Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council Fiscal Year 2022 / ML 2021 Request for Funding

Date: May 28, 2020

Program or Project Title: Accelerating the Wildlife Management Area Program - Phase XIII (PAO2)

CLEAN WATER LAND & LEGACY AMENDMENT

Funds Requested: \$13,876,100

Manager's Name: Sabin Adams Title: MN Project Manager

Organization: Pheasants Forever, Inc.

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County Locations: Big Stone, Brown, Chippewa, Cottonwood, Dakota, Douglas, Jackson, Kandiyohi, Lyon, Martin, Meeker, Murray, Nobles, Redwood, Rock, Sibley, Stearns, Steele, Swift, Watonwan, and Yellow Medicine.

Eco regions in which work will take place:

- Forest / Prairie Transition
- Prairie
- Metro / Urban

Activity types:

- Restore
- Protect in Fee

Priority resources addressed by activity:

- Wetlands
- Prairie

Abstract:

This proposal accelerates the protection and restoration of 2,330 acres of strategic prairie grasslands, associated wetlands and other wildlife habitats as State Wildlife Management Areas (WMA) open to public hunting. Pheasants Forever (PF) will be permanently protecting strategic parcels within the prairie, prairie/forest transition, and metro planning regions. These acquired properties will be restored to the highest quality wildlife habitat feasible and transferred to the MN Department of Natural Resources (MN DNR) to be included into the WMA system.

Design and scope of work:

This proposal represents the thirteenth phase in Pheasants Forever's Accelerating the Wildlife Management Area program. The partners involved in this effort are deploying their resources to build upon past investments in long-term upland and wetland conservation. The proposal will protect and restore 2,330 acres of lands that will be managed for wildlife. These accomplishments further the goals outlined in the MN Statewide Conservation and Preservation Plan 2008, the MN Duck Action Plan 2020-2023, the MN Pheasant Action Plan 2020-2023 and the Minnesota Prairie Conservation Plan 2010, among others.

Lands acquired, from willing sellers, will be prioritized using criteria used by MN DNR (Minnesota Wildlife Management Areas – The Next 50 Years) which include location on the landscape, breeding waterfowl density, restoration potential, native community protection (e.g. Minnesota Biological Survey site), proximity to other investments in perpetually protected habitats. Projects were developed and selected in conjunction with local and regional DNR staff. All projects will meet standards and requirements for inclusion into the WMA

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system and DNR Commissioner approval will be received for any project funded under this proposal. In addition to meeting the minimum WMA standards, additional criteria are used to develop the potential project list including: 1) Does the parcel contain habitat restoration potential that will result in an increase in wildlife populations? 2) Does the parcel build upon existing investments in public and private land habitat (landscape scale significance)? 3) Does the parcel contain significant natural communities, or will it protect or buffer significant natural communities? 4) Does the parcel have the potential and focus for habitat protection and restoration in the future? 5) Does the parcel provide multiple benefits (recreation, access, water control, water quality, wellhead protection, riparian protection, local community support, etc.)?

Providing quality habitat and keeping future management concerns in mind, all acquisitions will be restored to the highest quality wildlife habitat feasible. Completing high-quality, comprehensive restorations, utilizing native species and best management practices, results in fewer management concerns and lower long-term costs. Acquired croplands will be permanently retired and restored to diverse grasslands and wetlands habitat, drained wetlands will be restored, and invasive trees will be removed when appropriate.

How does the proposal address habitats that have significant value for wildlife species of greatest conservation need, and/or threatened or endangered species, and list targeted species:

PF actively engages in conservation discussions with state and federal government agencies, to determine what areas are the highest priority for adding permanently protected lands in the prairie, prairie/forest transition, and metro planning areas. High priority is given to parcels whose restoration and protection benefit rare, threatened, & endangered species. Often the only locations where many threatened and endangered species are found is on existing habitat complexes. This proposal builds upon those complexes allowing for expansion and increased populations of those species.

When selecting projects for this proposal, PF uses the latest GIS data and works with DNR and USFWS staff to identify locations that benefit species of greatest conservation need. Additionally, species of greatest conservation need are considered and can influence restoration plans after the land is permanently protected. By increasing the amount, functionality and productivity of grassland landscapes for these species, we aim to slow population decline. Restoration of wetland and grassland complexes will provide habitat for a myriad of species including waterfowl, shorebirds, bobolinks, meadowlarks, ring-necked pheasants, pollinators, and monarchs. Other species of concern benefiting from this project include the greater prairie chicken, short-eared owl, marsh hawk, and yellow rails.

