



Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

Wetland Habitat Protection and Restoration Program - Phase 9
ML 2024 Request for Funding

General Information

Date: 06/23/2023

Proposal Title: Wetland Habitat Protection and Restoration Program - Phase 9

Funds Requested: \$3,180,000

Confirmed Leverage Funds: \$1,062,500

Is this proposal Scalable?: Yes

Manager Information

Manager's Name: Wayne Ostlie

Title: Director of Land Protection

Organization: Minnesota Land Trust

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Location Information

County Location(s): Otter Tail, Grant, Douglas, Todd, Kandiyohi, Stevens, Swift, Pope and Big Stone.

Eco regions in which work will take place:

- Forest / Prairie Transition
- Prairie
- Northern Forest

Activity types:

- Restore
- Enhance

Priority resources addressed by activity:

- Wetlands

- Prairie
- Forest
- Habitat

Narrative

Abstract

The Wetland Habitat Protection and Restoration Program implements conservation of high priority wetland habitat complexes within Minnesota's Prairie, Forest-Prairie Transition and Northern Forest areas. Phase 9 of the Wetlands Program will focus on restoration and enhancement of 1,408 acres of high priority wetlands and associated prairies to benefit important waterfowl and SGCN populations. Restoration and enhancement work will be managed by the Minnesota Land Trust, in partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. All restorations are on private lands permanently protected through conservation easements held by the USFWS and the Land Trust.

Design and Scope of Work

Wetlands and shallow lakes provide the essential backbone for the survival of waterfowl and other important wildlife species. In fact, more than 50% of Minnesota's Species in Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN) use wetlands during their life cycle. Most of the plans developed to protect Minnesota's wildlife—including Minnesota's Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy, the Statewide Conservation and Preservation Plan, and the Long Range Duck Recovery Plan—cite the protection and restoration of the state's remaining wetlands as one of the top priorities to achieve the State's conservation goals.

Minnesota Land Trust's Wetland Habitat Protection and Restoration Program area extends from Meeker County northwest to Becker County, located along a vast glacial moraine system in western Minnesota. This prairie pothole country is the core of Minnesota's "duck factory" and is central to one of North America's most important flyways for migratory waterfowl. To date, the Land Trust has procured 39 conservation easements protecting 5,785 acres of habitat and 57.5 miles of shoreline, and has 4,350 acres of restoration/enhancement complete or underway.

Phase 9 will add to these accomplishments by restoring or enhancing 1,408 acres of important prairie and wetland habitats on permanently protected private lands in partnership with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program. The Land Trust and USFWS will also work with landowners to develop additional shovel ready R/E projects. The Land Trust will continue to implement our criteria-based ranking system and market-based approach for purchasing conservation easements. However, unlike all previous phases, the Land Trust is not requesting easement acquisition funding in this Phase in order to continue to fulfill Accomplishment Plan Outputs for previous phases recommended by LSOHC.

The Prairie Plan and other data sets/plans were used to focus and shape our Wetlands Program plan and identify important wetland complexes in this landscape based on the nexus of high-quality habitat, existing protected areas and restorable agricultural lands. These complexes include a mosaic of wetland, prairie/grassland, and forest habitats, and agricultural land. Outcomes from this project include: 1) healthy wetland habitat complexes and associated populations of waterfowl, upland birds, and SGCN; 2) improved water quality; 3) increased participation of private landowners in habitat conservation projects; and 4) enhancement of prior public investments in wetland and upland habitat conservation.

Explain how the proposal addresses habitat protection, restoration, and/or enhancement for fish, game & wildlife, including threatened or endangered species conservation

Our Wetland Habitat Protection and Restoration Program addresses LSOHC priorities by protecting and restoring/enhancing wetland and grassland complexes that provide critical habitat for Minnesota's wildlife, especially its migratory waterfowl and prairie-pothole associated species.

Minnesota's wetlands are essential to our wildlife abundance, health and diversity. This project directly benefits SGCN and other important game and non-game wildlife species by restoring and enhancing their habitats degraded by detrimental agricultural practices, or imprudent land management. Our objective is to rebuild wetland habitat complexes that include a mosaic of wetlands, grasslands and woodlands. Priority projects may be near high or outstanding habitat as identified in Minnesota Biological Survey data or be located near other protected lands to help build larger habitat complexes comprised of both public and private lands. The vast majority of this landscape is in private ownership. For that reason, working with private owners is key to successful habitat conservation in this region. We also work closely with other conservation partners in the region to identify where coordination can make significant contributions to building large-scale habitat complexes.

What are the elements of this proposal that are critical from a timing perspective?

The Land Trust and USFWS have been active in this landscape for more than 15 years and have successfully built a portfolio of protected lands within the Program area. However, we have a significant backlog of R/E needs related to the wetlands and grasslands that have been protected. There is an immediate need to provide quality habitat for SGCN and waterfowl whose populations are currently reduced. There is also a strong interest from landowners to engage in R/E activities as lakeshore and land development pressure increases in the region.

