

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council ML 2021 / FY 2022 Request for Proposals

ID#	Program Title	Rep. Jamie Becker-Finn	David Hartwell	Mark Holsten	Sen. Andrew Lang	Denny McNamara	Tom Saxhaug	Ron Schara	Jamie Swenson
PA01	MN DNR WMA and SNA Acquisition - Phase XIII	Phase 13, fee acquisition	Given the current decline in agricultural land prices, what method is used to determine value? What is in the professional services line item?		Hunting? No				Q1: The Proposal's Need cites the counties with less than 2% public ownership and the Prairie Plan. Support the acquisitions where this is true - southern MN counties. This does not include Chsago or Crow Wing according to the state land ownership maps or Prairie Core Areas in the Prairie Plan. Q2: From the proposal, why have the total acres has been lower in the last three yrs compared to previous, especially when the appropriations have gone up? Q3: Why no leverage compared to previous years?
PA02	Accelerating the Wildlife Management Area Program - Phase XIII	Phase 13, Pheasants Forever, asking for almost \$14m			Hunting Yes				
PA03	MN Prairie Recovery Program - Phase 11	TNC, Phase 11	Personnel line needs clarification. It appears that staff (biologists and protection specialists) have full time jobs - is that really necessary? What keeps the biologists busy in the winter? SSA finally makes sense :)		18% DSS? Hunting				Q: Mentions the project is scalable with a proportional reduction in on-the-ground accomplishments. Current fund request is split for protection vs enhancement/restoration. Historically funds have been split, but ML18 & ML19 show more funds allocated to "Enhance" vs "Protect" - will more funding go towards R&E like the last few years or go back to the historical proportional split?
PA04	Northern Tallgrass Prairie National Wildlife Refuge - Phase XII	TNC, Phase 12							
PA05	Cannon River Watershed Habitat Protection and Restoration Program - Phase 10	Phase 10, Cannon River Watershed, TPL, Great River Greening							
PA06	Accelerated Native Prairie Bank Protection - Phase VIII	Phase 8, DNR							Q: Why doesn't the proposal include county locations? Parcel list references map, nothing provided.
PA07	RIM Buffers for Wildlife and Water - Phase IX	Phase 9, BWSR	No output in terms of acres for the restoration						Q: Previous funding had match/timing urgency. Does that urgency still exist for RIM? Explain in greater detail the changes in allocation within the proposal from previous phases regarding funding riparian buffers in support of the Buffer Law and instead expanding into larger, non-buffer areas. Percent funding allocated to Buffers vs Non-Buffer? Does the "Enhances MN Buffer Law" expand funding for buffers on waters not required to have a buffer in the Buffer Law (ie. Private Ditch), or non-buffer areas?
PA08	Prairie Chicken Habitat Partnership of the Southern Red River Valley - Phase VII	Phase 7, Prairie Chicken Society, PF	is wind development a threat? Have there been studies done that verify that? Contracts line shows \$1135000 for restoration but outputs show 30 acres and \$30K. Something is amiss.			8			Q: Has anyone, or is it possible, to analyzed data and created a map for breeding prairie grouse similar to the USFWS "thundermap" for mallards to identify habitat needs?
PA09	Accelerating the USFWS Habitat Conservation Easement Program - Phase III	Phase 3, DU and PF	Is DU holding easements? If so, what is USFW and what is DU holding. How determined? How will price of DU easements be determined? No stewardship dollars....						Appreciate the public-private partnership innovation since so much land in the prairie area is private. Great and innovative way to preserve habitat and maintain outcomes over time. A WIN-WIN-WIN Q: Is the leverage a percent match or lump sum regardless of funding amount?
PA10	Martin County WMA Acquisition Phase 5	Phase 5, Fox Lake, Conservation Fund	no cost for restoration that is mentioned in proposal. It seems to be imbedded in the acquisition cost which us unfortunate as it becomes invisible and there is no way to understand the cost of each component.		3% DSS +				Q: What is the percent of expired CRP contracts that don't re-enroll that this proposal is looking to capture?