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

The demand for public places for outdoor recreation has never been higher. Going forward public lands will have increased usage. Additionally, the declines in private land conservation acres such as those in CRP, make it incredibly important that permanently protected habitat be created in order to ensure wildlife populations can continue to thrive. Lastly there is a backlog of sellers who are interested in selling their lands to become public wildlife habitat.

Describe how the proposal uses science-based targeting that leverages or expands corridors and complexes, reduces fragmentation or protects areas identified in the MN County Biological Survey:

This program uses numerous science-based conservation plans, all of which expand corridors and complexes, as well as conservation data to evaluate each potential acquisition and determine if it will provide significant habitat benefits. These plans and data sources include the MN County Biological Survey Biodiversity Significance data, MN Prairie Conservation Plan, The MN DNR Pheasant Action Plan, USFWS' Duck Breeding Density data and the MN DNR Natural Heritage Information Systems data. Preference is given to properties that help improve habitat for identified species as well as deliver the goals of these recognized conservation plans.

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

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

Which other plans are addressed in this proposal:

- Minnesota Prairie Conservation Plan
- Minnesota's Wildlife Management Area Acquisition The Next 50 Years

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

This program directly contributes to the primary goal of each identified plan which is restoration and protection of additional wetland/grassland habitat complexes. The MN Prairie Conservation Plan's 25 year goal is to permanently protect, through fee title

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acquisition, 222,100 acres in core areas, 82,000 acres in corridors, and 547,300 acres elsewhere in the agricultural matrix. The MN WMA Acquisition 50-year plan is to identify and permanently protect 702,200 acres. This program will contribute to these goals.

Which LSOHC section priorities are addressed in this proposal:

Prairie:

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

Forest / Prairie Transition:

• Protect, enhance, and restore wild rice wetlands, shallow lakes, wetland/grassland complexes, aspen parklands, and shoreland that provide critical habitat for game and nongame wildlife

Metro / Urban:

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

Describe how your program will produce and demonstrate a significant and permanent conservation legacy and/or outcomes for fish, game, and wildlife as indicated in the LSOHC priorities:

The Accelerating Wildlife Management Area Program has already achieved landscape level impacts in previous phases. By permanently protecting and restoring over 19,000 acres to date as Wildlife Management Areas, this program is delivering meaningful results that protect wildlife habitat in perpetuity and opens them for public access. This Phase XIII proposal directly contributes an additional 2,330 acres of protected and restored habitat.

Relationship to other funds:

Not Listed

Describe the relationship of the funds:

Not Listed

Does this program include leverage in funds:

Yes

This proposal will bring \$2,900,000 of leverage funds to increase accomplishments of acquisition and restoration activities. This leverage will come from Pheasants Forever, Federal funds, as well as private sources.

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

This proposal supplements past investments and is aimed at accelerating the protection and restoration of strategic parcels.

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

| Appropriation Year | Source | Amount |
|-----------------------|--------|---------|
| Annual | PF | 150,000 |

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

All lands will be enrolled into the state Wildlife Management Area system and will be managed in perpetuity by the Minnesota DNR. All acquired lands will meet the minimum initial development standards for WMAs. All acquisitions will be restored to as high quality as practicable, with the knowledge that quality and comprehensive restorations utilizing native species result in lower management costs. In addition, our local PF chapter members and volunteers maintain a high interest in seeing the habitat and productivity of acquired parcels are at high-quality levels. PF and partners including the DNR and USFWS will develop an ecological restoration and

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management plan for each parcel. Grant and partner dollars will also be used for the initial site development and restoration/enhancement work.

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

| Year | r | Source of Funds | Step 1 | Step 2 | Step 3 |
|-----------------------|---|------------------------------|------------|-------------|------------|
| Post Tran to MNDNI | | MN DNR - Game and Fish Funds | Monitoring | Maintenance | Management |

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

Pheasant

By looking at the ratios of CRP acres in Minnesota to pheasant harvest, we can estimate that every three acres of grassland habitat has the potential to produce one harvested pheasant rooster.

Prairie Chickens

According to the research literature and personal observations in Minnesota, prairie chickens require a minimum of 320 acres of high quality grasslands with no areas hostile to grassland wildlife (woodlots, farmsteads, etc) near these grasslands. For every 320 acre patch of high quality grassland in the prairie chicken range in the northwest part of the state, we can expect there to be a lek, or booming ground. The average size of booming grounds in Minnesota is roughly 11 males.

