



## Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

### Mississippi Headwaters Habitat Corridor Project Phase 7 Laws of Minnesota 2022 Accomplishment Plan

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#### General Information

**Date:** 04/09/2025

**Project Title:** Mississippi Headwaters Habitat Corridor Project Phase 7

**Funds Recommended:** \$5,465,000

**Legislative Citation:** ML 2022, Ch. 77, Art. 1, Sec. 2, subd. 5(e )

**Appropriation Language:** \$5,465,000 the second year is to acquire lands in fee and permanent conservation easements and to restore wildlife habitat in the Mississippi headwaters. Of this amount, (1) \$3,814,000 is to the commissioner of natural resources for agreements as follows: \$54,000 is to the Mississippi Headwaters Board and \$3,760,000 is to The Trust for Public Land; and (2) \$1,651,000 is to the Board of Water and Soil Resources, of which up to \$150,000 is to establish a monitoring and enforcement fund as approved in the accomplishment plan and subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 17. A list of proposed acquisitions must be included as part of the required accomplishment plan.

#### Manager Information

**Manager's Name:** Tim Terrill

**Title:** Executive Director

**Organization:** Mississippi Headwaters Board

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#### Location Information

**County Location(s):** Hubbard, Crow Wing, Aitkin, Itasca, Cass and Morrison.

**Eco regions in which work will take place:**

Northern Forest

Forest / Prairie Transition

**Activity types:**

Protect in Easement

Protect in Fee

**Priority resources addressed by activity:**

Wetlands

Forest

Habitat

**Narrative****Abstract**

In Phase 7, The Mississippi Headwaters Board in partnership with The Trust for Public Land and BWSR assisted by 7 County SWCDs will permanently protect an additional 2,015 acres of critical fish and wildlife habitat along the first 400 miles of the Mississippi River, its major tributaries, and 9 headwaters lakes. Previous phases have already protected 4,130 acres and 34 miles of shoreland using fee title acquisitions and conservation easements to create or expand permanently protected aquatic and upland wildlife habitat corridors. This on-going work benefits fish, game and non-game wildlife, migratory waterfowl and reduces forest fragmentation.

**Design and Scope of Work**

This Phase will continue to address current and anticipated aquatic and upland habitat protection opportunities along the first 400 miles of the Mississippi River, its major tributaries, Headwaters lakes and other high quality habitat complexes in Headwaters counties. To date, 4,130 acres and 34 miles of shoreland have been permanently protected to benefit aquatic habitat, provide food and shelter for migratory waterfowl along the Mississippi Flyway, and to create and enhance protected habitat corridors for game and non-game wildlife. Additionally, forest fragmentation that is detrimental to habitat protection has been reduced; public recreational opportunities for fishing, hunting, and passive recreation have been enhanced; and clean drinking water protected for millions of Minnesotans. There is urgency to fund this phase because previous phases through ML 21 are spent or committed to fee title acquisitions and easement projects that will protect an additional 2,936 acres and 10+ miles of shoreland.

The Mississippi River--Gichi-ziib in Ojibwe meaning "big river"-- is home to a variety of game fish and its adjacent lands are home to 350+ species of animals and birds, including most of the endangered and threatened species in Minnesota. Migratory waterfowl depend on the river for food and shelter along the Mississippi Flyway. Because quality privately owned lakeshores are already developed, pressure is building for development along the river corridor as people seek to live and recreate near water. This leads to fragmentation of forests that threatens habitat and water quality. Public lands adjacent to private property are in danger of losing habitat connectivity as private lands are increasingly developed resulting in destruction of wild rice beds, disruption of aquatic and upland habitat and fragmentation of forestlands, grasslands, and wetlands that dominate the Headwaters.

As a partnership, The Mississippi Headwaters Board administers and coordinates the project; The Trust for Public Land acquires fee-title to priority lands and conveys permanent ownership to a public entity (state or local government); and BWSR in partnership with 7 Headwaters Soil and Water Conservation Districts completes RIM conservation easements on parcels that have been identified and prioritized through a science-based selection

process described below. A Technical Team of project partners along with DNR, BWSR, and The Nature Conservancy staff review and approve all projects using a ranked evaluation of habitat qualities, urgency for protection, and adjacency to public or already protected lands--a factor that is important to expanding protected habitat corridors. Strong local government involvement is unique to this project. For fee-title acquisitions, county boards are notified early to seek approval and before closing on an acquisition the County Board is again asked for final approval. Education sessions on easements have been conducted informally with county commissioners. This process has enhanced local government support and trust which has contributed to this Project's ongoing success.

