



Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

ML 2022 Request for Funding

General Information

Date: 06/04/2021

Proposal Title: Prairie Chicken Habitat Partnership of the Southern Red River Valley - Phase VIII

Funds Requested: \$9,857,000

Manager Information

Manager's Name: Sabin Adams

Title: MN Project Manager

Organization: MN Prairie Chicken Society / Pheasants Forever, Inc.

Address: 14241 Steves Rd SE

City: Osakis, MN 56360

Email: sadams@pheasantsforever.org

Office Number: 320-250-6317

Mobile Number: 320-250-6317

Fax Number:

Website: www.pheasantsforever.org

Location Information

County Location(s): Clay, Mahnommen, Norman, Becker and Wilkin.

Eco regions in which work will take place:

- Forest / Prairie Transition
- Prairie

Activity types:

- Protect in Fee
- Restore

Priority resources addressed by activity:

- Prairie

Narrative

Abstract

This proposal protects and restores 1,732 acres of land in the Minnesota prairie-chicken range, that will be transferred to the MNDNR as a WMA or to the USFWS as a WPA. All land will be open to public hunting. MN Prairie Chicken Society and Pheasants Forever will be protecting parcels that focus specifically on prairie chicken benefits, which makes this proposal unique and highly focused. All acquisitions will occur within the prairie and prairie/forest planning regions with a focus in Clay, Norman, Mahnomon and Wilkin counties which is the primary range of prairie chickens in Minnesota.

Design and Scope of Work

Greater prairie chickens require large blocks of grasslands, with a minimum of 320 acres at any one site. The makeup of these grassland complexes should include numerous successional states of habitat to sustain a local population. Because of this the greater prairie chickens population in Minnesota is largely restricted to the beach ridges of the Glacial Lake Agassiz region. Greater prairie chickens are a “flagship” species in the sense that if we have greater prairie chickens on the landscape, then we also have met the habitat needs of many additional grassland-dependent wildlife species. Greater prairie chicken habitat has declined dramatically in recent years due to 1) loss of Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acres and 2) conversion of grasslands; (including remnant native prairie), to row crop production.

This partnership protects native and restored prairies, sedge meadows, and other types of grasslands and associated wetlands to promote the growth and stability of greater prairie chicken populations. This is a very focused proposal with the priority of protecting remnant prairies within core and corridor areas of the Minnesota Prairie Conservation Plan. Our proposed tracts were identified as high priority greater prairie chicken habitat with willing sellers who have an interest in preserving wildlife values. These tracts were ranked as high priority for greater prairie chicken habitat based on six criteria including: 1) distance to the nearest prairie chicken lek; 2) location in or outside of a core area from the Minnesota Prairie Conservation Plan (MPCP); 3) distance to the nearest public hunting land (WPA or WMA); 4) tract size; 5) current grassland type (native prairie, restored prairie, brome, or row crop;) and 6) wetland density and predicted waterfowl breeding pairs (wetlands can provide important habitat for prairie chickens over their annual life cycle). All projects acquired under this proposal will be restored and/or enhanced to be productive grassland habitat as part of the grant activity.

By protecting, restoring, and enhancing grasslands and wetlands in the right areas, this partnership delivers on many of the goals of stateside conservation plans. In fact, one ecosystem measure of the MPCP success is to have stable or increasing greater prairie chicken populations in Minnesota. The MPCP is ideally suited for greater prairie chicken management with core areas containing large contiguous blocks of grassland and smaller grassland patches scattered across the landscape called corridors that allow birds to maintain populations outside the core areas as well as move across the landscape. In addition to grassland conservation, most tracts have extensive wetlands. Restoring and maintaining these wetlands will have several benefits including water storage, sequestering and storing carbon, water quality, diversity of flora and fauna, and reducing erosion. Providing secure habitat for greater prairie chickens also provides habitat for a host of other grassland species.

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?