Bobolink and Grasshopper Sparrow

The breeding territory size of bobolinks and grasshopper sparrows is 1.7 and 2.1 acres respectively in high quality habitat in Wisconsin. If all of the habitat was occupied, a 100 acres of habitat could potentially hold approximately 60 and 48 pairs of bobolinks and grasshopper sparrows respectively.

Monarch Butterfly

Research from the University of Minnesota has shown that it takes approximately 30 milkweed plants to result in one monarch butterfly contributing to the overwintering Mexican population. Grasslands can have between 100-250 milkweed stems per acre. An acre of restored or enhanced grassland could potentially contribute 3 to 8 monarchs to the population.

Activity Details

Requirements:

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

Will county board or other local government approval be formally sought prior to acquisition, per 97A.056 subd 13(j) - No

At a minimum PF and/or MN DNR will notify local government in writing of the intent to acquire and donate lands to the state and follow up with questions prior to acquisition. In cases where there is interest, we will also indicate our willingness to attend or ask to attend county or township meetings to communicate our interest in the projects and seek support.

Is the land you plan to acquire (fee title) free of any other permanent protection - No

A limited number of the parcels may have a federal or state easement on a portion of the tract which provides permanent protection for wetlands or grasslands. If a parcel has one of these encumbrances, and is still deemed a high priority by the partnership, we will follow guidance established by the Outdoor Heritage Fund to proceed, or use non-state funding to acquire the residual value of the protected portion of the property.

Will restoration and enhancement work follow best management practices including MS 84.973 Pollinator Habitat Program - Yes

Is the restoration and enhancement activity on permanently protected land per 97A.056, subd 13(f), tribal lands, and/or public waters per MS 103G.005, Subd. 15 - Yes (WMA, WPA, Refuge Lands)

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

Are the funds confirmed - No

What is the approximate date you anticipate receiving confirmation of the federal funds - 07/01/2021

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Land Use:

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

Explair

This proposal may include initial development plans or restoration plans to utilize farming to prepare previously farmed sites for native plant seeding. This is a standard practice across the Midwest to prepare the seedbed for native seed planting. In these restorations, PF's policy is to use non neonicotinoid treated seed and no herbicides other than glyphosate. On a small percentage of WMAs (less than 2.5%), DNR uses farming to provide a winter food source for a variety of wildlife species in agriculture-dominated landscapes largely devoid of winter food sources. There are no immediate plans to use farming for winter food on any of the parcels in this proposal.

Is this land currently open for hunting and fishing - No

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

No variation from State of Minnesota regulations.

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

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

Will the land that you acquire (fee or easement) be restored or enhanced within this proposals funding and availability? - Yes

Land Use:

Have you received OHF dollars in the past through LSOHC? - Yes

Past appropriations and spending to date:

| Apprp Year | Approp Amount Received | Approp Amount Spent to Date | Leverage as Reported in AP/th> | Leverage Realized to Date | Total Acres Affected in AP | Total Acres Affected to Date | Program Complete and Final Report Approved? |
|---------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| ML2009 | 300000 | 2969680 | 725000 | 862492 | 1051 | 1051 | Yes |
| ML2010 | 3015000 | 30 148 2 1 | 525000 | 501000 | 900 | 1020 | Yes |
| ML2011 | 5500000 | 5439768 | 607000 | 684867 | 1275 | 1498 | Yes |
| ML2012 | 330000 | 3237672 | 330000 | 534136 | 550 | 638 | Yes |
| ML2013 | 7960000 | 790 720 1 | 398000 | 550369 | 1220 | 1484 | Yes |
| ML2014 | 10350000 | 10 1430 78 | 342000 | 1329604 | 1362 | 1773 | No |
| ML2015 | 7452000 | 74470 44 | 30000 | 1768491 | 900 | 2100 | No |
| ML2016 | 5229000 | 5094180 | 196800 | 1442600 | 680 | 1102 | No |
| ML2017 | 5603000 | 5497397 | 297900 | 923917 | 1012 | 1182 | No |
| ML2018 | 5740000 | 2537475 | 412000 | 1032225 | 10 30 | 635.48 | No |
| ML2019 | 6060000 | 788094 | 215000 | 10 46 | 1073 | 150 | No |

Accomplishment Timeline

| Activity | Approximate Date Completed |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Identify prio rity acquisitions | 07/01/2021 |
| Contract appraisals ordered | 09/01/2021 |
| Purchase agreements | 02/01/2022 |
| Re-evaluate tract priority | 02/14/2022 |
| Contract appraisals ordered | 04/01/2022 |
| Purchase agreements | 09/01/2022 |
| Close on tracts | 01/01/2024 |
| Restorations completed | 06/30/2026 |