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

The science-based targeting described below utilizes the Minnesota County Biological Survey; DNR Biodiversity rankings, rare species and old growth forest data; the Minnesota Wildlife Action Network's GIS layers and species information, and other habitat parameters to identify priority areas of significant value for fish and wildlife species of greatest conservation need and/or are threatened and endangered within the minor watershed of the first 400 miles of the Mississippi River or along major tributaries. The targeting also considered specific areas of species richness and/or biodiversity importance and areas where aquatic and terrestrial habitats have been compromised. These identified areas are the priority focus in selecting parcels for land protection.

The Wildlife Action Network was developed to help implement the 2015-2025 MN Wildlife Action Plan. Species of greatest conservation need are defined as native animals, fish, non-game and game species whose population is rare, declining, or vulnerable to decline along with species for which Minnesota has stewardship responsibility. The decline or endangerment of these species are sentinels of habitat decline, loss, and fragmentation that will ultimately affect the sustainability of populations of more common species of fish, game, and non-game wildlife in the Mississippi Headwaters. In the State Wildlife Action Plan: 2015-2023 some of the most critical and/or important species (common name used) related to the purpose of this project and its geographic focus include, but are not limited to: Blandings Turtle, Gray Wolf; Shortjaw Cisco, Common Loon, Trumpeter Swan, Spruce Grouse, Northern Long Eared Bat, Red-necked Grebe, Red Shouldered Hawk, Golden-winged Warbler, White-tailed jackrabbit, Canada Lynx, American badger, multiple species of shrew and mouse, Northern Goshawk, Boreal Owl, Northern Pintail, Evening Grosbeak, American Kestrel, Red-headed Woodpecker, Spotted Salamander, Pickerel Frog, Sand Darter fish, Longnose Sucker, Sora, Virginia, and Yellow Rail, American and Least Bittern and others.

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

The minor watershed of the Mississippi Headwaters (400 miles from Itasca State Park through 8 counties to the southern border of Morrison County) includes 7,000+ privately owned parcels greater than 20 acres, which is the minimum project size. Large complexes and corridors of public land and/or privately protected land adjacent to public land provide the essential elements of good habitat continuity as defined by the National Wildlife Federation. These elements are: food, water, a place to raise young, and different types of wildlife cover for various life stages. This project focuses on creating and expanding protected wildlife habitat complexes/corridors through fee-title acquisition for public ownership or easements on parcels providing the highest opportunity for fish and wildlife habitat protection and continued forest integrity.

A science-based parcel screening tool—RAQ—is used to identify the highest priority privately owned lands that will create or enhance large protected habitat corridors and complexes. The RAQ tool scores private, forested parcels 20 acres or larger in the following manner: "R" ranks whether the parcel is riparian--next to the Mississippi river, a tributary, or a headwaters lake. "A" ranks the parcel's adjacency to existing public land (state,

county or federal). "Q" ranks habitat quality using the Minnesota County Biological Survey and a number of existing data sets as described above. County land department priorities for forest management and The Nature Conservancy's multi-benefits, science-based analysis of the Upper Mississippi River Basin are also considered in selecting priority parcels for permanent land conservation.

The highest value a parcel can have with the RAQ scoring is 10. Parcels with a RAQ scoring of 6 or better were identified as priority prospects for land protection, essentially narrowing the prospects from over 7,000 parcels to a more manageable priority of approximately 1,000 parcels and 300 landowners. The Trust for Public Land and the 7 SWCDs are conducting outreach to these priority landowners to ensure the highest quality aquatic and upland habitats are protected in large habitat complexes for the future sustainability of critical fish and wildlife populations and migrating waterfowl along the Mississippi Flyway.