PA11	RIM Grassland Reserve - Phase III	Phase 3, BWSR							Q: Previous funding had match/timing urgency. Does that urgency still exist for RIM?

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PRE01a	DNR Grassland - Phase XIII - with Roving Crew				32% DSS?				<p>Q1: Previous funding from Game &amp; Fish, Dedicated Accounts (Duck Stamp, Pheasant Stamp, etc, and Heritage Enhancement Acct. What percentage of this funding request is supplanting?</p> <p>Q2: Explain in greater detail how, "this request is part of a larger effort...multiple partners worked together to submit a State Acre For Wildlife Enhancement to FSA to boost CRP acres in MN."</p> <p>What percent of public grasslands are being grazed? Public-private partnership opportunity? BLM Model?</p>
PRE01b	DNR Grassland - Phase XIII				1				<p>Q1: Program, output table of acres and parcels are the same with and without the roving crew. Difficult to understand the program leftover as a stand-alone proposal if roving crews are funded in a separate proposal. Why fund this proposal if funding the O1 proposal?</p>

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PRE02	Enhanced Public Land - Grasslands - Phase V	PF	This seems to replicate the DNR roving crews other than the conservation grazing. It is basically a contract management proposal. Perhaps just fund the conservation grazing part?		19% DSS				
PRE03	Anoka Sand Plain Habitat Conservation - Phase 7	Great River Greening, NWTF, MLT, TNC	not sure what each partners specific role will be and why they are necessary to get this work done. Would like more info on exactly how the rare plant rescue works and success rates. This actually feels like separate proposals jammed together for a reason I cannot understand.						Great explanation of how this proposal is tied to other funds. Q: What portion of the proposal cover the ACD's Rare Plant Rescue Program? If funded by LCCMR, what's the plan for this proposal?
FA01	Southeast Minnesota Protection and Restoration Phase 9	TNC, blufflands	What makes TNC ownership appropriate?	Who gets mineral rights?	Hunting? No				Q: The proposal mentions federal funds as a match, but lists this as "leverage" and doesn't include federal match amounts in the table. Is this a typo or are there federal funds as a leverage also?
FA02	Minnesota Forests for the Future Phase 8	DNR							Q: Previous funding came from the Wild Turkey Federation and Minnesota Deer Hunters. Why no leverage from these partners? This proposal is very broad. Easier to see value and "move the needle" if focused on specific outcomes, ie. permanent working forest conservation easements on private lands.
FA03	Camp Ripley Sentinel Landscape ACUB Phase IX	Morrison County SWCD, easement only, not open to public	This seems more like a subsidy to the military than a conservation project. They want habitat funds to keep development from encroaching on the camp rather than to protect habitat. And they don't even promise any match.						Q: Similar to previous proposals, this proposal indicates DOD leverage from the REPI program, but doesn't provide a leverage amount. Confirm this proposal also includes the DOD leverage similar to previous proposals.
FRE01	DNR Forest Enhancement	DNR	How is climate change going to be addressed by this proposal? Is this proposal not just another roving crew under a different name? I have wondered for some time how this clearing enhances natural processes. What happened before European settlement to these forests - and were they unhealthy then? Staffing for fire specialists when fire is not part of the proposal and all the funds go to contractors?					can't see public value; return on investment??	Q: Previous funding from Game & Fish, Dedicated Accounts, Heritage Enhancement. What percent of this proposal is supplanting?
FRE02	Floodplain Forest Enhancement-Mississippi River, Phase 4	Audubon		Acquisition List?					Q1: Table shows 3,445 acres, but measure of success/outcome is 1,000 acres. What is the measurement of success for the other 2,445 acres? Q2: What is the assumed survival rate of tree plantings to achieve 4.5 ft height?
FRE03	Moose Habitat Collaborative, Phase IV - NE MN Forest Habitat Enhancement	Ruffed Grouse Society	Why is the Ruffed Grouse Society the lead in a moose habitat proposal?						Q: Scientific approach to target areas: Proposal mentions focus on the "moose range." With such a steep decline in known moose population, is there data to focus on known moose populations and target these specific areas for habitat enhancements, or no?