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Budget Spreadsheet

Total Amount of Request: \$13,876,100

Budget and Cash Leverage

| BudgetName | LSOHC Request | Anticipated Leverage | Leverage Source | Total |
|----------------------------|---------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------|
| Personnel | \$145,000 | \$0 | | \$145,000 |
| Contracts | \$1,475,000 | \$50,000 | Federal, Private, PF | \$1,525,000 |
| Fee Acquisition w/ PILT | \$11,500,000 | \$2,850,000 | Federal, Private, PF | \$14,350,000 |
| Fee Acquisition w/o PILT | \$0 | \$0 | | \$0 |
| Easement Acquisition | \$0 | \$0 | | \$0 |
| Easement Stewardship | \$0 | \$0 | | \$0 |
| Travel | \$15,000 | \$0 | | \$15,000 |
| Pro fessio nal Services | \$243,100 | \$0 | | \$243,100 |
| Direct Support Services | \$47,000 | \$0 | | \$47,000 |
| DNR Land Acquisition Costs | \$230,000 | \$0 | | \$230,000 |
| Capital Equipment | \$0 | \$0 | | \$0 |
| Other Equipment/Tools | \$0 | \$0 | | \$0 |
| Supplies/Materials | \$0 | \$0 | | \$0 |
| DNR IDP | \$221,000 | \$0 | | \$221,000 |
| Total | \$13,876,100 | \$2,900,000 | - | \$16,776,100 |

Personnel

| Position | FTE | Over#ofyears | LSOHC Request | Anticipated Leverage | Leverage Source | Total |
|---------------------------|------|--------------|---------------|----------------------|-----------------|-----------|
| PF State Coordinator - MN | 0.07 | 3.00 | \$25,000 | \$0 | | \$25,000 |
| PF Field Staff | 0.24 | 3.00 | \$60,000 | \$0 | | \$60,000 |
| PF Grants Staff | 0.24 | 3.00 | \$60,000 | \$0 | | \$60,000 |
| Total | 0.55 | 9.00 | \$145,000 | \$0 | - | \$145,000 |

Amount of Request: \$13,876,100

Amount of Leverage: \$2,900,000

Leverage as a percent of the Request: 20.90%

DSS + Personnel: \$192,000

As a % of the total request: 1.38%

Easement Stewardship: \$0

As a % of the Easement Acquisition: -%

How did you determine which portions of the Direct Support Services of your shared support services is direct to this program:

PF utilizes the Total Modified Direct Cost method. This methodology is annually approved by the U.S. Department of Interior's National Business Center as the basis for the organization's Indirect Cost Rate agreement. PF's allowable direct support services cost is 5.09%. In this proposal, PF has discounted its rate to 2.5% of the sum of personnel, contracts, professional services, and travel. We are donating the difference-in-kind.

What is included in the contracts line?

We anticipate that all of the contract funding will be used for restoration, enhancement, and initial development of the protected acres and \$30,000 for adjacent protected lands. This could include but is not limited to wetland/grassland restoration, tree removal, prescribed fire, building removal, posts, signs, and other development.

Does the amount in the travel line include equipment/vehicle rental? - No

Explain the amount in the travel line outside of traditional travel costs of mileage, food, and lodging:

n/a

I understand and agree that lodging, meals, and mileage must comply with the current MMB Commissioner Plan: - Yes

Describe and explain leverage source and confirmation of funds:

Leverage is expected from multiple sources including but not limited to federal sources, land value donations, contractor donations and PF. Not every source is 100% confirmed at this point. However, PF has an exemplary track record of delivery and over-achievement of match commitments that further stretch OHF funding.

Does this proposal have the ability to be scalable? - Yes

Tell us how this project would be scaled and how administrative costs are affected, describe the "economy of scale" and how outputs would change with reduced funding, if applicable:

If scaled back, this proposal would be reduced proportionately across all categories of the budget and output tables.

Has funding for these positions been requested in the past? - Yes

Please explain the overlap of past and future staffing and position levels previously received and how that is coordinated over multiple years?

In general PF staffing is existing and only partially funded by OHF and specifically this request. Billing to any appropriation would only be for time spent on direct and necessary costs incurred as outlined in an Accomplishment Plan.

What is the anticipated number of fee title acquisition transactions?