### **Which two sections of the Minnesota Statewide Conservation and Preservation Plan are most applicable to this project?**

H1 Protect priority land habitats

H2 Protect critical shoreland of streams and lakes

### **Which two other plans are addressed in this program?**

Mississippi River Headwaters Comprehensive Plan

Outdoor Heritage Fund: A 25 Year Framework

### **Which LSOHC section priorities are addressed in this program?**

#### **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

#### **Northern Forest**

Provide access to manage habitat on landlocked public properties or protect forest land from parcelization and fragmentation through fee acquisition, conservation or access easement

## **Outcomes**

### **Programs in forest-prairie transition region:**

Rivers and streams provide corridors of habitat including intact areas of forest cover in the east and large wetland/upland complexes in the west ~ *Forestlands protected are measured in the number of acres of forestland protected by either fee-title or easement and miles of protected shoreland. For fee-title acquisitions, the evaluation of ongoing maintenance of the forest and shoreland will be according to the final owner's (state or local government) management plans and continued monitoring. For conservation easements, a management plan is part of the easement. Once recorded, BWSR with assistance from the County SWCD does annual monitoring to insure the management plan is not being violated.*

### **Programs in the northern forest region:**

Forestlands are protected from development and fragmentation ~ *Forestlands protected are measured in the number of acres of forestland protected by either fee-title or easement and miles of protected forested shorelands.*

*For fee-title acquisitions, the evaluation of ongoing maintenance of the forest according will be measured by the final owner's (state or local government) management plans and continued monitoring. For conservation easements, a management plan is part of the easement. Once recorded, BWSR with assistance from the County SWCD does annual monitoring to insure the management plan is not being violated.*

### Does this program include leveraged funding?

Yes

### Explain the leverage:

The Trust for Public Land is providing a private match of half of their direct support service cost and all travel costs. RIM funding and land value donations are anticipated on several parcels.

### Per MS 97A.056, Subd. 24, Please explain 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 request is not supplanting or a substitution for any previous Legacy funding used for the same purpose.

### Non-OHF Appropriations

Year	Source	Amount
ML20	CWF RIM Buffer Funds for easements	\$1,000,000

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

For conservation easements recorded through this project, the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) is responsible for maintenance, inspection and monitoring into perpetuity. They partner with the Soil and Water Conservation District in the county where the easement is recorded to carry-out the oversight and monitoring of the conservation easements. Easements are inspected annually for the first five years beginning in the year after the easement is recorded. Thereafter, on-site inspections and compliance checks are performed and reported to BWSR every three years. If a violation is noted, a non-compliance procedure is initiated. Stewardship money is appropriated to cover ongoing BWSR oversight, SWCD monitoring, and enforcement actions, if needed. Trust for Public Land is responsible for the fee-title acquisitions in this project. They acquire the land with Outdoor Heritage Funds and then transfer ownership to the applicable public entity—either the MN DNR or a local government—for permanent ownership and stewardship. The lands are then managed consistent with the public entity's land management policies.

## Actions to Maintain Project Outcomes

Year	Source of Funds	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3
2022-2026	OHF	Work with project partners to determine fish and game habitat protection priorities; develop tools for prioritizing lands for acquisition (fee title or easement); and develop/ maintain trusting relationships with local government for program support.	The Mississippi Headwaters Board (MHB) provides project coordination among project partners and other supporting organizations, including responsibility for status reports, outreach assistance to SWCDs, developing prioritization tools for project selection, facilitation of regular meetings of the Project Technical Committee to review and approve participating landowner projects, and project representation to regional conservation collaborative efforts. MHB also promotes ongoing relationships and training as needed for the 8 Headwaters County Boards.	-
2022-2026	OHF	Work with project partners and landowners to determine RIM conservation easement interest and develop a long-term fish and game habitat protection priorities.	Work with BWSR and County SWCDs to conduct landowner outreach and acquire conservation easements	BWSR and SWCDs will perform ongoing on-site inspections and monitoring and enforce conditions of the recorded easement into perpetuity
2022-2026	OHF	Work with project partners and landowners to determine interest in a fee-title acquisition and seek state or local government permanent land ownership.	The Trust for Public Land will acquire parcels for fee-title acquisition (with or without PILT) and transfer to the appropriate public entity.	Permanent public entity owners of acquired lands (state or local government) will follow the monitoring and land management policies of their organization.

