strive to protect confidentiality of landowners with whom we are working on acquisition projects
- Changing circumstances in the lives or businesses of sellers move them in and out of the market very unpredictably, meaning that opportunity plays a strong role in the parcels we select for acquisition
- In lieu of a pre-identified parcel list we employ a robust set of prioritization criteria to screen potential acquisition opportunities as they arise. These criteria are attached and have been thoroughly tested over the first four phases of our project.

Both the Service and Conservancy have used this approach for other programs, such as the Prairie Recovery Project, with great success, and while maintaining a high level of transparency and accountability to the Council and the Legislature. Acquisition work for this specific program only began in March of 2013, but we have already protected 7 properties, totaling 889 acres. We hope the Council agrees that this approach is working and that we be allowed to continue with the processes that are in place, including:

- Seeking LSOHC staff, or Council as appropriate, input and approval for parcel inclusion into the Accomplishment Plan prior to final negotiations with landowners
- Pursuing only parcels that coincide with the priority geographies identified in our proposal and our approved Accomplishment Plan. The selection of parcels is guided by the 2010 Minnesota Prairie Conservation Plan and the Service's 2007 plan for focusing the Refuge's conservation efforts.
- Adhering to the criteria for prioritization that we are providing to the Council. See the attached document.

Again, we believe that the above described process has been highly effective at protecting critical prairie parcels while maintaining a high level of accountability and providing the Council an opportunity to accept or reject proposed parcels before completing a deal. We hope you concur and will allow us to continue with this proven model. I'm happy to discuss any questions or suggestions at your convenience, please feel free to give me a call at any time.

Thanks again for your consideration!

### Rich Johnson

Rich Johnson | Conservation Information Manager | The Nature Conservancy in MN/ND/SD | 612) 331-0790 | <u>rich\_johnson@tnc.org</u>

From: Heather Koop [mailto:heather.koop@lsohc.leg.mn]
Sent: Friday, September 06, 2013 1:04 PM
To: (al.singer@co.dakota.mn.us); Bob McGillivray (bob.mcgillivray@tpl.org); (1231TLC@charter.net);
(brian.nerbonne@state.mn.us); (dan.steward@state.mn.us); (david.schuller@state.mn.us); (DLoon@mnvalleytrust.org);
(gfenwick@abcbirds.org); (helen.mclennan@mn.nacdnet.net); (Jane.Harper@co.washington.mn.us);
(jason.garms@state.mn.us); (jpavelko@pheasantsforever.org); (jshneider@visi.com); Jon Schneider; '
(josh.stevenson@co.cass.mn.us)'; Neal Feeken; (nick.frohnauer@state.mn.us); (pat.rivers@state.mn.us);
(westcom@brainerd.net); Rich Johnson; Richard Biske; (richard.f.peterson@state.mn.us); (tabor.hoek@state.mn.us);
(thomashowes@fdIrez.com); (tim.koehler@state.mn.us); (wjulien@peoplepc.com); (bdswd@frontiernet.net); Wilson, Grant (DNR)
Cc: Sandy Smith; Bill Becker
Subject: Council follow up question: Priority acquisitions
Importance: High

All,

### Parcel Selection Criteria used by the US Fish & Wildlife Service and The Nature Conservancy for the Northern Tallgrass Prairie National Wildlife Refuge Land Acquisition Program

The purpose of the Northern Tallgrass Prairie Protection National Wildlife Refuge Program is to accelerate progress towards the US Fish & Wildlife Service's (Service) goal of permanently protecting and enhancing 77,000 acres of prairie remnants across the broad area originally covered by the Northern Tallgrass Prairie. The Land Acquisition Program supports the acquisition of fee title or conservation easements in the 48 western Minnesota counties included in the refuge boundary. The Service and The Nature Conservancy (Conservancy) are partners in this Program.

Parcels are reviewed by both the Service and Conservancy to ensure that they meet the priorities of both partners. They are then submitted to LSOHC staff for final review/approval. This review is based on the following criteria:

- 1. Native prairie on all or most of tract, or adjacency to existing native prairie. The emphasis of this Program is protecting and enhancing native prairie, as identified by DNR Biological Survey or site inspection by trained biologist. Protecting native prairie includes the need to buffer and connect native remnants via restoration of non-native lands. The partners will identify and work with private landowners to acquire tracts that further our shared goal of native prairie conservation, and in particular, those that meet the other criteria listed below.
- 2. Within core area boundary or in critical corridors between core areas. This Program will assist with building "functioning landscapes" by focusing in areas with concentrations of existing native prairie. The 2010 Minnesota Prairie Conservation Plan identified 35 prairie cores and corridors within the Refuge. The partners will give priority to those parcels that are within these core areas or that help form critical corridors to maintain landscape function.
- 3. Near existing protected lands. Building larger protected complexes is preferred to simplify and reduce overall management costs and travel time. In general, larger protected blocks are more effective at conserving the full array of wildlife species and biological diversity. The partners will strategically identify properties that are in areas where the Service already has a presence and prioritize these higher than those that are isolated.
- 4. Greater habitat and species diversity, or host to unique species. Parcels that host a rare habitat or a continuum or habitats, such as interconnected upland, wetland, riparian, and stream features, will be recognized as having added ecological value and given greater priority. Tracts with underrepresented, small-scale features (e.g. threatened species), will also be prioritized.
- 5. Suitability for public recreation. Constitutional language requires that the lands purchased in fee title be open to the public taking of fish and game. Fee title lands purchased with this grant will be opened. Lands especially suited to these uses will be given a higher priority. Conservation easements purchased with Outdoor Heritage Fund support will only be open to hunting if the landowner allows it to be.

- 6. **Willing Seller.** We will only work with willing sellers, and those that can abide by the statutory process laid out for use of public funds. We strive to work with landowners to ensure that they are comfortable with the Program and how it will affect their property.
- 7. Avoid buildings. Existing buildings pose a challenge because they may not be eligible for Outdoor Heritage Fund use and they require additional effort to demolish or sell. Properties with structures are carefully reviewed to ensure that they do not place an undue burden on the Service or Conservancy.

From:	Bob McGillivray [Bob.McGillivray@tpl.org]
Sent:	Monday, September 09, 2013 4:31 PM
To:	Heather Koop
Cc:	Danielle Salus; Susan Schmidt
Subject:	Re: Council follow up question: Priority acquisitions
Follow Up Flag:	Follow up

Flag Status:

Flagged

Heather:

Here is The Cannon River Headwaters Habitat Complex Phase IV acquisition parcel list in priority order:

- 1. Caron Lake WMA (tracts 4-8)
- 2. Le Tamaracque WMA (tract 28)
- 3. Dora Lake WMA (tract 2)
- 4. Dora Lake WMA (tract 5)
- 5. Boyd Sartell WMA (tract 3)
- 6. Koester Prairie WMA (tract 1)
- 7. Boyd Sartell WMA (tract 5)

Let me know if you have any questions.

Bob

Robert J. McGillivray Senior Project Manager Minnesota State Office The Trust for Public Land 2610 University Ave., Suite 300 St. Paul, Minnesota 55114

phone 651-999-5307 fax 651-917-2248

Bob.McGillivray@tpl.org or rjm@tpl.org

Conserving Land for People - an average of 350 acres of parks and open space each and every day. On the Web at http://www.tpl.org

>>> Heather Koop <<u>heather.koop@lsohc.leg.mn</u>> 9/6/2013 1:03 PM >>> All,

During the LSOHC meeting this week, there was a great deal of discussion around parcel priorities. We have been asked to request from each acquisition proposal a prioritized list of the parcels to be affected.