The Greater Prairie-Chicken is an indicator of prairie habitat quantity and quality. As such there are a number of game, non-game, and Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN) that benefit from this partnership's results. MN Prairie Chicken Society (PCS) and Pheasants Forever (PF) work with Minnesota Department of Natural

Resources (MN DNR) and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) staff to identify rare, threatened, and endangered species that occur on or near a project. SGCN for the proposal area includes 35 vertebrate animals, 59 plants, and 13 invertebrate animals. Many of the proposed tracts contain native prairie communities as mapped by the Minnesota Biological Survey. Depending on the quality, these native tracts likely have a number of T&E prairie-dependent species on them which will be protected. This proposal aims to increase greater prairie chicken numbers in Minnesota by adding to and creating a connected system of grassland habitats across the landscape. In this way, we are addressing the limiting factor to greater prairie chicken populations, while also building more protected high-quality habitats for rare, threatened, and endangered species. We work in close coordination with partners and land managers on the restoration and enhancement of all acquired tracts as well. When SGCN are located on or near project tracts, this can affect methods used in restoration in order to provide maximum benefit for those species.

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

Proposed tracts continue to face threats of conversion from drainage, gravel mining, wind development, and row crops. Habitat conversion results in the elimination of prairie-chicken leks, and remnant prairie, which would be detrimental to the future viability of greater prairie chickens in Minnesota. Without action, we will likely continue to see greater prairie chicken declines in Minnesota. Many of the proposed tracts contain native prairie. If left unprotected, the conversion of these tracts would result in the loss of natural heritage features at these sites, which include not only the native prairie plant community but also rare wildlife, plants, and invertebrates that call these sites home.

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 proposal is fully integrated into the MPCP. Most of the tracts listed are within core areas, have remnant native prairie on them, and are adjacent to existing WMAs/WPAs. Most tracts are within less than a half-mile of known greater prairie chicken habitat and leks. The latest geospatial data, such as that from the MN County Biological Survey, the Minnesota Prairie Conservation Plan, the MN Wildlife Action Plan among others will be utilized to review potential tracts. We also strive to protect habitat where we will have the best return on investment and have the greatest impact on prairie-chicken populations. Close coordination with local resource managers will further ensure that this partnership is delivering the best results for the investment.

A recent study by MN DNR researcher, Dr. Charlotte Roy, and collaborators Dr. Andrew Gregory (Bowling Green State University) and Eric Nelson (MN DNR), informs us about landscape connectivity gaps for greater prairie chickens. Using landscape genetic techniques, Dr. Roy and her colleagues observed that greater prairie chickens in the northern part of the sampled area, near Glacial Ridge National Wildlife Refuge, are not well connected to greater prairie chickens in Clay, Otter Tail, and Wilkin counties to the south. Their findings suggest that providing quality grassland habitat in Norman and Polk counties should be a priority to improve connectivity in the planned corridor. The genetic data obtained also indicate that birds in Norman County are moving less than other areas, which could put them at risk for inbreeding in the future, particularly if habitat needs are not addressed. To begin addressing this conservation need, the researchers recommend increasing grassland quantity and improving grassland quality near areas from which greater prairie chickens can expand, to begin making connections between core areas in the planned corridor.

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

- H1 Protect priority land habitats

- H3 Improve connectivity and access to recreation

Which two other plans are addressed in this proposal?

- Grassland Conservation Plan for Prairie Grouse
- Minnesota Prairie Conservation Plan

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

Our results directly contribute to the primary goal of each identified plan; restoration and protection of additional wetland/grassland habitat complexes. The MPCP's 25-year goal is to permanently protect through fee title acquisition 222,100 acres in core areas, 82,000 acres in corridors, and 547,300 acres elsewhere in the agricultural matrix. The Grassland Conservation Plan for Prairie Grouse has a goal of 65,250,955 acres of grassland restoration in 10 bird conservation regions across the great plains. Our partnership proposal contributes to these goals by permanently protecting and restoring 1,732 acres of high quality, priority grassland and wetland habitat.

Which LSOHC section priorities are addressed in this proposal?

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

Prairie

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

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:

This partnership protects and restores 1,732 acres that become a permanent part of the grassland habitat base for many species of wildlife. All lands protected will be restored and transferred to the MN DNR as a Wildlife Management Area (WMA), or to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as a Waterfowl Production Area (WPA). These agencies will provide the long-term management required to maintain the biological productivity of these lands.

What other fund may contribute to this proposal?

- N/A

Does this proposal include leveraged funding?

Yes

Explain the leverage:

This proposal will bring \$1,239,000 of leverage funds to increase the accomplishments of acquisition and restoration activities. This leverage will come from The Minnesota Prairie Chicken Society, Pheasants Forever, Federal funds, as well as privately raised sources.