### Provide an assessment of how your program celebrates cultural diversity or reaches diverse communities in Minnesota, including reaching low- and moderate-income households:

In the past, this program has not specifically involved BIPOC and/or diverse communities largely due to concerns about the language of the constitutional amendment specifying that these funds “may be spent only to restore, protect, and enhance wetlands, prairies, forests, and habitat for fish and game.” However, some of the program's

partner organizations have focuses and programs funded through different sources that do specifically involve, engage, and benefit BIPOC and diverse communities. To include indigenous engagement directly in this project, a representative of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe has recently been invited to participate in the project's Technical Review Team. If the LSOHC encourages expansion of the scope of project activities to include more diverse BIPOC engagement, a more thorough community engagement process could be incorporated in the project's work. Moving forward, we look forward to continuing this important work in a way that more directly, and authentically, engages diverse communities and partners in an equitable and just manner.

There are significant benefits for all Minnesotans, including BIPOC and diverse communities, when land is protected through fee-title acquisition and becomes managed as public land accessible to all. In particular, public land provides an opportunity for those who do not have access or resources to connect with private natural lands, whether that be for hunting, fishing, hiking, or other outdoor recreational pursuits. Conservation easements also benefit all Minnesotans. They help to keep our air and water clean, mitigate the impacts of climate change, and conserves the biological diversity that is important to all of Minnesotan's public resources.

### Activity Details

#### Requirements

**If funded, this program 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)?**

Yes

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

Yes

**Is the land you plan to acquire (easement) free of any other permanent protection?**

Yes

**Who will manage the easement?**

Once an easement is recorded, the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources will manage the easements through their monitoring plans and will be assisted by the appropriate SWCD to conduct the monitoring.

**Who will be the easement holder?**

The Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR)

**What is the anticipated number of easements (range is fine) you plan to accomplish with this appropriation?**

20-25 RIM easements

#### Land Use

**Will there be planting of any crop on OHF land purchased or restored in this program, either by the proposer or the end owner of the property, outside of the initial restoration of the land?**

No

**Is this land currently open for hunting and fishing?**

No



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

Yes

**Describe any variation from the State of Minnesota regulations:**

No variation

**Who will eventually own the fee title land?**

County

State of MN

**Land acquired in fee will be designated as a:**

WMA

AMA

County Forest

SNA

State Forest

**What is the anticipated number of closed acquisitions (range is fine) you plan to accomplish with this appropriation?**

1-2 fee title acquisitions

**Will the eased land be open for public use?**

No

**Are there currently trails or roads on any of the proposed acquisitions?**

Yes

**Describe the types of trails or roads and the allowable uses:**

For conservation easements, there could be a potential for new trails to be developed (though uncommon) if they contribute to easement maintenance or benefit the easement site (i.e. firebreaks, berm maintenance, etc.).

For prospective acquisitions, there is an existing segment of a snowmobile trail that bisects the Dahler Lake parcel, which we anticipate would continue to be used as a snowmobile trail once acquired. The Laden Lake parcel has existing former logging trails which DNR Forestry would manage in accordance with current DNR Forestry practices.

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

Yes

**How will maintenance and monitoring be accomplished?**

Land that is in easement will be maintained by the landowner and will be enrolled in a scheduled monitoring program by the County Soil & Water Conservation District under supervision of BWSR. Land that is acquired by fee-title will follow the land maintenance and monitoring plans of the public entity that has final ownership.



**Will new trails or roads be developed or improved as a result of the OHF acquisition?**

Yes

**Describe the types of trails or roads and the allowable uses:**

For conservation easements, there could be a potential for new trails to be developed (though uncommon) if they contribute to easement maintenance or benefit the easement site (i.e. firebreaks, berm maintenance, etc.). No new trails are planned on prospective acquisitions, but if new trail segments or alignments are added on county owned lands, there would be a "no net gain of trails." In other words, if a new trail segment was created an equal amount of preexisting trail would be restored to natural habitat.