Please provide a prioritized parcel list by 3 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 10. Thanks much. Heather



PAG

### **Heather Koop**

From: Sent:	Garms, Jason (DNR) [jason.garms@state.mn.us] Tuesday, September 10, 2013 1:59 PM
То:	Heather Koop
Cc:	Penning, Bill (BWSR); Koehler, Tim (BWSR); Wilson, Grant (DNR)
Subject:	RE: Council follow up question: Priority acquisitions
Attachments:	npb_evaluation_form_guide.pdf;

Heather,

Just to follow up on Tim's message below. . .

As Tim states below, the RIM-NPB proposal (PA-6) does not include a parcel list. Although, attached to the proposal was a scoring sheet for Native Prairie Bank easements. I've attached to this email the most current version of the Native Prairie Bank scoring sheet. In addition I've attached a map of the MN Prairie Plan focus areas, which represent the priority landscapes mentioned in the explanation below.

Thanks,

### Jason Garms

Prairie Biologist MN DNR - Scientific and Natural Areas Program 500 Lafayette Rd Box 25 St. Paul, MN 55155 651-259-5130 jason.garms@state.mn.us

From: Koehler, Tim (BWSR)
Sent: Monday, September 09, 2013 2:05 PM
To: Heather Koop
Cc: Strommen, Sarah (BWSR); Penning, Bill (BWSR); Garms, Jason (DNR); Steward, Dan (BWSR); Hoek, Tabor (BWSR); Mclennan, Helen - NRCS-CD, Little Falls, MN (<u>helen.mclennan@mn.nacdnet.net</u>); Koehler, Tim (BWSR)
Subject: RE: Council follow up question: Priority acquisitions

Heather:

Thanks for speaking to Sarah and me earlier today related to this information request. As we discussed, I am forwarding information regarding each of the 5 RIM proposals. In each of the proposals that include RIM funding we have already explained our parcel prioritization or have included a listing of parcels. This includes:

RIM-WRP – No parcel list was attached. Sign-ups that generate eligible applicants are utilized. The Minnesota Wetland Restoration Evaluation Worksheet (attached to the proposal) is then utilized to score each application with the highest scoring applications providing the maximum wildlife habitat.

MN Buffers – No parcel list was attached. Sign-ups that generate eligible applicants are utilized. The RIM Buffers for Wildlife & Water Scoring Form (attached to the proposal) is then utilized to score each application with the highest scoring applications providing the maximum wildlife habitat.

RIM-NPB - No parcel list was attached. Sign-ups that generate eligible applicants will be utilized. Local Technical Teams and priority landscapes will then be used to score and rank each applicant.

Wild Rice – A parcel list was submitted that included Wild Rice Lakes as a focus for easements and parcels associated with priority pieces for each listed WMA. Sign-ups that generate eligible applicants are utilized. The local technical team then reviews each applicant to determine priority of funding order based on criteria developed.

Camp Ripley/ACUB – "Protect Parcel List" is attached for each county.

Let me know if you need additional information related to how RIM applicants are prioritized to attain the highest wildlife benefits possible.

Tím Koehler

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

From: Heather Koop [mailto:heather.koop@lsohc.leg.mn]
Sent: Friday, September 06, 2013 1:04 PM
To: (al.singer@co.dakota.mn.us); Bob McGillivray (bob.mcgillivray@tpl.org); (1231TLC@charter.net); Nerbonne, Brian A (DNR); Steward, Dan (BWSR); Schuller, Dave (DNR); (DLoon@mnvalleytrust.org); (gfenwick@abcbirds.org); (helen.mclennan@mn.nacdnet.net); (Jane.Harper@co.washington.mn.us); Garms, Jason (DNR); (jpavelko@pheasantsforever.org); (jshneider@visi.com); Jon Schneider; ' (josh.stevenson@co.cass.mn.us)'; (nfeeken@tnc.org); Frohnauer, Nick (DNR); Rivers, Pat (DNR); (westcom@brainerd.net); (rich\_johnson@tnc.org); (rbiske@tnc.org); Peterson, Richard F (DNR); Hoek, Tabor (BWSR); (thomashowes@fdlrez.com); Koehler, Tim (BWSR); (wjulien@peoplepc.com); (bdswd@frontiernet.net); Wilson, Grant (DNR)
Cc: Sandy Smith; Bill Becker
Subject: Council follow up question: Priority acquisitions
Importance: High

All,

Form	POINTS							Total       Points
Acres Landowner Name(s)	NOTES							
Națive Prairie Bank	EVALUATION FACTORS	Diversity and quality of native prairie habitat	Size of prairie	Occurrence of, or suitable habitat for, rare species	Location relative to other native prairie and/or public lands	Potential for long-term management and enhancement	Additional factors (include as appropriate)	OVERALL SITE EVALUATION

REVISED: 8-28-2013

# Native Prairie Bank Evaluation Guidelines

EVALUATION FACTORS	NOTES	POINTS
Diversity and quality of native prairie habitat	<ul> <li>30 Points</li> <li>Presence of a native plant community with A, B, or B/C element occurrence (EO) ranking based on DNR Natural Heritage Database and Minnesota Biological Survey protocols; and/or</li> <li>At least 75% of the project site's native prairie communities are C rank or higher based on DNR Natural Heritage Database, Minnesota Biological Survey protocols; and/or</li> <li>Site identified as Minnesota Biological Survey site of Outstanding Biodiversity Significance; and/or</li> <li>Presence of regionally significant prairie community type (e.g. wet prairie communities in predominately drained regions of the state); and/or</li> <li>Locally documented high biodiversity despite a previous low Minnesota Biological Survey protocols.</li> </ul>	5-30
	<ul> <li>25 Points</li> <li>At least 50% of the project site's native prairie communities are C rank or higher based on DNR Natural Heritage Database, Minnesota Biological Survey protocols; and/or</li> <li>Site identified as Minnesota Biological Survey site of High Biodiversity Significance.</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>15 Points</li> <li>At least 25% of the project site's native prairie communities are C rank or higher based on DNR Natural Heritage Database, Minnesota Biological Survey protocols; and/or</li> <li>Site identified as Minnesota Biological Survey site of Moderate Biodiversity Significance.</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Foints</li> <li>The only native prairie present on site has a D ranking based on DNR Natural Heritage Database, Minnesota Biological Survey protocols.</li> </ul>	
Size of prairie	<ul> <li>15 Points</li> <li>Prairie is regionally significant in size. Example: a 20-acre bluffland prairie in Southeastern or along the Minnesota River is regionally significant, but a 20-acre site in the Agassiz Beach Ridge is not regionally significant.</li> </ul>	0-15
	<ul> <li>10 Points</li> <li>Moderate sized prairie remnant relative to other prairies in the area.</li> <li>0-3 Points</li> <li>Small brairie remnant relative to other prairies in the area</li> </ul>	