Describe how the proposal expands habitat corridors or complexes and/or addresses habitat fragmentation:

This program is focused on procuring easements and restoring prairie and wetland habitats on protected lands within priority complexes of wetlands and associated upland habitats, as guided by the State Wildlife Action Plan, Duck Plan and Prairie Plan. The R/E program serves to build upon past conservation investment in the program area, expand the footprint of quality habitat, facilitate the creation of habitat corridors, and reduce the potential for fragmentation. Minnesota Biological Survey data is cornerstone to our assessment of potential conservation project evaluations; we also conduct field visits to further identify and assess condition of habitat prior to project implementation because many private lands were remotely assessed by MBS. Project selection and development is based on the amount of existing habitat on the property, the potential for adding quality habitat and the project's context relative to nearby habitats.

Which Conservation Plans referenced in MS97A.056, subd. 3a are most applicable to this project?

- Long Range Duck Recovery Plan
- Minnesota's Wildlife Action Plan 2015-2025

Explain how this proposal will uniquely address habitat resilience to climate change and its anticipated effects on game, fish & wildlife species utilizing the protected or restored/enhanced habitat this proposal targets.

The Minnesota Land Trust's restoration program uses a two-prong approach to addressing habitat resilience to climate change: 1) we prioritize projects that most support regional climate adaptation strategies such as improving migration corridors or habitat complexes, and 2) we include adaptive specifications in every project,

such as using climate forward seed mixes and designing wetland features for future precipitation patterns.

Within the Wetlands Habitat Protection and Restoration Program increasing the number and distribution of wetland-prairie complexes within the flyway improves the habitat selection opportunities for waterfowl and SGCN species, resulting in an increase in the regional resilience to climate change. Climate forward seed mixes include enhanced proportions of plant species of the native plant communities that are expected to maintain or increase under future climate scenarios.

Which LSOHC section priorities are addressed in this proposal?

Forest / Prairie Transition

- Protect, enhance, and restore migratory habitat for waterfowl and related species, so as to increase migratory and breeding success

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

Prairie

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

Describe how this project/program will produce and demonstrate a significant and permanent conservation legacy and/or outcomes for fish, game, and wildlife, and if not permanent outcomes, why it is important to undertake at this time:

The Minnesota Land Trust and USFWS focus their protection, restoration and enhancement work on key wetland, prairie and other habitats within Minnesota's Prairie Pothole area, guided by the Minnesota Prairie Plan, Duck Plan and State Wildlife Action Plan. We protect habitat through acquisition of perpetual conservation easements and the permanent restoration of native habitats. We work in partnership with local, state and federal agencies and non-profit conservation partners to ensure our activities are complementary to those undertaken by others working in the program area. By doing this, we are building complexes of high-quality protected habitat, reducing fragmentation concerns and providing for connectivity between core habitat areas that will enable species to move freely.

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 ~ *This program will restore/enhance 811 acres of wetlands and prairies in the forest-prairie transition region. Measure: Acres acres restored; acres enhanced.*

Programs in prairie region:

- Remnant native prairies and wetlands are perpetually protected and adequately buffered ~ *This program will restore/enhance 597 acres of wetlands and prairies in the prairie region. Measure: Acres acres restored; acres enhanced.*

What other dedicated funds may collaborate with or contribute to this proposal?

- N/A

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.

Funding procured by MLT through the Outdoor Heritage Fund through this proposal will not supplant or substitute any previous funding from a non-Legacy fund used for the same purpose.

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

USFWS and MLT (as easement holders on respective properties) will work with landowners on an ongoing basis to provide habitat restoration plans, resources, and technical expertise to undertake restoration, enhancement, and ongoing management of these properties. The partnership between USFWS and MLT also includes the landowners we work with. The landowners who participate in this partnership have a landowner agree that states they must maintain the habitat restored. The level of dedication they have to their land makes what we do possible and propels our work far beyond each phase. We could not be successful without them.

Actions to Maintain Project Outcomes

Year	Source of Funds	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3
Every 4-6 years	USFWS, Landowners, MLT	Prescribed fire, tree control, invasive species control	-	-

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

One of the Minnesota Land Trust’s core public values is a commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion. We have been engaged in a year-long process to assess how the conservation community—and the Minnesota Land Trust in particular—can better address these issues. To date, we have demonstrated this commitment when possible given the funding parameters and our unique role in working with private landowners, including numerous projects to protect the camps and nature centers that serve a diversity of Minnesota youth and a long-term partnership with the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa on wild rice restoration. Going forward, we intend to build on this engagement by using diversity, equity, and inclusion as a lens in project, partner, and contractor selection. In each of our program areas, we intend to listen and seek out potential, authentic partnerships that can advance our goals of conserving the best of Minnesota’s remaining habitats and, at the same time, being a more inclusive organization. One related program we are exploring is a new “Ambassador Lands Program” which would connect willing conservation landowners to diverse community groups that need access to land for a variety of programming purposes, such as youth mentor hunts, cultural or ceremonial use, conservation employment training, bird banding, and much more. This would add greatly to the more universal public benefits of conserved lands such as wildlife habitat, clean water, and climate mitigation. Finally, we welcome more conversations with the LSOHC and conservation community about how these values can be better manifest in all our shared work going forward.