**How will maintenance and monitoring be accomplished?**

Land that is in easement will be maintained by the landowner and will be enrolled in a scheduled monitoring program by the County Soil & Water Conservation District under supervision of BWSR. Land that is acquired by fee-title will follow the land maintenance and monitoring plans of the public entity that has final ownership.

**Will the acquired parcels be restored or enhanced within this appropriation?**

Yes

TPL - Some initial restoration will be conducted through release of IDP funds or through contracts." for TPL. BWSR: A few parcels may have restoration or enhancement activities completed although we expect this to be a minor component.

**Will the land that you acquire (fee or easement) be restored or enhanced within this program's funding and availability?**

Yes

**Timeline**

<b>Activity Name</b>	<b>Estimated Completion Date</b>
Final owners (state or LGU) of acquired fee-title lands do ongoing maintenance and monitoring of lands according to their respect management policies.	Ongoing
Under contract to BWSR, SWCDs do annual monitoring of acquired easements.	Ongoing
MHB provides project administration and coordination, assists with development of parcel prioritization tools and outreach, convenes the Technical Review Committee, and does project reporting.	2026
BWSR approves and processes landowner applications that have been approved by the Project Technical Committee, responsible for ongoing monitoring of completed easements. diligence,	2026; stewardship ongoing
SWCDs do landowner outreach according to established parcel priorities, works with landowner to submit easement application and complete the easement, records the final easement.	2026
TPL does landowner outreach, negotiates with committed landowners, seeks final ownership (state or local government), see approval from local government, conducts due diligence on the property, acquires property, conveys to final landowner.	2026

**Date of Final Report Submission:** 11/01/2026

**Availability of Appropriation:** Subd. 7. Availability of Appropriation

(a) Money appropriated in this section may not be spent on activities unless they are directly related to and necessary for a specific appropriation and are specified in the accomplishment plan approved by the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council. Money appropriated in this section must not be spent on indirect costs or other institutional overhead charges that are not directly related to and necessary for a specific appropriation. Money appropriated to acquire land in fee may be used to restore, enhance, and provide for public use of the land acquired with the appropriation. Public-use facilities must have a minimal impact on habitat in acquired lands.

(b) Money appropriated in this section is available as follows:

(1) money appropriated for acquiring real property is available until June 30, 2026;

(2) money appropriated for restoring and enhancing land acquired with an appropriation in this act is available for four years after the acquisition date with a maximum end date of June 30, 2030;

(3) money appropriated for restoring or enhancing other land is available until June 30, 2027;

(4) notwithstanding clauses (1) to (3), money appropriated for a project that receives at least 15 percent of its funding from federal funds is available until a date sufficient to match the availability of federal funding to a maximum of six years if the federal funding was confirmed and included in the original approved draft accomplishment plan; and

(5) money appropriated for other projects is available until the end of the fiscal year in which it is appropriated.

**Budget**

*Budget reallocations up to 10% do not require an amendment to the Accomplishment Plan.*

**Grand Totals Across All Partnerships**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Funding Request</b>	<b>Leverage</b>	<b>Leverage Source</b>	<b>Total</b>
Personnel	\$281,000	-	-	\$281,000
Contracts	\$76,000	-	-	\$76,000
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	\$3,547,000	\$500,000	RIM, private	\$4,047,000
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	-	-	-	-
Easement Acquisition	\$1,373,000	-	-	\$1,373,000
Easement Stewardship	\$80,000	-	-	\$80,000
Travel	\$2,900	\$5,000	-, private	\$7,900
Professional Services	\$62,400	-	-	\$62,400
Direct Support Services	\$34,500	\$32,500	-, private	\$67,000
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	-	-	-	-
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	\$4,000	-	-	\$4,000
Supplies/Materials	\$4,200	-	-	\$4,200
DNR IDP	-	-	-	-
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$5,465,000</b>	<b>\$537,500</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$6,002,500</b>