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

Non-OHF Appropriations

Year	Source	Amount
Annual	-	None

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

All lands will be enrolled into the WMA or WPA system and will be managed in perpetuity by the MNDNR or USFWS, respectively. All acquisitions will be restored and/or enhanced to as high quality as practicable, with the knowledge that quality and comprehensive restorations utilizing native species result in lower management costs. In addition, local PF chapter members and volunteers maintain significant interest in seeing the habitat and productivity of acquired parcels are high. MPCs, PF, MNDNR and USFWS will develop an ecological restoration and management plan for each parcel. Grant and partner dollars will be used for the initial site development and restoration/enhancement work.

Actions to Maintain Project Outcomes

Year	Source of Funds	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3
Post Transfer - WMA	DNR - Game and Fish Funds	Standard long-term maintenance; fire, invasives control, etc	-	-
Post Transfer - WPA	USFWS - Federal	Standard long-term maintenance; fire, invasives control, etc	-	-

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

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.

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.

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, 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.

How will the program directly involve, engage, and benefit BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color) and diverse communities:

The goals of this program are specifically designed to improve wildlife habitat and public spaces for the benefit of all people regardless of race. Additionally, Pheasants Forever is undertaking an organization wide initiative to design, develop and implement a foundational plan to increase the inclusion of BIPOC communities inside and outside of our organization, and to ensure there's a sense of belonging among all people within Pheasants Forever and Quail Forever.

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

Describe any measures to inform local governments of land acquisition under their jurisdiction:

At minimum, we will notify local government in writing of the intent to acquire and donate lands to the state and follow up with questions prior to the 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

Describe the permanent protection and justification for additional protection:

Because we are working within priority habitat areas, it is possible that parcels could have perpetual easements on a portion of them. If a parcel has a perpetual easement and is deemed a high priority by the partners, we will follow guidance established by the Outdoor Heritage Fund to proceed, or use non-state funding to acquire 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

Where does the activity take place?

- WMA
- WPA
- Refuge Lands

Land Use

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

Yes

Explain what will be planted:

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

Describe any variation from the State of Minnesota regulations:

No variation from State of MN regulations for WMA acquisitions.

All WPA acquisitions will be open to the public taking of fish and game during the open season according to the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act, United States Code, title 16, section 668dd, et seq.

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

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 proposal's funding and availability?

Yes

Other OHF Appropriation Awards**Have you received OHF dollars in the past through LSOHC?**

Yes

Approp Year	Approp Amount Received	Amount Spent to Date	Leverage Reported in AP	Leverage Realized to Date	Acres Affected in AP	Acres Affected to Date	Complete/Final Report Approved?
2020	\$2,264,000	\$264,359	\$272,000	\$287,995	400	150	No
2019	\$2,558,000	\$2,331,653	\$26,800	\$309,507	667	1,076	No
2018	\$1,162,000	\$947,773	\$12,100	\$22,800	303	324	No
2017	\$1,908,000	\$1,602,821	\$23,400	\$161,793	586	619	No
2016	\$2,269,000	\$2,082,655	\$28,800	\$50,173	650	702	No
2015	\$1,800,000	\$1,762,041	\$25,000	\$420,947	500	614	Yes

Timeline

Activity Name	Estimated Completion Date
Identify priority acquisitions	07/01/2022
Contract appraisals ordered	09/01/2022
Purchase agreements	02/01/2023
Re-evaluate tract priority	02/14/2023

Contract appraisals ordered	04/01/2023
Purchase agreements	09/01/2023
Close on tracts	01/01/2025
Restorations completed	06/30/2027

Budget

Totals

Item	Funding Request	Antic. Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	\$120,000	-	-	\$120,000
Contracts	\$1,005,000	-	-	\$1,005,000
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	\$4,000,000	\$600,000	Federal, Private, PF, MPCS	\$4,600,000
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	\$4,000,000	\$600,000	Federal, Private, PF, MPCS	\$4,600,000
Easement Acquisition	-	-	-	-
Easement Stewardship	-	-	-	-
Travel	\$12,000	-	-	\$12,000
Professional Services	\$215,000	-	-	\$215,000
Direct Support Services	\$42,000	\$39,000	PF	\$81,000
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	\$96,000	-	-	\$96,000
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	-	-	-	-
Supplies/Materials	\$325,000	-	-	\$325,000
DNR IDP	\$42,000	-	-	\$42,000
Grand Total	\$9,857,000	\$1,239,000	-	\$11,096,000

Personnel

Position	Annual FTE	Years Working	Funding Request	Antic. Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
PF Grants Staff	0.15	3.0	40000	-	-	\$40,000
PF Field Staff	0.2	3.0	55000	-	-	\$55,000
State Coordinator - MN	0.08	3.0	25000	-	-	\$25,000

Amount of Request: \$9,857,000

Amount of Leverage: \$1,239,000

Leverage as a percent of the Request: 12.57%

DSS + Personnel: \$162,000

As a % of the total request: 1.64%

Easement Stewardship: -

As a % of the Easement Acquisition: -

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, MPCS 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

If the project received 70% of the requested funding

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

If this project is reduced by 30% we would scale down all acres/activities and dollar amounts proportionately.