REVISED: 8-28-2013

- 1 -

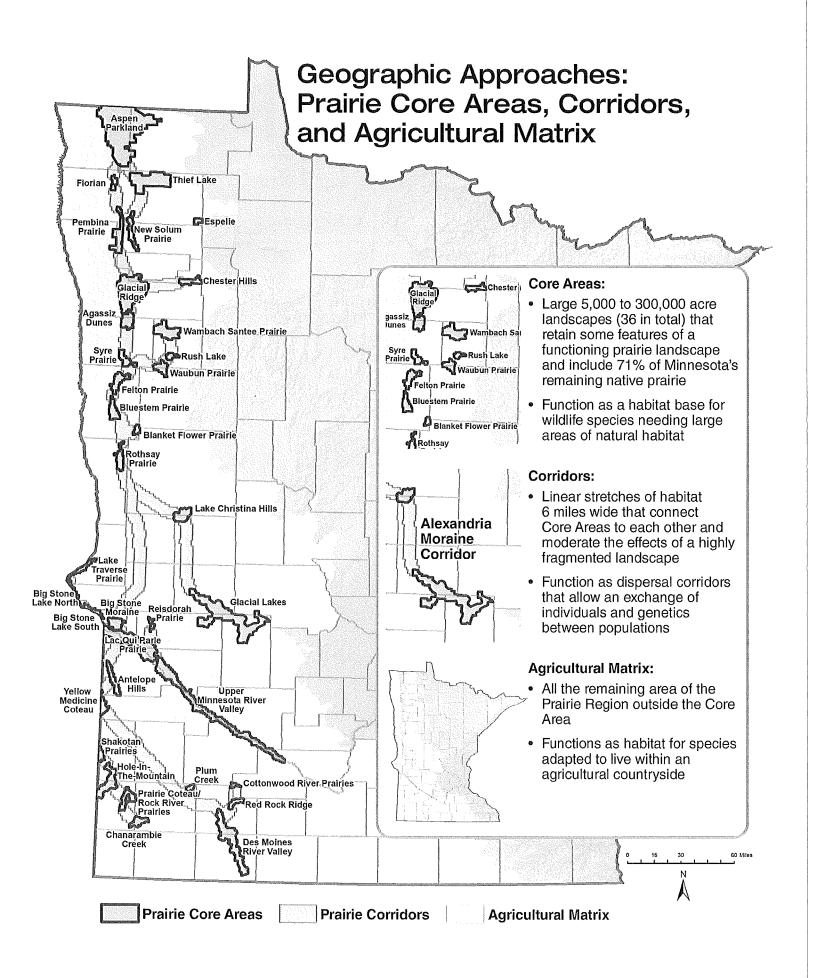
Native Prairie Bank Evaluation Guidelines

Occurrence of, or       20 Points         suitable habitat for,       • Preseiver         rare species       • Preseiver         rare species       • Suitable         • Suitable       • Suitable         • Five o       • Rare:         • An un       • O Points	<b>oints</b> Presence of, or habitat for, a federally listed rare species; and/or	
15 Pc 	Presence of one or more state engangered of threatened species with an A, b or b/C element occurrence (EO) rank.	0-20
10 PC	<b>Voints</b> Suitable habitat for rare species; species found within ½ mile. Five or more Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN) as determined by Tomorrow's Habitat for the Wild and Rare: Minnesota's Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy. An unranked occurrence of a state endangered or threatened species.	
	<ul> <li>10 Points</li> <li>Presence of one or more special concern species with a C/D or D element occurrence (EO) rank.</li> </ul>	
0 Points	<i>ints</i> No rare species on site or within 2 miles.	
Location relative to 15 Pc other native prairie and/or public lands	<ul> <li>15 Points</li> <li>In a Core Area of the Prairie Plan or within a relatively high concentration of native prairie remnants and rare species occurrences; and/or</li> <li>Near or adjacent to other permanently protected conservation lands; particularly units with prairie/grassland habitat.</li> </ul>	0-15
10 Pc	<i>10 Points</i> <ul> <li>In a Prairie Plan Corridor.</li> </ul>	
0-5 P	<ul> <li>0-5 Points</li> <li>Isolated parcel. Other prairie habitat or conservation lands within 2 miles = 5 points; greater than 10 miles = 0 points.</li> </ul>	
Potential for long- 10 Pc term management and enhancement	<ul> <li>10 Points</li> <li>Improves management options for larger, contiguous area (e.g. prescribed fire, invasive species control).</li> <li>Direct access from a public road (property borders road).</li> </ul>	0-10
8 Points • No n • Acce	<i>ints</i> No major limitations to management Access route from a public road to the property that landowner is willing to designate as legal access.	
0-3 P 	<ul> <li>O-3 Points</li> <li>Significant limitations to management (e.g. surrounding residential development, invasive species control issues).</li> <li>Poor or non-existent access. May include needing permission from neighboring parcel to access, or crossing other privately-owned parcel(s) to access.</li> </ul>	

# Native Prairie Bank Evaluation Guidelines

EVALUATION FACTORS	NOTES	POINTS
Additional factors	10 Points	5-10
(include as appropriate)	<ul> <li>Jeopardy of losing prairie because site is in an area experiencing development pressure due to gravel mining, cropland conversion, housing, or other imminent threats.</li> <li>Landowner is willing to donate significant acreage and donation would contribute to prairie conservation goals.</li> </ul>	
	5 Points	
	<ul> <li>Evaluation and a recommendation for protection by local staff familiar with the site. May be staff from DNR, USFWS, NRCS, SWCD, or researchers.</li> </ul>	
OVERALL SITE EVALUATION	Overall summary for enrollment based on evaluation criteria. Write a succinct statement describing your evaluation of the site. This is very helpful for developing the fact sheet and for future reports.	Total Points





### PAOS

### **Heather Koop**

From: Sent: To: Cc: Subject: Attachments: Brad Cobb [1231tlc@charter.net] Monday, September 09, 2013 9:53 AM Heather Koop; Sandy Smith Bill Becker; 'Pat Dingels' FY15 (ML14) Requested GC prioritzed parcel list - Proposal PA #8 GC FY15 Prioritzed Parcel Request.xls

Follow Up Flag: Flag Status: Follow up Flagged

### LSOHC Staff

Attached is what we would call our current **prioritized parcel list** for our FY15 OHF proposal from the original parcel list submitted with our original proposal. As is the case with these parcels list they can and will change. In fact we are now learning (in the last week or so) that other significant tracts might become available which are NOT on our current proposal list. This priority list is ONLY using those parcels from our original proposal.

Finally, as I mentioned in our proposal presentation we intend to add or request 5 additional listed counties for our proposal: Renville, Nicollet, Lyon, Yellow Medicine, and Chippewa. It appears that in the online proposal system it used the listed counties from the parcel list to populate the "County Locations" from the first page of the proposal.