**Partner: BWSR****Totals**

Item	Funding Request	Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	\$168,400	-	-	\$168,400
Contracts	\$19,500	-	-	\$19,500
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	-	-	-	-
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	-	-	-	-
Easement Acquisition	\$1,373,000	-	-	\$1,373,000
Easement Stewardship	\$80,000	-	-	\$80,000
Travel	\$2,900	-	-	\$2,900
Professional Services	-	-	-	-
Direct Support Services	\$2,000	-	-	\$2,000
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	-	-	-	-
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	\$4,000	-	-	\$4,000
Supplies/Materials	\$1,200	-	-	\$1,200
DNR IDP	-	-	-	-
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$1,651,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$1,651,000</b>

**Personnel**

Position	Annual FTE	Years Working	Funding Request	Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Easement Staff	0.49	4.0	\$168,400	-	-	\$168,400

**Partner: Trust for Public Land****Totals**

Item	Funding Request	Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	\$95,600	-	-	\$95,600
Contracts	\$22,500	-	-	\$22,500
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	\$3,547,000	\$500,000	RIM, private	\$4,047,000
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	-	-	-	-
Easement Acquisition	-	-	-	-
Easement Stewardship	-	-	-	-
Travel	-	\$5,000	private	\$5,000
Professional Services	\$62,400	-	-	\$62,400
Direct Support Services	\$32,500	\$32,500	private	\$65,000
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	-	-	-	-
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	-	-	-	-
Supplies/Materials	-	-	-	-
DNR IDP	-	-	-	-
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$3,760,000</b>	<b>\$537,500</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$4,297,500</b>

**Personnel**

Position	Annual FTE	Years Working	Funding Request	Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Protection & Legal Staff	0.19	3.0	\$95,600	-	-	\$95,600

**Partner: MHB****Totals**

Item	Funding Request	Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	\$17,000	-	-	\$17,000
Contracts	\$34,000	-	-	\$34,000
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	-	-	-	-
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	-	-	-	-
Easement Acquisition	-	-	-	-
Easement Stewardship	-	-	-	-
Travel	-	-	-	-
Professional Services	-	-	-	-
Direct Support Services	-	-	-	-
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	-	-	-	-
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	-	-	-	-
Supplies/Materials	\$3,000	-	-	\$3,000
DNR IDP	-	-	-	-
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$54,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$54,000</b>

**Personnel**

Position	Annual FTE	Years Working	Funding Request	Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Project Adminstrator	0.1	3.0	\$17,000	-	-	\$17,000

**Amount of Request:** \$5,465,000**Amount of Leverage:** \$537,500**Leverage as a percent of the Request:** 9.84%**DSS + Personnel:** \$315,500**As a % of the total request:** 5.77%**Easement Stewardship:** \$80,000**As a % of the Easement Acquisition:** 5.83%**How will this program accommodate the reduced appropriation recommendation from the original proposed requested amount?**

The outputs (acres and activities) and budgets have been reduced proportionate to the funding recommendation reduction from the proposal. The MHB Administration and Coordination remain consistent regardless of appropriation level. .

**Describe and explain leverage source and confirmation of funds:****Does this project have the ability to be scalable?**

Yes

## If the project received 50% of the requested funding

**Describe how the scaling would affect acres/activities and if not proportionately reduced, why?**

A reduction in funding would reduce outputs (acres/activities) proportionately.

**Describe how personnel and DSS expenses would be adjusted and if not proportionately reduced, why?**

Program management costs (personnel and DSS expenses) will be reduced as well. However, not exactly proportionately as program development and oversight costs remain consistent regardless of appropriation amount.

## Personnel

**Has funding for these positions been requested in the past?**

Yes

## Contracts

**What is included in the contracts line?**

MHB contract funding is for a Project Coordinator and Outreach Assistant. BWSR contract is for SWCD assistance. TPL contract funds are for potential site clean-up and initial restoration activities.

## Fee Acquisition

**What is the anticipated number of fee title acquisition transactions?**

1-2 acquisitions closed and investigation of 2-3 prospects.

## Easement Stewardship

**What is the number of easements anticipated, cost per easement for stewardship, and explain how that amount is calculated?**

20-25 easements (900+ acres) is anticipated with this appropriation. Easement stewardship has been calculated per 23 easements. As of July 1, 2024, perpetual monitoring and enforcement costs have been calculated at \$10,000 per easement. This value is based on using local SWCD staff for monitoring and existing enforcement authorities. The amount listed for Easement Stewardship includes costs of SWCD regular monitoring, BWSR oversight and any enforcement necessary.