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

Personnel and DSS will be scaled down proportionately.

If the project received 50% of the requested funding

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

If this project is reduced by 50% we would scale down all acres/activities and dollar amounts proportionately.

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

Personnel and DSS will be scaled down proportionately.

Personnel

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.

Contracts

What is included in the contracts line?

Contract funding will be used for restoration, enhancement of the protected acres as well as \$30,000 for adjacent public land work where practical. This could include but is not limited to wetland/grassland restoration, tree removal, prescribed fire, building removal, signs, posts, and other development activities.

Fee Acquisition

What is the anticipated number of fee title acquisition transactions?

We anticipate 13 fee title acquisition transactions

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

n/a

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?

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 4.84%. 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.

Federal Funds

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?

07/01/2022

Output Tables

Acres by Resource Type (Table 1)

Type	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat	Total Acres
Restore	0	30	0	0	30
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	851	0	0	851
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	0	851	0	0	851
Protect in Easement	0	0	0	0	0
Enhance	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	1,732	0	0	1,732

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

Type	Native Prairie (acres)
Restore	0
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	50
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	0
Protect in Easement	0
Enhance	0
Total	50

Total Requested Funding by Resource Type (Table 2)

Type	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat	Total Funding
Restore	-	\$30,000	-	-	\$30,000
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	\$4,913,500	-	-	\$4,913,500
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	\$4,913,500	-	-	\$4,913,500
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	\$9,857,000	-	-	\$9,857,000

Acres within each Ecological Section (Table 3)

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest	Total Acres
Restore	0	0	0	30	0	30
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	425	0	426	0	851
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	0	340	0	511	0	851
Protect in Easement	0	0	0	0	0	0
Enhance	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	765	0	967	0	1,732

Total Requested Funding within each Ecological Section (Table 4)

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest	Total Funding
Restore	-	-	-	\$30,000	-	\$30,000
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	\$2,456,800	-	\$2,456,700	-	\$4,913,500
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	\$1,965,400	-	\$2,948,100	-	\$4,913,500
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	\$4,422,200	-	\$5,434,800	-	\$9,857,000

Average Cost per Acre by Resource Type (Table 5)

Type	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat
Restore	-	\$1,000	-	-

Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	\$5,773	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	\$5,773	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-
Enhance	-	-	-	-

Average Cost per Acre by Ecological Section (Table 6)

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest
Restore	-	-	-	\$1,000	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	\$5,780	-	\$5,766	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	\$5,780	-	\$5,769	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	-	-	-	-	-

Target Lake/Stream/River Feet or Miles

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 protected to provide accelerated wildlife habitat and public access, monitored by Minnesota DNR of United States FWS. Protected and restored acres will be measured against goals outlined in the "Minnesota's Wildlife Management Area Acquisition - The Next 50 Years" and "Minnesota Prairie Conservation Plan".*

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 protected to provide accelerated wildlife habitat and public access, monitored by Minnesota DNR of United States FWS. Protected and restored acres will be measured against goals outlined in the "Minnesota's Wildlife Management Area Acquisition - The Next 50 Years" and "Minnesota Prairie Conservation Plan".*

Parcels

Sign-up Criteria?