We anticipate 17 fee title acquisition transactions

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Output Tables

Table 1a. Acres by Resource Type

| Туре | Wetlands | Prairies | Forest | Habitats | Total |
|---|----------|----------|--------|----------|-------|
| Restore | 0 | 30 | 0 | 0 | 30 |
| Pro tect in Fee with State PILT Liability | 460 | 1,840 | 0 | 0 | 2,300 |
| Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Pro tect in Easement | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Enhance | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 460 | 1,870 | 0 | 0 | 2,330 |

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

| Туре | Native Prairie |
|---|----------------|
| Restore | 0 |
| Pro tect in Fee with State PILT Liability | 30 |
| Pro tect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability | 0 |
| Pro tect in Easement | 0 |
| Enhance | 0 |
| Total | 30 |

Table 2. Total Requested Funding by Resource Type

| Туре | Wetlands | Prairies | Forest | Habitats | Total |
|--|-------------|--------------|--------|----------|--------------|
| Restore | \$0 | \$30,000 | \$0 | \$0 | \$30,000 |
| Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability | \$2,769,200 | \$11,076,900 | \$0 | \$0 | \$13,846,100 |
| Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Pro tect in Easement | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Enhance | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Total | \$2,769,200 | \$11,106,900 | \$0 | \$0 | \$13,876,100 |

Table 3. Acres within each Ecological Section

| Туре | Metro/Urban | Forest/Prairie | SEForest | Prairie | Northern Forest | Total |
|--|-------------|----------------|----------|---------|-----------------|-------|
| Restore | 0 | 0 | 0 | 30 | 0 | 30 |
| Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability | 30 0 | 70 0 | 0 | 1,300 | 0 | 2,300 |
| Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Protect in Easement | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Enhance | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Tota | 30 0 | 70 0 | 0 | 1,330 | 0 | 2,330 |

Table 4. Total Requested Funding within each Ecological Section

| Туре | Metro/Urban | Forest/Prairie | SEForest | Prairie | Northern Forest | Total |
|--|-------------|----------------|----------|-------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Restore | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$30,000 | \$0 | \$30,000 |
| Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability | \$1,806,000 | \$4,214,000 | \$0 | \$7,826,100 | \$0 | \$13,846,100 |
| Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Protect in Easement | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Enhance | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Total | \$1,806,000 | \$4,214,000 | \$0 | \$7,856,100 | \$0 | \$13,876,100 |

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Table 5. Average Cost per Acre by Resource Type

| Туре | Wetlands | Prairies | Forest | Habitats |
|--|----------|----------|--------|----------|
| Restore | \$0 | \$1,000 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability | \$6,020 | \$6,020 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Pro tect in Easement | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Enhance | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |

Table 6. Average Cost per Acre by Ecological Section

| Туре | Metro/Urban | Forest/Prairie | SE Forest | Prairie | Northern Forest |
|--|-------------|----------------|-----------|---------|-----------------|
| Restore | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$1,000 | \$0 |
| Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability | \$6,020 | \$6,020 | \$0 | \$6,020 | \$0 |
| Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Pro tect in Easement | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Enhance | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |

Automatic system calculation / not entered by managers

Target Lake/Stream/River Feet or Miles

0

I have read and understand Section 15 of the Constitution of the State of Minnesota, Minnesota Statute 97A.056, and the Call for Funding Request. I certify I am authorized to submit this proposal and to the best of my knowledge the information provided is true and accurate.

Outcomes

Programs in forest-prairie transition region:

• Protected, restored, and enhanced nesting and migratory habitat for waterfowl, upland birds, and species of greatest conservation need Strategic parcels that increase the functionality of existing habitat will be acquired and restored to functioning wetlands with diverse upland prairie to serve as habitat for pollinators, resident and migratory game and non-game species. Lands will be transferred to the state as a WMA to provide accelerated wildlife habitat and public access, monitored by Minnesota DNR. Protected and restored acres will be measured against goals outlined in the "Minnesota's Wildlife Management Area Acquisition - The Next 50 Years" and "the Long Range Plan for the Ring-Necked Pheasant in MN".

Programs in metropolitan urbanizing region:

• Protected habitats will hold wetlands and shallow lakes open to public recreation and hunting Strategic parcels that increase the functionality of existing habitat will be acquired and restored to functioning wetlands with diverse upland prairie to serve as habitat for pollinators, resident and migratory game and non-game species. Lands will be transferred to the state as a WMA to provide accelerated wildlife habitat and public access, monitored by Minnesota DNR. Protected and restored acres will be measured against goals outlined in the "Minnesota's Wildlife Management Area Acquisition - The Next 50 Years" and "the Long Range Plan for the Ring-Necked Pheasant in MN".ds.