Thank you Brad Cobb

From: Heather Koop [mailto:heather.koop@lsohc.leg.mn]
Sent: Monday, September 09, 2013 9:19 AM
To: 'Brad Cobb'; Sandy Smith
Cc: Bill Becker; Pat Dingels
Subject: RE: Council follow up question: Priority acquisitions

Brad, You can use any excel sheet you wish. Heather

From: Brad Cobb [mailto:1231tlc@charter.net]
Sent: Monday, September 09, 2013 7:17 AM
To: Heather Koop; Sandy Smith
Cc: Bill Becker; Pat Dingels
Subject: RE: Council follow up question: Priority acquisitions

Heather

Do you have a specific doc or spreadsheet you want this parcel list created in - could you email me that template? I need to do this today because I will be out of office on Tuesday and Wednesday - Thanks. Brad Cobb

From: Heather Koop [mailto:heather.koop@lsohc.leg.mn]
Sent: Friday, September 06, 2013 1:04 PM
To: (al.singer@co.dakota.mn.us); Bob McGillivray (bob.mcgillivray@tpl.org); (1231TLC@charter.net);
(brian.nerbonne@state.mn.us); (dan.steward@state.mn.us); (david.schuller@state.mn.us); (DLoon@mnvalleytrust.org);
(gfenwick@abcbirds.org); (helen.mclennan@mn.nacdnet.net); (Jane.Harper@co.washington.mn.us);

1

(jason.garms@state.mn.us); (jpavelko@pheasantsforever.org); (jshneider@visi.com); Jon Schneider; '
(josh.stevenson@co.cass.mn.us)'; (nfeeken@tnc.org); (nick.frohnauer@state.mn.us); (pat.rivers@state.mn.us);
(westcom@brainerd.net); (rich\_johnson@tnc.org); (rbiske@tnc.org); (richard.f.peterson@state.mn.us);
(tabor.hoek@state.mn.us); (thomashowes@fdlrez.com); (tim.koehler@state.mn.us); (wjulien@peoplepc.com);
(bdswd@frontiernet.net); Wilson, Grant (DNR)
Cc: Sandy Smith; Bill Becker
Subject: Council follow up question: Priority acquisitions
Importance: High

All,

### Attachment D. Parcel List

## Program Title: FY15 (ML14) Requested Prioritized Parcel List - Top to Bottom Priority

	County	Township	Range	Direction	Section	TRDS	# of acres	Estimated Cost to OHF
Parcel Name			ŀ					
Mound Creek WMA new	Cottonwood	108	36	2	35	10836235	160	\$1,100,000
Bashaw WMA	Brown	108	34	2	15	10834215	150	\$150,000
Lamberton WMA	Redwood	109	37	2	14	10937214	45	\$295,000
Devils Run WMA	Murray	107	39	2	32	10739232	75	\$295,000
Irruption WMA #5	Murray	106	39	2	20	10639220	80	
Lamberton WMA	Redwood	109	36	2	17	10936217	160	

### Attachment D. Parcel List

www.aexpansion	WMA expansion	WMA expansion	WMA expansion	WMA expansion	New complex development	Description		
 ۳ « *	P &R	P &R	P &R	P &R	P & R	Activity	-	
					I	E=Enhance	P=Protect	R=Restore

PREDZ

### **Heather Koop**

From:	Wayne Ostlie [wostlie@greatrivergreening.org]
Sent:	Monday, September 09, 2013 10:11 AM
То:	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: Flag Status: Follow up 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 nonnative 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 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.

Wayne Ostlie

Director of Conservation Programs: Great River Greening p. 651.665.9500 x19 | c. 651.894.3870 | <u>wostlie@greatrivergreening.org</u> | <u>www.greatrivergreening.org</u> Follow Great River Greening on: <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, <u>LinkedIn</u>, and <u>YouTube</u>

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) From: Heather Koop [<u>mailto:heather.koop@lsohc.leg.mn</u>] 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 F	Request
Great River Greening			
1. Sand Dunes State Forest	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. THIS 30,700-acre refuge was created to protecurestore 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	\$	420,300
2. Sherburne NWR	fence).	\$	454,600
3. BenLacs WMA	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. I his 228-acre VVMA of high-quality floodplain forest, oak woodland and restored prairie, lies along the	\$	189,400
4. McDougal WMA	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. 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	\$	105,300
5. Crane Meadows NWR	habitat through woody thinning/control, seeding, and tree planting. I nis /uu-acre vuwA 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	\$	150,790
6. Sand Prairie WMA	invasive species control. This /18-acre VVMA is a mosaic of marsh, brushland, prairie and hardwood forest that provides habitat for game and non-game species alike. <u>Actions:</u>	\$	56,300
7. Mud Lake WMA	Enhancement of 88 acres of hardwood forest through woody invasive species control. 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	\$	68,400
8. Kelsey Round Lake Park	planting.	\$	57,400

### **Anoka Conservation District**

1. Rum River Riparian Restoration, Cedar Creek Nature Reserve and	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,	
Rum River Central Regional Park	and willow staking. 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	\$ 170,000
2. Anoka Nature Preserve	into prairie. 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	\$ 40,195
3. Buckthorn Clean Sweep	habitat on public lands through buckthorn control.	\$ 33,000
Isanti County Parks		
	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	
1. Vegsund County Park	of woody invasive species and prescribed burning. 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	\$ 12,303
2. Cambridge City Park	through woody invasive control. 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	\$ 95,088
3. Springvale County Park	and prescribed burning. 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	\$ 15,530
4. Anderson County Park	prescribed fire.	\$ 9,350
Stearns SWCD		
	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	
1. Mississippi River County Park	control; restoration of 630 feet of river shoreline.	\$ 118,000

•

### AD

### **Heather Koop**

From:	George Fenwick [gfenwick@abcbirds.org]
Sent:	Tuesday, September 10, 2013 2:06 PM
To:	Heather Koop
Subject:	FA-1 Council follow up question: Priority acquisitions

Importance:

High

Dear Heather,

The prioritized list of proposals in the American Bird Conservancy proposal FA-1 are as follows:

Tamarac #1 Tamarac #2 Mille Lacs #1

Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
Tamarac #1	14039210	300	\$540,000	No	Full	
Tamarac #2	14039216	200	\$360,000	No	Full	
Aille Lacs	* 1	·				
Name	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
Mille Lacs #1	04027232	560	\$600,000	No	Full	

Please let me know if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

#1

George Fenwick American Bird Conservancy

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

Sent: Friday, September 06, 2013 2:04 PM

To: (al.singer@co.dakota.mn.us<mailto:al.singer@co.dakota.mn.us>); Bob McGillivray

(bob.mcgillivray@tpl.org<mailto:bob.mcgillivray@tpl.org>); (1231TLC@charter.net<mailto:1231TLC@charter.net>);

(brian.nerbonne@state.mn.us<mailto:brian.nerbonne@state.mn.us>);

(dan.steward@state.mn.us<mailto:dan.steward@state.mn.us>);

(david.schuller@state.mn.us<mailto:david.schuller@state.mn.us>);

(DLoon@mnvalleytrust.org<mailto:DLoon@mnvalleytrust.org>); George Fenwick;

(helen.mclennan@mn.nacdnet.net<mailto:helen.mclennan@mn.nacdnet.net>);

(Jane.Harper@co.washington.mn.us<mailto:Jane.Harper@co.washington.mn.us>);

(jason.garms@state.mn.us<mailto:jason.garms@state.mn.us>);

(jpavelko@pheasantsforever.org<mailto:jpavelko@pheasantsforever.org>);

(jshneider@visi.com<mailto:jshneider@visi.com>); Jon Schneider; '

(josh.stevenson@co.cass.mn.us<mailto:josh.stevenson@co.cass.mn.us>)';

(nfeeken@tnc.org<mailto:nfeeken@tnc.org>); (nick.frohnauer@state.mn.us<mailto:nick.frohnauer@state.mn.us>);

(pat.rivers@state.mn.us<mailto:pat.rivers@state.mn.us>); (westcom@brainerd.net<mailto:westcom@brainerd.net>);