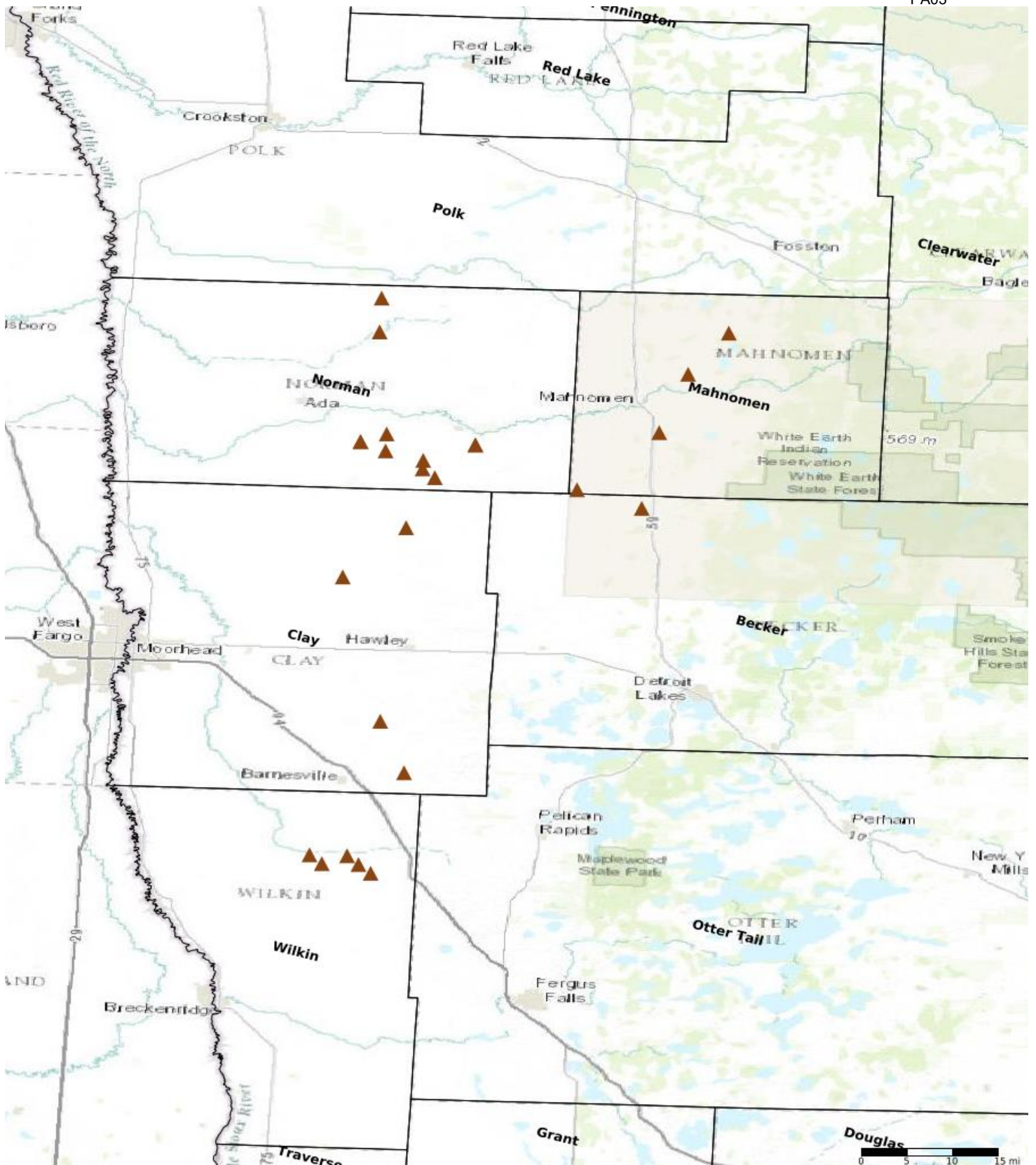
No

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

Parcels are identified and strategically prioritized using the best science and decision support tools (e.g. Prairie Conservation Plan Maps) available. Preference is given to project sites that both help deliver the goals of other recognized conservation initiatives and that build habitat in critical prairie chicken areas. Data layers (i.e. MN Biological Survey, Natural Heritage Database, MN Wildlife Action 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.