Programs in prairie region:

• Key core parcels are protected for fish, game and other wildlife Strategic parcels that increase the functionality of existing habitat will be acquired and restored to functioning wetlands with diverse upland prairie to serve as habitat for pollinators, resident and migratory game and non-game species. Lands will be transferred to the state as a WMA to provide accelerated wildlife habitat and public access, monitored by Minnesota DNR. Protected and restored acres will be measured against goals outlined in the "Minnesota's Wildlife Management Area Acquisition - The Next 50 Years" and "the Long Range Plan for the Ring-Necked Pheasant in MN".

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Parcel List

Explain the process used to select, rank and prioritize the parcels:

Parcels are identified and strategically prioritized using the best science and decision support tools (e.g. HAPET Thunderstorm Maps) available. Preference is given to project sites that help deliver the goals of other recognized conservation initiatives and plans. Data layers (i.e. MN Biological Survey, Natural Heritage Database, MN Prairie Plan, Wellhead Protection Areas, Pheasant Action Plan, existing protected land, etc.) are used to help justify projects and focus areas as well as to inform decisions on top priorities for protection and restoration efforts.

Section 1 - Restore / Enhance Parcel List

No parcels with an activity type restore or enhance.

Section 2 - Protect Parcel List

Big Stone

| Name | TRDS | Acres | EstCost | Existing Protection? | Hunting? | Fishing? |
|------------------------------|----------|-------|-----------|----------------------|----------|----------------|
| Thielke Lake WMA Addition | 12246202 | 282 | \$750,000 | Yes | Full | Not Applicable |

Brown

| Name | TRDS | Acres | EstCost | Existing Protection? | Hunting? | Fishing? |
|--------------------|----------|-------|-----------|----------------------|----------|----------------|
| Terri WMA Addition | 10834215 | 152 | \$160,000 | Yes | Full | Not Applicable |
| Vogel WMA Addition | 10835203 | 156 | \$600,000 | No | Full | Not Applicable |

Chippewa

| Name | T RDS | Acres | Est Cost | Existing Protection? | Hunting? | Fishing? |
|-------------------|----------|-------|-----------|----------------------|----------|----------------|
| Numo WMA Addition | 11840209 | 67 | \$500,000 | No | Full | Not Applicable |

Cottonwood

| Name | TRDS | Acres | Est Cost | Existing Protection? | Hunting? | Fishing? |
|--------------------------------|----------|-------|-----------|----------------------|----------|----------------|
| Farhagen WMA Addition Tr. 2 | 10536214 | 120 | \$900,000 | No | Full | Not Applicable |
| Rock Ridge WMA Addition | 10735214 | 59 | \$125,000 | Yes | Full | Not Applicable |

Dakota

| Name | TRDS | Acres | Est Cost | Existing Protection? | Hunting? | Fishing? |
|---------------------------|----------|-------|-----------|----------------------|----------|----------------|
| Chub Lake WMA Addition | 11320234 | 80 | \$650,000 | No | Full | Not Applicable |

Douglas

| Name | TRDS | Acres | Est Cost | Existing Protection? | Hunting? | Fishing? |
|------------------------------|----------|-------|-----------|----------------------|----------|----------------|
| Roger Holmes WMA Addition | 12936210 | 370 | \$840,000 | No | Full | Not Applicable |

Jackson

| Name | TRDS | Acres | Est Cost | Existing Protection? | Hunting? | Fishing? |
|----------------------------|----------|-------|-----------|----------------------|----------|----------------|
| Minneota WMA Addition | 10136229 | 136 | \$875,000 | No | Full | Not Applicable |
| Petersburg WMA Addition | 10134226 | 116 | \$650,000 | Yes | Full | Not Applicable |

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Kandiyohi

| Name | TRDS | Acres | EstCost | Existing Protection? | Hunting? | Fishing? |
|--------------------------------|----------|-------|-----------|----------------------|----------|----------------|
| Dalton Johnson WMA Addition | 11733221 | 67 | \$500,000 | No | Full | Not Applicable |
| Regal Meadows WMA Addition | 12234201 | 100 | \$500,000 | No | Full | Not Applicable |

Lyon

| Name | TRDS | Acres | Est Cost | Existing Protection? | Hunting? | Fishing? |
|---------------------------|----------|-------|-------------|----------------------|----------|----------------|
| Grandview WMA Addition | 11242219 | 160 | \$1,136,000 | No | Full | Not Applicable |