(rich johnson@tnc.org<mailto:rich johnson@tnc.org>); (rbiske@tnc.org<mailto:rbiske@tnc.org>);

(richard.f.peterson@state.mn.us<mailto:richard.f.peterson@state.mn.us>);

(tabor.hoek@state.mn.us<mailto:tabor.hoek@state.mn.us>); (thomashowes@fdlrez.com<mailto:thomashowes@fdlrez.com>); (tim.koehler@state.mn.us<mailto:tim.koehler@state.mn.us>); (wjulien@peoplepc.com<mailto:wjulien@peoplepc.com>); (bdswd@frontiernet.net<mailto:bdswd@frontiernet.net>); Wilson, Grant (DNR) Cc: Sandy Smith; Bill Becker Subject: Council follow up question: Priority acquisitions Importance: High

All,

From:	Thomas Howes [thomashowes@fdlrez.com]
Sent:	Monday, September 09, 2013 9:35 AM
To:	Heather Koop
Cc:	R. Reid LeBeau; Chris Knopf; Reginald DeFoe
Subject:	RE: Council follow up question: Priority acquisitions

Follow Up Flag: Flag Status: Follow up Flagged

### Heather,

For the Fond du Lac proposal, our "priority" parcels are the 440 acre property that surrounds Chi-wizo zaaga'iganing, and the 236 acres of St. Louis River Frontage. The remaining 280 acres identified in our proposal are not being actively marketed for sale, but we intended on attempting to purchase as many of the parcels as possible if the landowners were willing to sell.

FA2

Thanks,

Thomas Howes Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Natural Resources Program Manager 1720 Big Lake Road Cloquet, MN 55720 Office- (218) 878-7163 Mobile-(218) 591-2687

From: Heather Koop [mailto:heather.koop@lsohc.leg.mn]
Sent: Friday, September 06, 2013 1:04 PM
To: (al.singer@co.dakota.mn.us); Bob McGillivray (bob.mcgillivray@tpl.org); (1231TLC@charter.net);
(brian.nerbonne@state.mn.us); (dan.steward@state.mn.us); (david.schuller@state.mn.us); (DLoon@mnvalleytrust.org);
(gfenwick@abcbirds.org); (helen.mclennan@mn.nacdnet.net); (Jane.Harper@co.washington.mn.us);
(jason.garms@state.mn.us); (jpavelko@pheasantsforever.org); (jshneider@visi.com); Jon Schneider; '
(josh.stevenson@co.cass.mn.us)'; (nfeeken@tnc.org); (nick.frohnauer@state.mn.us); (pat.rivers@state.mn.us);
(westcom@brainerd.net); (rich\_johnson@tnc.org); (rbiske@tnc.org); (richard.f.peterson@state.mn.us);
(tabor.hoek@state.mn.us); Thomas Howes; (tim.koehler@state.mn.us); (wjulien@peoplepc.com);
(bdswd@frontiernet.net); Wilson, Grant (DNR)
Ce: Sandy Smith; Bill Becker
Subject: Council follow up question: Priority acquisitions
Importance: High

All,

From:Josh Stevenson [josh.stevenson@ccSent:Monday, September 09, 2013 4:33 PTo:Heather KoopSubject:RE: Council follow up question: Prior	M
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Follow up Flagged

Follow Up Flag: Flag Status:

Heather,

Please see the criteria for property acquisitions below. We have not prioritized the list provided with our proposal as most parcels meet multiple criteria for acquisition.

- The local unit of government (township or city) supports the acquisition.
- No developed recreation (boat landings, campgrounds, parks).
- Acquisition of parcels that provide access to existing County and State managed lands by existing forest access roads that have been developed and used for management access in the past.
- Acquisition of parcels that provide outstanding potential to maintain or increase the presence of pine on the landscape (often currently owned by private industrial land holders).
- Acquisition of parcels that are adjacent to existing state or federal lands that when acquired will increase habitat connectivity.
- Acquisition of parcels where the opportunity may be lost if we do not take immediate action.
- Parcels meeting multiple criteria are the highest priority.

Feel free to contact our office with any additional questions.

Sincerely,

Joshua Stevenson Cass County Land Commissioner 218 East Washburn Ave (Pine Mt. Bldg.) P.O. Box 25 Backus, MN 56435-0025 Ph. 218-947-7501 Fax 218-947-3230 E-mail josh.stevenson@co.cass.mn.us

From: Heather Koop [mailto:heather.koop@lsohc.leg.mn]
Sent: Friday, September 06, 2013 1:04 PM
To: (al.singer@co.dakota.mn.us); Bob McGillivray (bob.mcgillivray@tpl.org); (1231TLC@charter.net);
(brian.nerbonne@state.mn.us); (dan.steward@state.mn.us); (david.schuller@state.mn.us); (DLoon@mnvalleytrust.org);
(gfenwick@abcbirds.org); (helen.mclennan@mn.nacdnet.net); (Jane.Harper@co.washington.mn.us);
(jason.garms@state.mn.us); (ipavelko@pheasantsforever.org); (jshneider@visi.com); Jon Schneider; '
(josh.stevenson@co.cass.mn.us)'; (nfeeken@tnc.org); (nick.frohnauer@state.mn.us); (pat.rivers@state.mn.us);
(westcom@brainerd.net); (rich johnson@tnc.org); (rbiske@tnc.org); (richard.f.peterson@state.mn.us);
(tabor.hoek@state.mn.us); (thomashowes@fdlrez.com); (tim.koehler@state.mn.us); (wjulien@peoplepc.com);
(bdswd@frontiernet.net); Wilson, Grant (DNR)
Cc: Sandy Smith; Bill Becker
Subject: Council follow up question: Priority acquisitions
Importance: High

All,

From: Sent: To: Cc: Subject: Attachments:	Schuller, Dave (DNR) [david.schuller@state.mn.us] Monday, September 09, 2013 8:16 AM Heather Koop Wilson, Grant (DNR); Jacobson, Keith L (DNR) RE: Council follow up question: Priority acquisitions FY15 OHF Proposal FA07 - Acquisition Priority List - State Forest.pdf	FAO
Follow Up Flag:	FY 15 OHF Proposal FAU7 - Acquisition Priority List - State Forest.pdf	

J

Follow Up Flag: Flag Status: Follow up Flagged

Heather,

Thank you and the council for considering our proposal FA-07. Attached is the acquisition parcel list by priority as requested. I added a running total column next to the anticipated budget to assist with funding allocation. Let me know if there is anything else you need.