Protect Parcels

Name	County	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection
Spring Creek WMA addition	Becker	14242212	320	\$640,000	No
New WMA	Clay	14145230	622	\$2,500,000	No
Barnesville WMA Addition	Clay	13745224	40	\$80,000	No
Ulen WMA Addition	Clay	14245225	320	\$640,000	No
Clay County WMA addition	Clay	13845222	160	\$512,000	No
Vanose WMA addition	Mahnomen	14641225	309	\$575,000	No
Coburn WMA addition	Mahnomen	14342231	160	\$416,000	No
Santwire WMA Addition	Mahnomen	14441230	930	\$3,200,000	No
Rush WMA	Mahnomen	14541221	185	\$400,000	No
Agassiz Olson WMA addition	Norman	14645209	54	\$81,000	No
Twin Valley WMA	Norman	14344229	40	\$80,000	No
Vagsness WMA addition, Tract 8	Norman	14344202	60	\$100,000	No
Vagsness WMA addition, Tract 5	Norman	14344202	40	\$40,000	No
Rockwell WMA addition	Norman	14345205	100	\$150,000	No
Neal WMA addition	Norman	14344219	20	\$80,000	No
Neal WMA addition	Norman	14344218	320	\$960,000	No
Dalby WMA addition	Norman	14345210	160	\$320,000	No
Agassiz Olson WMA addition	Norman	14645233	120	\$240,000	No
Rockwell WMA addition	Norman	14445234	160	\$512,000	No
Rockwell WMA addition	Norman	14345205	82	\$164,000	No
Rothsay WMA addition	Wilkin	13545221	40	\$128,000	No
Rothsay WMA addition	Wilkin	13546214	320	\$1,024,000	No
Rothsay WMA addition	Wilkin	13545207	160	\$512,000	No
Rothsay WMA addition	Wilkin	13545217	480	\$1,536,000	No
Rothsay WMA addition	Wilkin	13546210	320	\$960,000	No