WA01	Accelerating the Waterfowl Production Area Program - Phase XIII	Pheasants Forever, Phase 13							
WA02	Shallow Lake & Wetland Protection & Restoration Program - Phase X	DU							Q: Are we seeing an increase in urgency due to increased ag drainage activity in the last decade?
WA03	RIM Wetlands - Phase X	BWSR							Q: Previous funding had match/timing urgency. Does that urgency still exist for RIM?
WA04	Wetland Habitat Protection and Restoration Program - Phase 6		very low easement cost per acre						Q: With this proposal being an easement acquisition program, are there working land components part of the "comprehensive management plans" that are developed for the easement areas?
WA05	Wild Rice Shoreland Protection - Phase VII	BWSR	very low easement cost per acre						

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WRE01a	Accelerated Shallow Lakes and Wetland Enhancements Phase 13 (with Roving Habitat Crew)	Phase 13, statewide	Professional services???		hunting DSS ALL				Q: how much is allocated to the ten wetland enhancement projects on 2,170 acres and how much on the other nine projects?
WRE01b	Accelerated Shallow Lakes and Wetland Enhancements Phase 13 (without Roving Habitat Crew)	Phase 13, statewide	Professional services???						
WRE02	Living Shallow Lake Enhancement & Wetland Restoration Initiative - Phase VII	Phase 7, Ducks Unlimited			leverage				
HA01	St. Croix Watershed Habitat Protection and Restoration Phase 2	St Croix River Association, MN Land Trust, Trust for Public Land. Carlos Avery, Bayport WMAs.			hunting				
HA02	Metro Big Rivers Phase 11		why the large cost differential between fee with PILT and without? Washing plants to remove soil runs counter to what I know about successful transplanting. Often it is the microbes in the soil that a plant is dependent on and removing the soil will significantly decrease the success and vibrancy of the plant.		373 acers				
HA03	Lower Otter Tail River Corridor Habitat Restoration - Request 1	FIRST REQUEST, BWSR, Buffalo-Red River Watershed District, Wilkin SWCD	What is the long term goal in terms of acres and \$ for them? Same question for the restoration. Project will not be done until 2029? Program management personnel line is larger than the easement processing which does not make sense.					confusing plan/ parks and more parks?	Q: The DNR's HRE02 project includes the Otter Tail River dam removal. How does this align with this project?
HA04	Fisheries Habitat Protection on Strategic North Central Minnesota Lakes - Phase VII	Northern Waters Land Trust, MLT - tullibee in deep cold water lakes in Cass County	what is the professional services line for?						
HA05	Mississippi Headwaters Habitat Corridor Project - Phase 5	TPL, BWSR, 8 SWCDs	a smaller target area seems more reasonable						
HA06	Protecting Minnesota's Lakes of Outstanding Biological Significance	FIRST REQUEST, easements only, MLT ,Lakes of Outstanding Biological Significance, NE part of state (Cass to Cook to Carlton)						more leverage???	Q1: In discussing the state's lake priorities, the proposal mentions "a major gap in protection exists" and that this program "addresses the noted protection gap" can you elaborate what plans/reports identify this gap? Q2: Does this program replace the Critical Shorelands Program? Is this a phased project? Elaborate on what is considered success of this program. Q3: 10% of 407 lakes is 40 lakes. No counties or parcel information included with the proposal. Only a map of the previous Critical Shorelands Program area footprint. Elaborate on location information to determine overlap with wild rice and cisco/tullibee programs.
HA07	Riparian Habitat Protection in the Kettle and Snake River Watersheds	Pine County SWCD, sturgeon							
HA08	MNDNR Trout Stream Conservation Easements	DNR, easement only, 11 miles trout stream, NE and SE rivers	11 miles of stream with 211 acres means a very small strip along the stream. Real protection of the stream would be deeper. This feels more like a fishing access than a habitat project.						Q: Where are project partners and leverage?