Martin

| Name | TRDS | Acres | EstCost | Existing Protection? | Hunting? | Fishing? |
|--------------------|----------|-------|-----------|----------------------|----------|----------------|
| Caron WMA Addition | 10333222 | 140 | \$940,000 | No | Full | Not Applicable |

Meeker

| Name | TRDS | Acres | EstCost | Existing Protection? | Hunting? | Fishing? |
|-----------------------------|----------|-------|-----------|----------------------|----------|----------------|
| Kingston WMA Addition | 12129221 | 40 | \$180,000 | No | Full | Not Applicable |
| Kingston WMA Addition | 12129227 | 40 | \$160,000 | No | Full | Not Applicable |
| Powers Lake WMA Addition | 11930201 | 260 | \$900,000 | No | Full | Not Applicable |

Murray

| Name | TRDS | Acres | Est Cost | Existing Protection? | Hunting? | Fishing? |
|--------------------------|----------|-------|-----------|----------------------|----------|----------------|
| Haberman WMA Addition | 10539218 | 80 | \$450,000 | No | Full | Not Applicable |

Nobles

| Name | TRDS | Acres | EstCost | Existing Protection? | Hunting? | Fishing? |
|--------------------------------|------------|-------|-----------|----------------------|----------|----------------|
| Lambert Prairie WN Addition | 10 24120 8 | 75 | \$650,000 | No | Full | Not Applicable |

Redwood

| Name | TRDS | Acres | Est Cost | Existing Protection? | Hunting? | Fishing? |
|---------------------------|-----------|-------|-----------|----------------------|----------|----------------|
| Lamberton WMA Addition | 10 936217 | 160 | \$800,000 | No | Full | Not Applicable |

Rock

| Name | TRDS | Acres | EstCost | Est Cost Existing Protection? | | Fishing? |
|---------|----------|-------|-----------|-------------------------------|------|----------------|
| TBD WMA | 10145211 | 40 | \$480,000 | No | Full | Not Applicable |
| TBD WMA | 10145211 | 80 | \$960,000 | No | Full | Not Applicable |

Sibley

| | Name | TRDS | Acres | EstCost | Existing Protection? | Hunting? | Fishing? |
|---|-----------------|----------|-------|-----------|----------------------|----------|----------------|
| F | High Island WMA | 11428230 | 207 | \$600,000 | No | Full | Not Applicable |

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Stearns

| Name | TRDS | Acres | EstCost | Existing Protection? | Hunting? | Fishing? |
|---|----------|-------|-----------|----------------------|----------|----------------|
| Alice Hamm WMA Addition | 12229233 | 33 | \$120,000 | No | Full | Not Applicable |
| L Daniel & Virginia Frenzel WMA Addition | 12129216 | 80 | \$320,000 | No | Full | Not Applicable |
| Mel Roehrl WMA Addition Tr. 3 | 12435204 | 160 | \$600,000 | No | Full | Not Applicable |
| Mel Roehrl WMA Addition Tr. 4 | 12435205 | 120 | \$500,000 | No | Full | Not Applicable |

Steele

| Name | TRDS | Acres | Est Cost | Existing Protection? | Hunting? | Fishing? |
|--------------------------------|----------|-------|-----------|----------------------|----------|----------------|
| Straight River WMA Addition | 10520223 | 200 | \$500,000 | No | Full | Not Applicable |

Swift

| Name | TRDS | Acres | Est Cost | Existing Protection? | Hunting? | Fishing? |
|------------------------|----------|-------|----------|----------------------|----------|----------------|
| Monson WMA Addition | 12237235 | 15 | \$60,000 | No | Full | Not Applicable |

Watonwan

| Name | TRDS | Acres | Est Cost | Existing Protection? | Hunting? | Fishing? |
|----------------------------------|----------|-------|-----------|----------------------|----------|----------------|
| Younger Brothers WMA Addition | 10731222 | 40 | \$200,000 | No | Full | Not Applicable |
| Younger Brothers WMA Addition | 10731226 | 70 | \$325,000 | No | Full | Not Applicable |

Yellow Medicine

| Name | TRDS | Acres | EstCost | Existing Protection? | Hunting? | Fishing? |
|---------------------------------------|----------|-------|----------|----------------------|----------|----------------|
| Upper Antelope Valley WMA Addition | 11444209 | 34 | \$51,000 | No | Full | Not Applicable |