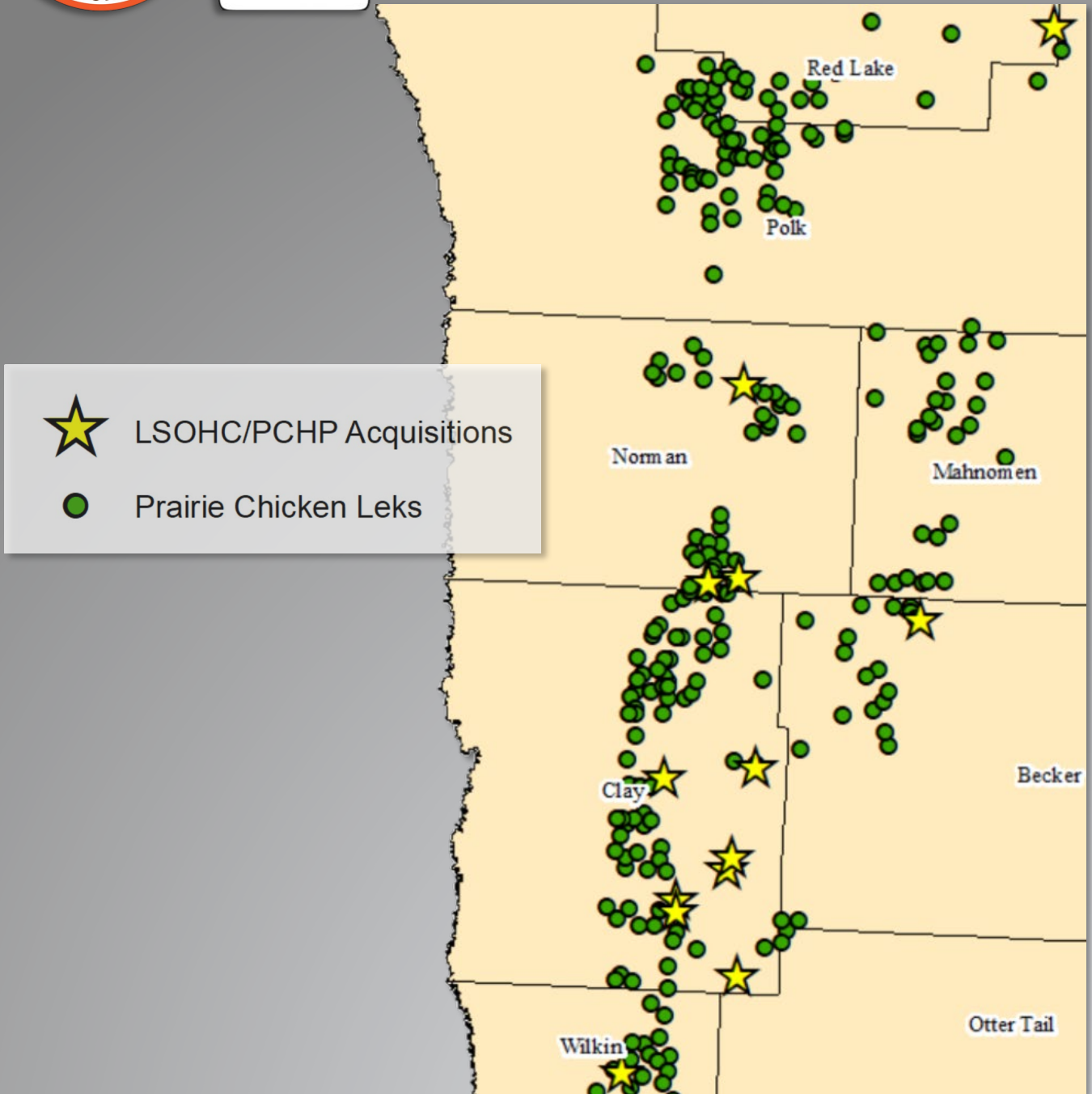


- Protect in Easement
- ▲ Protect in Fee with PILT
- Protect in Fee W/O PILT
- ★ Restore
- ✕ Enhance
- ⊕ Other

Parcel Map
Prairie Chicken Habitat Partnership of the
Southern Red River Valley - Phase VIII
(Data Generated From Parcel List)







Prairie Chicken Habitat Partnership of the Southern Red River Valley - Phase VIII

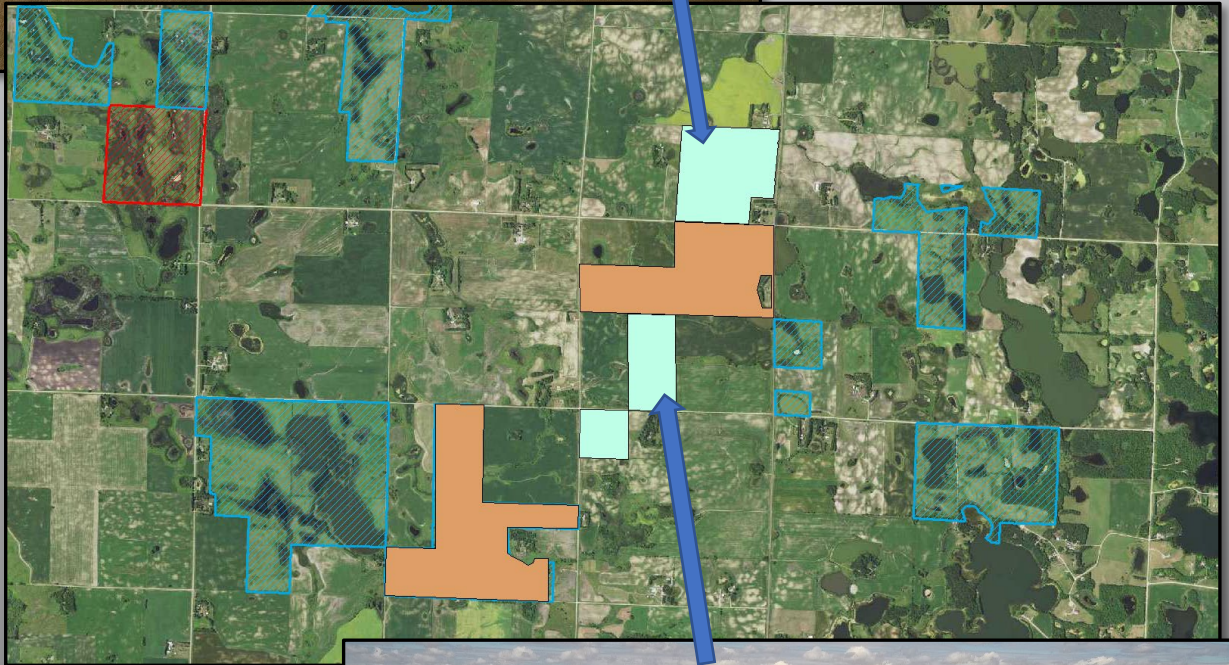


The objective of the Prairie Chicken Habitat Partnership is to build more permanently protected quality grassland habitat around existing prairie chicken leks. This objective is an integral component to the growth of the prairie chicken populations in Minnesota.

Anfinson WPA Habitat Complex



-  PCHP Acquisitions
-  Accelerating the WPA Program Acquisitions
-  Waterfowl Production Area
-  Wildlife Management Area



Pictured top (150 acres) and bottom (120 acres), are two recent PCHP acquisitions in Clay County. These tracts build onto other Outdoor Heritage funded acquisitions and once restored will help to create large grassland habitat complexes that are essential to growing and sustaining the MN prairie chicken population