Dave Schuller Lands Program Coordinator Minnesota DNR-Forestry Division 500 Lafayette Road St. Paul, MN 55155-0044 (651) 259-5255 FAX (651) 296-5954 David.Schuller@state.mn.us

From: Heather Koop [mailto:heather.koop@lsohc.leg.mn]
Sent: Friday, September 06, 2013 1:04 PM
To: (al.singer@co.dakota.mn.us); Bob McGillivray (bob.mcgillivray@tpl.org); (1231TLC@charter.net); Nerbonne, Brian A
(DNR); Steward, Dan (BWSR); Schuller, Dave (DNR); (DLoon@mnvalleytrust.org); (gfenwick@abcbirds.org);
(helen.mclennan@mn.nacdnet.net); (Jane.Harper@co.washington.mn.us); Garms, Jason (DNR);
(ijpavelko@pheasantsforever.org); (jshneider@visi.com); Jon Schneider; ' (josh.stevenson@co.cass.mn.us)';
(nfeeken@tnc.org); Frohnauer, Nick (DNR); Rivers, Pat (DNR); (westcom@brainerd.net); (rich\_johnson@tnc.org);
(rbiske@tnc.org); Peterson, Richard F (DNR); Hoek, Tabor (BWSR); (thomashowes@fdlrez.com); Koehler, Tim (BWSR);
(wjulien@peoplepc.com); (bdswd@frontiernet.net); Wilson, Grant (DNR)
Cc: Sandy Smith; Bill Becker
Subject: Council follow up question: Priority acquisitions
Importance: High

All,

prion         Activity Activity         Existing Existing         Open to humting Protect in Fee           ed land consolidates existing and provides: critical access.         Protect in Fee         Protect in Protect in the protect in a provides: critical access.         Protect in Protect in a fee guardines: by 1         No         Full           on ent easement on ent easement provides access         Protect in Begulations?         No         Full           on ent easement provides access         Easement al and surrounded by state         No         Full           on ent easement provides access to consolidates; reducing any by 2 miles         Protect in Fee         No         Full           of and surrounded by state         Protect in Fee         No         Full         Full           of and surrounded by state         Protect in Fee         No         Full           of and surrounded by state         With PILT         No         Full           of and surrounded by state         With PILT         No         Full           of and surrounded by state         Protect in Fee         No         Full           ed land surrounded by state         Protect in Fee         No         Full           ed land surrounded by state         Protect in Fee         No         Full           ed land surrounded by state         Protect in Fee <th>FA07 -</th> <th>FAU/ - State Forest Acquisition - Phase 2 - RJ Dorer Memorial Hardwood State Forest - Prioritized Parcel List</th> <th></th>	FA07 -	FAU/ - State Forest Acquisition - Phase 2 - RJ Dorer Memorial Hardwood State Forest - Prioritized Parcel List															
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ek         [illmore         104         10         02         36         104100236         49         \$180,000         \$2,090,000         existing state forest.         Mon         Mon         Full           Winona         106         05         02         16         106050216         52         \$100,000         \$2,190,000         \$2,190,000         \$2,350,000         \$2,190,000         \$2,350,000												Forested land protects 1/2 mile of creek and provides critical access to	Protect in Fee with PILT				
Winona         106         05         10         16         106         105         10         10         100         5100,000         52,190,000         buff         Protect in Fee         Not         Full           Goodhue         112         14         02         24         112140224         40         \$160,000         \$2,350,000         existing state forest 1/4 mile of the PLT         No         Full           Goodhue         112         14         02         24         112140224         40         \$160,000         \$2,350,000         existing state forest 1/4 mile of the PLT         No         Full           Houston         103         07         02         24         103070224         83         \$2350,000         \$21,600,000         neturel boundaries to a         No         Full           Houston         103         07         02         24         103070224         83         \$2350,000         neturel boundaries to a         Protect in Fee         Full           Houston         101         04         02         24         101040234         60         \$20,0000         Inturel consolidates state         Protect in Fee         Full           Houston         101         04         02         24 </td <td>6</td> <td>Torkelson Creek</td> <td>Fillmore</td> <td>104</td> <td>10</td> <td>02</td> <td>36</td> <td>104100236</td> <td>49</td> <td>\$180,000</td> <td>\$2,090,000</td> <td>existing state forest</td> <td></td> <td>No</td> <td>Full</td> <td>Full</td> <td>- r</td>	6	Torkelson Creek	Fillmore	104	10	02	36	104100236	49	\$180,000	\$2,090,000	existing state forest		No	Full	Full	- r
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Forest Acquis
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From: Sent: To: Subject: Attachments: Richard Biske [rbiske@TNC.ORG] Tuesday, September 10, 2013 3:19 PM Heather Koop RE: Council follow up question: Priority acquisitions SEMN\_parcel\_prioritization.docx

#### Heather,

The parcel list included in the proposal is intended to illustrate some of the properties considered to be currently available and serve as examples of potential projects that support the larger Protection and Restoration in Southeast MN Program. The parcels listed in the proposal meet our program criteria and were included because the landowners either expressed interest in selling to a DNR partner, TNC or MLT in the past or they are a sought after tract that TNC is cultivating a willing seller. Unfortunately, these parcels may not be available by the time funds to protect them become available. The landowner may have changed their mind, sold to another entity or some other unforeseen circumstances. Due to the uncertainty of follow through with pre-identified parcels, we employ a robust set of prioritization criteria to screen potential acquisition opportunities as they arise. These criteria are attached and have been developed through regional planning involving multiple conservation stakeholders.

Restoration parcels are chosen based on resource value of the site with consideration of the landscape in which it resides. All sites are within Conservation Opportunity Areas, identified by regional planning. Each site contains fire dependent communities, a regional priority, and can be managed as a component of the larger functioning landscape.

The Protection and Restoration of Southeast MN Phase II, just as Phase I, is to function as a program, not simply a collection of individual protection and restoration projects. We believe our past performance in the Prairie Recovery and Northern Tallgrass Prairie National Wildlife Refuge Land Acquisition Programs, using previously established processes, have been very successful while maintaining a high level of transparency and accountability to the Council and the Legislature. We hope the Council agrees and that we be allowed to continue with those processes for the Southeast Minnesota Protection and Restoration Phase II which include:

1. Seeking LSOHC staff, or Council as appropriate, input and approval for parcel inclusion into the Accomplishment Plan prior to final negotiations with landowners

2. Pursuing only parcels that coincide with the priority geographies identified in our proposal, Landscape Stewardship Plans, Sites of High Biodiversity Significance, and our approved Accomplishment Plan

3. Adhering to the criteria for prioritization that has been provided to the Council (attached here)

Again, we believe that the above described process has been highly effective at protecting and restoring critical Bluffland habitat parcels and has served the Prairie Recovery Program and NTP NWR, while maintaining a high level of accountability and providing the Council an opportunity to accept or reject proposed parcels before completing a deal. We hope you concur and will allow us to continue with this proven model. I'm happy to discuss any questions or suggestions at your convenience, please feel free to give me a call at any time.

Thank you, Rich

#### **Rich Biske**

Southeast MN Conservation Coordinator

<u>rbiske@tnc.org</u> (507) 765-2450 (Phone) (651) 564-0591 (Mobile) **The Nature Conservancy Southeast Minnesota Office** PO Box 405 136 St. Anthony Street Preston, MN 55965

#### nature.org

From: Heather Koop [mailto:heather.koop@lsohc.leg.mn]
Sent: Friday, September 06, 2013 1:04 PM
To: (al.singer@co.dakota.mn.us); Bob McGillivray (bob.mcgillivray@tpl.org); (1231TLC@charter.net);
(brian.nerbonne@state.mn.us); (dan.steward@state.mn.us); (david.schuller@state.mn.us); (DLoon@mnvalleytrust.org);
(gfenwick@abcbirds.org); (helen.mclennan@mn.nacdnet.net); (Jane.Harper@co.washington.mn.us);
(jason.garms@state.mn.us); (jpavelko@pheasantsforever.org); (jshneider@visi.com); Jon Schneider; '
(josh.stevenson@co.cass.mn.us)'; Neal Feeken; (nick.frohnauer@state.mn.us); (pat.rivers@state.mn.us);
(westcom@brainerd.net); Rich Johnson; Richard Biske; (richard.f.peterson@state.mn.us); (tabor.hoek@state.mn.us);
(thomashowes@fdlrez.com); (tim.koehler@state.mn.us); (wjulien@peoplepc.com); (bdswd@frontiernet.net); Wilson, Grant (DNR)
Cc: Sandy Smith; Bill Becker
Subject: Council follow up question: Priority acquisitions
Importance: High

All,

### Southeast Minnesota Protection and Restoration Phase II – FA – 8

Parcels are reviewed by both a Division of MN DNR and Conservancy to ensure that they meet the priorities of both partners.