Section 2a - Protect Parcel with Bldgs

Douglas

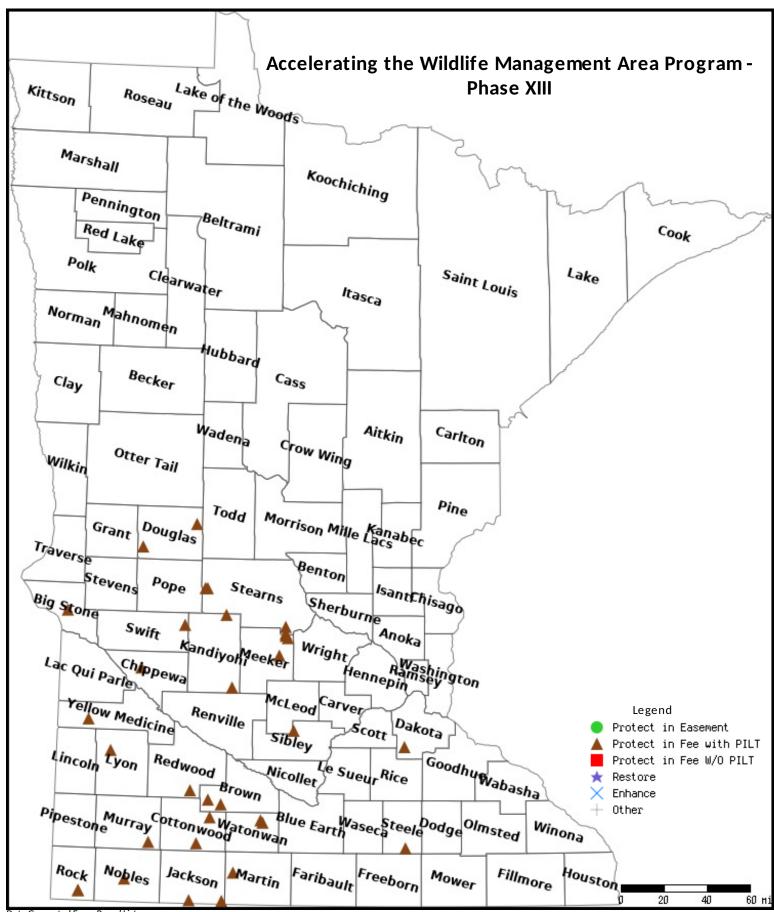
| Name | T RDS | Acres | EstCost | #Bldgs? | Bldg Imrpove Desc | Value of Bldg | Disposition of Improvements |
|---------------------|------------|-------|-----------|---------|-------------------|---------------|--------------------------------|
| Roy Thompson WMA | 12740 20 4 | 240 | \$800,000 | 1 | cabin | \$0 | Remove |

Section 3 - Other Parcel Activity

No parcels with an other activity type.

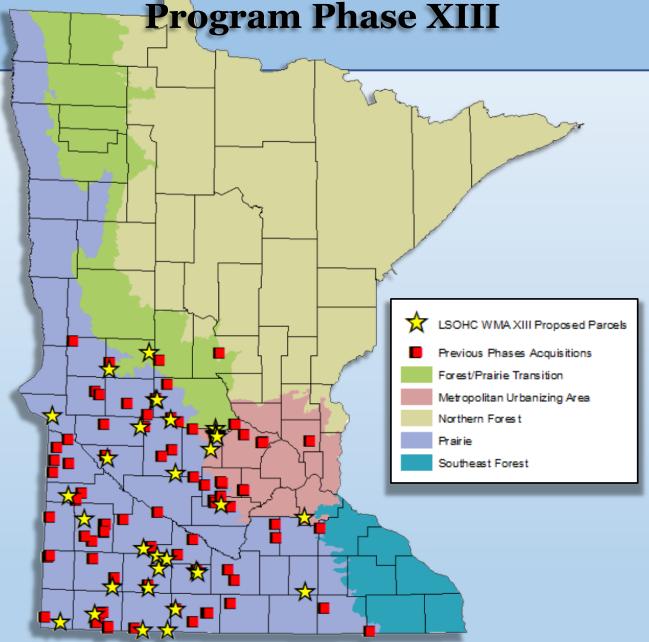
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Parcel Map



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Accelerating the Wildlife Management Area





This proposal accelerates the protection and restoration of 2,330 acres of strategic prairie grasslands, associated wetlands and other wildlife habitats as State Wildlife Management Areas (WMA) open to public hunting.

Cabinrock WMA





- The 60-acre Cabinrock WMA addition in Kandiyohi County was purchased with M.L.16 Accelerating the Wildlife Management Area Program funding.
- Pictures above and left are before and after photos of recently completed wetland restorations.
- Below a large flock of Canada Geese utilize restored wetlands.