## Travel

**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**

None

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

Yes

## Direct Support Services

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

BWSR calculates direct support services costs that are directly related to and necessary for each request based on



the type of work being done. DSS requested by The Trust for Public Land is based upon their federal rate, which has been approved by the DNR; 50% of TPL's DSS costs are requested from the OHF grant, 50% is contributed as leverage.

### **Other Equipment/Tools**

**Give examples of the types of Equipment and Tools that will be purchased?**

Signage for completed projects,

### **Federal Funds**

**Do you anticipate federal funds as a match for this program?**

No

## Output Tables

### Acres by Resource Type (Table 1)

Type	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat	Total Acres
Restore	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	1,115	-	1,115
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	0	-	0
Protect in Easement	-	-	900	-	900
Enhance	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	-	-	<b>2,015</b>	-	<b>2,015</b>

### Total Requested Funding by Resource Type (Table 2)

Type	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat	Total Funding
Restore	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	\$3,786,900	-	\$3,786,900
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	\$1,678,100	-	\$1,678,100
Enhance	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	-	-	<b>\$5,465,000</b>	-	<b>\$5,465,000</b>

### Acres within each Ecological Section (Table 3)

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest	Total Acres
Restore	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	1,115	1,115
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	0	0
Protect in Easement	-	100	-	-	800	900
Enhance	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	-	<b>100</b>	-	-	<b>1,915</b>	<b>2,015</b>

### Total Requested Funding within each Ecological Section (Table 4)

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest	Total Funding
Restore	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	\$3,786,900	\$3,786,900
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	\$150,000	-	-	\$1,528,100	\$1,678,100
Enhance	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	-	<b>\$150,000</b>	-	-	<b>\$5,315,000</b>	<b>\$5,465,000</b>

**Average Cost per Acre by Resource Type (Table 5)**

Type	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat
Restore	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	\$3,396	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	\$1,864	-
Enhance	-	-	-	-

**Average Cost per Acre by Ecological Section (Table 6)**

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest
Restore	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	\$3,396
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	\$1,500	-	-	\$1,910
Enhance	-	-	-	-	-

**Target Lake/Stream/River Feet or Miles**

6

## Parcels

### Parcel Information

#### Sign-up Criteria?

No

#### Explain the process used to identify, prioritize, and select the parcels on your list:

Parcels were selected based on one or a combination of the following sources: the GIS-science based RAQ screening for priority parcels as explained earlier in the proposal; county land department requests; DNR interest in WMA creation/expansion or State Forest additions or acquisitions; and landowner interest.