Criteria for identification of key conservation parcels.

State-owned properties represent significant blocks of ownership in Conservation Opportunity Areas(COA) in Southeast Minnesota as identified by Landscape Stewardship Plans and present opportunities for targeted stewardship. Where landscape stewardship plans and identified Conservation Opportunity Areas do not exist, core areas are identified by the Areas of Significant Native Biodiversity Significance. State-owned lands containing mapped native plant communities were selected as a starting point. Additional management acreage and contiguous land cover were increased by selecting adjoining parcels of private land that met certain criteria. This initial private parcel selection was made using the following criteria, with each parcel satisfying all points (Figure 1):

- Parcel is within Conservation Opportunity Area or Area of Significant Native Biodiversity (allows for large landscape management and management efficiencies, i.e. large scale Rx fire)
- Parcel contains an Minnesota Biological Survey mapped native plant community
- Parcel was equal to or greater than 80 acres in size
- Parcel property line began within ¼ mile of a state-owned parcel
- A Conservation Partner is willing to accept the property/meets partner objectives (SNA, WMA, Forestry)
- Willing seller

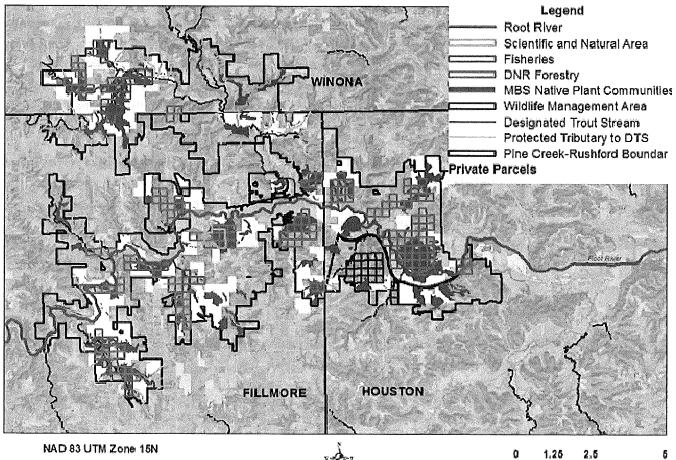
Some land parcels were selected for stewardship activities, while others were chosen for potential acquisition or conservation easement purchase.

Where multiple units of conservation lands exist within a COA, habitat corridors may need to be established to support the larger landscape and identified core areas. Parcels within an identified corridor should meet the following criteria:

- Between 2 conservation land units
- Within ½ mile of existing conservation land unit
- Contain more than 50% habitat

Figure 1. Example of parcels identified for stewardship activities in Pine Creek/Rushford Conservation Opportunity Area. The selected private parcels meet criteria and are considered for acquisition, easement, or management.

## Pine Creek-Rushford COA - Identifying Stewardship Parcels Criteria 1: State lands containing NPC Criteria 2: private parcels containing NPC, > 80 acres in size, within 1/4 mile of state land



Miles

v. 1-17-2013-6kh

From: Sent:	Rivers, Pat (DNR) [Pat.Rivers@state.mn.us] Tuesday, September 10, 2013 8:42 AM
To:	Heather Koop
Cc:	Nerbonne, Brian A (DNR); Wilson, Grant (DNR)
Subject:	FW: Council follow up question: Priority acquisitions
Attachments:	OHC 2014 AMA Parcel list09092013.xlsx

HA-01

Follow Up Flag: Flag Status: Follow up Flagged

Heather,

Here is the DNR's prioritized AMA parcel list for fee title acquisitions.

From: Rivers, Pat (DNR)
Sent: Monday, September 09, 2013 2:53 PM
To: Nerbonne, Brian A (DNR)
Subject: RE: Council follow up question: Priority acquisitions

Brian,

Attached is the priority list for fee title acquisitions. We do not provide a list of proposed easements.

Pat

From: Nerbonne, Brian A (DNR)
Sent: Friday, September 06, 2013 1:32 PM
To: Rivers, Pat (DNR)
Subject: FW: Council follow up question: Priority acquisitions
Importance: High

Pat,

I'm in Mankato at Rosgen training all of next week, but will put together responses to send to Heather on Monday night via email. Please send me a prioritized list of our acquisition parcels for both easements and fee title by the end of the day Monday.

Brian

From: Heather Koop [mailto:heather.koop@lsohc.leg.mn]
Sent: Friday, September 06, 2013 1:04 PM
To: (al.singer@co.dakota.mn.us); Bob McGillivray (bob.mcgillivray@tpl.org); (1231TLC@charter.net); Nerbonne, Brian A
(DNR); Steward, Dan (BWSR); Schuller, Dave (DNR); (DLoon@mnvalleytrust.org); (gfenwick@abcbirds.org);
(helen.mclennan@mn.nacdnet.net); (Jane.Harper@co.washington.mn.us); Garms, Jason (DNR);
(ipavelko@pheasantsforever.org); (ishneider@visi.com); Jon Schneider; ' (josh.stevenson@co.cass.mn.us)';
(nfeeken@tnc.org); Frohnauer, Nick (DNR); Rivers, Pat (DNR); (westcom@brainerd.net); (rich\_johnson@tnc.org);
(rbiske@tnc.org); Peterson, Richard F (DNR); Hoek, Tabor (BWSR); (thomashowes@fdlrez.com); Koehler, Tim (BWSR);
(wjulien@peoplepc.com); (bdswd@frontiernet.net); Wilson, Grant (DNR)
Cc: Sandy Smith; Bill Becker
Subject: Council follow up question: Priority acquisitions
Importance: High

# All,

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Parcel Name		Grace Lake	Pleasant Lake p2	Pleasant Lake p3	Pleasant Lake p1	Big Cormorant Lake	Rock Lake	Cotton Lake, p. 2	Wolf Lake, p. 1

Ant proper - would we - brow totales.

From: Sent:	Deb Loon, MN Valley Trust [dloon@mnvalleytrust.org] Tuesday, September 10, 2013 8:50 AM
То:	Heather Koop
Cc:	danielle.salus@tpl.org
Subject:	RE: Council follow up question: Priority acquisitions

Hi Heather –

Our proposal notes that we will pick among our parcel lists based on project readiness (we won't acquire all parcels with the grant requested).