HA09	Targeted RIM Easement and Acquisition to the Parcel Level Pine and Leech Watersheds Phase II	Crow Wing SWCD	Not excited with roads used for recreational access					habitat or access??	
HA10	Urban Woods and Prairies Initiative Moorhead, MN Land Acquisition	Audubon			Good leverage				Q1: There are three phases of the project over a 5-year establishment period. Will there be future proposals or is this the only proposal to LSOHC for the acquisition component? Will the remainder be funded by CPL only? Q2: Elaborate on how this is scalable. Q3: What is all included in professional service line?
HRE01	Minnesota Trout Unlimited Coldwater Fish Habitat Enhancement and Restoration, Phase 13	Phase 13, leverage was all listed as expected (not confirmed)	Staffing seems very high to just manage contracts					this a park?	

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HRE02	DNR Aquatic Habitat Restoration and Enhancement - Phase 4	Phase 4, \$3.2m committed as leverage			Good leverage			design issues solved, settled??	Q: How does this proposal and HA03 align?
HRE03	St. Louis River Restoration Initiative - Phase 8	Phase 8,							Q: Does this proposal include Mud Lake E and W or both? Supporting map shows Mud Lake East resto already underway?
HRE04	Shell Rock River Habitat Restoration Program - Phase X	Phase 10, Freeborn County	what are the professional services?						
HRE05	Knife River Habitat Rehabilitation-Phase VI Restoration Evaluations - ML 2020	Phase 6, Lake & St Louis Counties						more leverage???	
HRE06	Southeast Wetland Restoration, Phase 2	Phase 2, Mankato. Like that its near a population center	Very high restoration cost		42 Acres, Bad Source Leverage				Q1: What percent of this project and personnel costs are supplanting from City's stormwater program? Q2: Where are project partners to support urgency and importance in region for this one city stormwater project?
HRE07	Sauk River Watershed Habitat Protection & Restoration, Phase 3	Phase 3, Douglas/Pope/Stearns/Todd, MLT, Pheasants Forever, TNC			+ hunting			is this	
HRE08	Klondike Clean Water Retention Project - Phase 1	Phase 1, Kittson County	More flood control than habitat. We are funding removal of dams so it is confusing that we would fund creation of them.						
HRE09	Targeted Culvert Replacement to Enhance Fish Passage	First ask, Lake County, brook trout	flood control? Why no match from owners of roads?						
CPL	Conservation Partners Legacy Grant Program Phase 13: Statewide and Metro Habitat		CPL coordinator - is there not funding for this in prior years covering the next two?				Need to be fully funded		
O1	DNR Roving Crews		please provide spreadsheet showing existing roving crew funding and how this would fit with that				Need to be fully funded		One proposal for roving crew restoration work make sense, whether the acres are prairie, wetland, or forest resto or enhancement can be tracked on the reporting side. Also a return of future/unspent funds from previous years, to be recommended for reappropriation. Lets simplify this for everyone. Q1: in total, how many roving crew FTE have been funded for FY 2022 and beyond from previous funding OHF? other sources? Q2: Clearly explain the pricing and resource difference between the five proposals to clarify the math: Roving Crew costs: PRE01a is 6 FTE for 5 years for \$2,467,500 (ave \$82,250/FTE/yr). 21.5k ac PE WRE01a is 2 FTE for 5 years for \$701,000 (ave \$70,100/FTE/yr) 2.5k ac WE Combined: 8 FTE for 5 years for \$3,168,500 (ave \$79,213/FTE/yr), 24k acres total (ave \$132/ac) Difference between PRE01a & b: \$4,005,100. Difference between WRE01a & b: 1,104,000. Total: \$5,109,100 However; OH-1 is 34 FTE for 2 years for \$5,549,000 (ave \$81,603/FTE/yr). 9k ac WE, 4k ac PR+39,600ac PE, 3.5k ac FF 56.1k acres total (ave \$99/ac)
O2	Contract Management 2021	Fully fund					Need to be fully funded		
O3	Restoration Evaluations - ML 2021	Fully fund					Need to be fully funded		