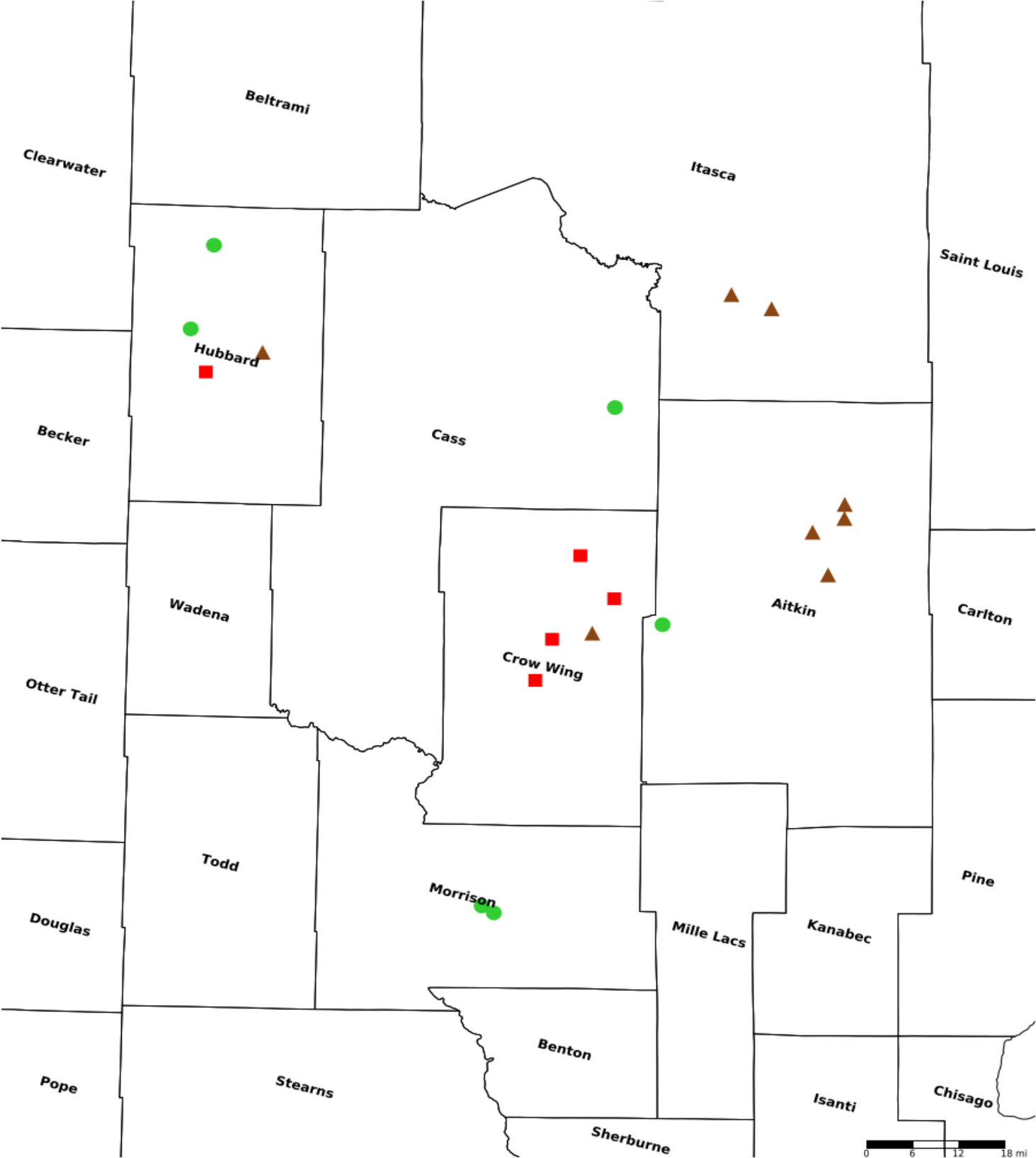
### Fee Parcels

Name	County	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection
Aitkin Lake	Aitkin	05023217	151	\$850,000	No
Big Sandy	Aitkin	05023229	283	\$900,000	No
Big Sandy River	Aitkin	04824201	189	\$380,000	No
Wold WMA Addition	Aitkin	04924203	391	\$860,000	No
Brainerd Forest	Crow Wing	13427204	28	\$130,000	No
Crow Wing County Forest Addition	Crow Wing	13625206	266	\$680,400	No
Crow Wing County Forest Addition - 047	Crow Wing	04729219	22	\$75,000	No
Dahler	Crow Wing	13726204	1,280	\$1,920,000	No
Indian Jack Lake WMA Addition 3	Crow Wing	13626234	80	\$550,000	No
Hubbard County Forest Addition	Hubbard	14234234	280	\$560,000	No
Laden Lake / Sheep Ranch TCF/HF	Hubbard	14233214	2,062	\$5,000,000	No
Bass Brook WMA Addition	Itasca	05526213	46	\$184,000	No
La Prairie	Itasca	05525226	115	\$460,000	No

### Easement Parcels

Name	County	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection
01-03-24-15- -	Aitkin	04727209	50	\$59,000	No
11-01-24-15- -	Cass	14125219	114	\$52,700	No
29-01-22-15- -	Hubbard	14334232	322	\$834,300	No
29-01-24-15- -	Hubbard	14534235	40	\$60,900	No
49-01-24-15- -	Morrison	04131235	29	\$71,106	No
49-02-24-15- -	Morrison	04031210	81	\$180,700	No

Parcel Map



- Protect in Easement
- ▲ Protect in Fee with PILT
- Protect in Fee W/O PILT
- ★ Restore
- ✕ Enhance
- ✚ Other