Having said that, here is TPL's prioritization of its parcel list:

- 1 Wilder Forest
- 2- St. Croix/Big Marine
- 3 Blakely
- 4-St. Croix/Scandia
- 5-Rum River
- 6-Savage Fen

MN Valley Trust's list is entirely connected to expansion of the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge. I just divide it into the various Refuge units within which we work to acquire land. It's difficult to say one unit is a priority over the others, but if pushed, I'll say:

- 1 Blakely
- 2 Jessenland
- 3 St. Lawrence
- 4 Rapids Lake

Deb

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

Sent: Friday, September 06, 2013 1:04 PM

To: (al.singer@co.dakota.mn.us); Bob McGillivray (bob.mcgillivray@tpl.org); (1231TLC@charter.net);

(<u>brian.nerbonne@state.mn.us</u>); (<u>dan.steward@state.mn.us</u>); (<u>david.schuller@state.mn.us</u>); (<u>DLoon@mnvalleytrust.org</u>); (<u>gfenwick@abcbirds.org</u>); (<u>helen.mclennan@mn.nacdnet.net</u>); (<u>Jane.Harper@co.washington.mn.us</u>);

(jason.garms@state.mn.us); (jpavelko@pheasantsforever.org); (jshneider@visi.com); Jon Schneider; '

(josh.stevenson@co.cass.mn.us)'; (nfeeken@tnc.org); (nick.frohnauer@state.mn.us); (pat.rivers@state.mn.us);

(westcom@brainerd.net); (rich\_johnson@tnc.org); (rbiske@tnc.org); (richard.f.peterson@state.mn.us);

(tabor.hoek@state.mn.us); (thomashowes@fdlrez.com); (tim.koehler@state.mn.us); (wjulien@peoplepc.com);

(<u>bdswd@frontiernet.net</u>); Wilson, Grant (DNR)

Cc: Sandy Smith; Bill Becker

Subject: Council follow up question: Priority acquisitions

Importance: High

All,

During the LSOHC meeting this week, there was a great deal of discussion around parcel priorities. We have been asked to request from each <u>acquisition</u> proposal a prioritized list of the parcels to be affected. Please provide a prioritized parcel list by 3 p.m. Tuosday. Sept. 10. Thanks much

Please provide a prioritized parcel list by 3 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 10. Thanks much. Heather

From:	LLAWF [llawf@tds.net]
Sent:	Tuesday, September 10, 2013 1:30 PM
То:	Heather Koop
Cc:	klarson@mnland.org
Subject:	Priority acquisitions for HA04
Attachments:	Priority Acqusition Parcels HA04.xlsx

Importance:

High

Heather:

I have attached a priority parcel list for proposal HA04 "Fisheries Habitat Protection on Strategic North Central Lakes". The 105-acre fee-title acquisition on Roosevelt Lake is our top priority. For conservation easement priorities, I have listed several parcels where through Phase I work we have identified a need to acquire an easement rather than receive a donated easement.

I <u>estimated</u> what that would cost using assumptions of a bargain easement acquisition where the landowner is required to donate some easement value. Through outreach we have also identified a number of parcels on the priority lakes noted, but have had no discussions with landowners or minimal discussion (not enough to indicate a level of interest).

We assure the Council that beyond the specific amount requested for the Roosevelt Lake fee-title acquisition (\$1,000,000) we will use additional money appropriated to pursue conservation easements on priority lakes on the parcel list, both shoreland easements and a few forest easements. We'll use a team comprised of project partners, DNR Fish Habitat Coordinator, county water planners, and other habitat experts to ultimately determine the parcel priorities and select the most significant habitat protection projects that provide the best overall protection for the public money invested. We'll look at criteria such as the condition of the habitat on the parcel, county priorities, impact of protection on the receiving water, level of protection achieved, amount of land value the landowner is willing to donate, and overall costs.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you or the Council has further questions.

From: Heather Koop [mailto:heather.koop@lsohc.leg.mn]
Sent: Friday, September 06, 2013 1:04 PM
To: (al.singer@co.dakota.mn.us); Bob McGillivray (bob.mcgillivray@tpl.org); (1231TLC@charter.net);
(brian.nerbonne@state.mn.us); (dan.steward@state.mn.us); (david.schuller@state.mn.us); (DLoon@mnvalleytrust.org);
(gfenwick@abcbirds.org); (helen.mclennan@mn.nacdnet.net); (Jane.Harper@co.washington.mn.us);
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(josh.stevenson@co.cass.mn.us)'; (nfeeken@tnc.org); (nick.frohnauer@state.mn.us); (pat.rivers@state.mn.us);
(westcom@brainerd.net); (rich\_johnson@tnc.org); (rbiske@tnc.org); (richard.f.peterson@state.mn.us);
(tabor.hoek@state.mn.us); (thomashowes@fdlrez.com); (tim.koehler@state.mn.us); (wjulien@peoplepc.com);

(<u>bdswd@frontiernet.net</u>); Wilson, Grant (DNR) **Cc:** Sandy Smith; Bill Becker **Subject:** Council follow up question: Priority acquisitions **Importance:** High

All,

Mc         33<	Priorities for HA04 Fisheries Habitat Protection on Strategic North Central MN Lakes Parcel Name Township Range D	n Strategic No. v	rth Central Township	f MN Lakes Range Direction	9/10/2013 Section	TRDS #	# of Acres Reguested of OHF Leverage	d of OHF Leve	brage Description	Activity	Existine Protection? Huntine? Fishine? Status	n? Huntine?	P Hshine?	Status	
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	Crow V		136	28	2 27	13628227				נו מהברר זלו בקצבו וובו זר	2	2			

From:	Jane Harper [Jane.Harper@co.washington.mn.us]
Sent:	Tuesday, September 10, 2013 10:34 AM
To:	Heather Koop
Subject:	RE: Council follow up question: Priority acquisitions

Hi Heather,

The Aiple property is the 2<sup>nd</sup> in priority acquisition for Washington County. The Carpenter conservation easement and trail corridor is the county's first priority acquisition.

By the way, last month we made an offer to Carpenter to purchase the trail corridor and a conservation easement over 75 acres. The Carpenter Board is now in discussions. They said that they intended to respond quickly to the offer – within 2 months. I expect that they will take formal action at their October Board meeting. It will be a hard decision for the Carpenter Board as we offered a lot of money for the combined acquisition. We have our fingers crossed and will have a staff celebration if we get to yes on this one.

Jane Harper Office of Administration 14949 62nd Street North Stillwater, MN 55082-0006 651-430-6011

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

Sent: Friday, September 06, 2013 1:04 PM

To: (al.singer@co.dakota.mn.us); Bob McGillivray (bob.mcgillivray@tpl.org); (1231TLC@charter.net);
(brian.nerbonne@state.mn.us); (dan.steward@state.mn.us); (david.schuller@state.mn.us); (DLoon@mnvalleytrust.org);
(gfenwick@abcbirds.org); (helen.mclennan@mn.nacdnet.net); Jane Harper; (jason.garms@state.mn.us);
(jpavelko@pheasantsforever.org); (jshneider@visi.com); Jon Schneider; ' (josh.stevenson@co.cass.mn.us)';
(nfeeken@tnc.org); (nick.frohnauer@state.mn.us); (pat.rivers@state.mn.us); (westcom@brainerd.net);
(rich\_johnson@tnc.org); (rbiske@tnc.org); (richard.f.peterson@state.mn.us); (tabor.hoek@state.mn.us);
(thomashowes@fdlrez.com); (tim.koehler@state.mn.us); (wjulien@peoplepc.com); (bdswd@frontiernet.net); Wilson, Grant (DNR)
Cc: Sandy Smith; Bill Becker
Subject: Council follow up question: Priority acquisitions
Importance: High

All,