Activity Details

Requirements

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

Yes

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 or on lands to be acquired in this program?

Yes

Where does the activity take place?

- Permanently Protected Conservation Easements

Land Use

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

Yes

Explain what will be planted:

Restoration/Enhancement:

Short-term use of agricultural crops is an accepted best practice for preparing a site for prairie restoration. For example, 1-2 rotations of soybeans could be used for restorations in order to control weed seedbeds prior to prairie planting. In some cases this necessitates the use of GMO treated products to facilitate herbicide use in order to control weeds present in the seedbank.

Will neonicotinoid pesticide products be used within any activities of this proposal?

No

Other OHF Appropriation Awards

Have you received OHF dollars in the past through LSOHC that are current OPEN appropriations?

Yes

Approp Year	Funding Amount Received	Amount Spent to Date	Funding Remaining	% Spent to Date
2023	\$3,012,000	-	-	-
2022	\$3,330,000	\$5,400	\$3,324,600	0.16%
2021	\$3,088,000	\$274,900	\$2,813,100	8.9%
2020	\$2,683,000	\$1,979,500	\$703,500	73.78%
2019	\$2,129,000	\$1,890,700	\$238,300	88.81%
2018	\$1,786,000	\$1,773,800	\$12,200	99.32%
Totals	\$16,028,000	\$5,924,300	\$10,103,700	36.96%

Timeline

Activity Name	Estimated Completion Date
Restoration and enhancement projects completed	June 30, 2028

Budget

Totals

Item	Funding Request	Total Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	\$600,000	\$32,500	USFWS	\$632,500
Contracts	\$2,402,600	\$30,000	USFWS	\$2,432,600
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	-	-	-	-
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	-	-	-	-
Easement Acquisition	-	\$1,000,000	USFWS	\$1,000,000
Easement Stewardship	-	-	-	-
Travel	\$9,400	-	-	\$9,400
Professional Services	\$5,000	-	-	\$5,000
Direct Support Services	\$162,000	-	-	\$162,000
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	-	-	-	-
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	\$500	-	-	\$500
Supplies/Materials	\$500	-	-	\$500
DNR IDP	-	-	-	-
Grand Total	\$3,180,000	\$1,062,500	-	\$4,242,500

Personnel

Position	Annual FTE	Years Working	Funding Request	Total Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
FWS Restoration Designer	0.1	4.0	-	\$32,500	USFWS	\$32,500
Restoration Staff	1.5	4.0	\$600,000	-	-	\$600,000

Amount of Request: \$3,180,000

Amount of Leverage: \$1,062,500

Leverage as a percent of the Request: 33.41%

DSS + Personnel: \$762,000

As a % of the total request: 23.96%

Easement Stewardship: -

As a % of the Easement Acquisition: -

Total Leverage (from above)	Amount Confirmed	% of Total Leverage	Amount Anticipated	% of Total Leverage
\$1,062,500	\$1,062,500	100.0%	-	0.0%

Detail leverage sources and confirmation of funds:

USFWS will provide \$1,000,000 in leverage in the form of newly acquired permanent conservation easements funded by the USFWS and the Migratory Bird Conservation Fund, plus \$62,500 of in-kind leverage for staff time, contracts and supplies for restoration and enhancement projects. All are confirmed.

Does this proposal 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?

We will reduce the number of R/E projects to best meet scaling requirements. Output acres will be reduced moderately less than proportional as some activities are fixed and necessary for program success.

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

Personnel and DSS will be scaled, but moderately less than proportional. Some costs are fixed (landowner recruitment; grant management) and must occur regardless of grant amount.

If the project received 30% of the requested funding

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

We will reduce the number of R/E projects to best meet scaling requirements. Output acres will be reduced moderately less than proportional as some activities are fixed and necessary for program success.

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

Personnel and DSS will be scaled, but moderately less than proportional. Some costs are fixed (landowner recruitment; grant management) and must occur regardless of grant amount. Projects can fail midstream after investment of time. Donation of easement value (high in this program) can inflate the number of projects pursued/completed.

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?

FTEs listed in the proposal are an estimate of the personnel time required to deliver the grant outputs included in this proposal. An array of staff may work on projects to complete legal review, sub-contracts, negotiating with landowners, drafting conservation documents, completing reports and managing the grant. MLT's basis for billing is by specific project ensuring allocation to the appropriate grant award. MLT uses a timesheet based payroll to ensure only personnel funds actually expended are used to achieve the goals of the grant.

Contracts

What is included in the contracts line?

Restoration and enhancement construction accounts for 100% of the contracts line amount.

Professional Services

What is included in the Professional Services line?

- Design/Engineering

Travel

Does the amount in the travel line include equipment/vehicle rental?

Yes

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

Land Trust staff regularly rents vehicles for grant-related purposes, which is a significant cost savings over use of personal vehicles.

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?

In a process that was approved by the DNR on March 17, 2017, Minnesota Land Trust determined our direct support services rate to include all of the allowable direct and necessary expenditures that are not captured in other line items in the budget, which is similar to the Land Trust's proposed federal indirect rate. We applied this DNR-approved rate only to personnel expenses to determine the total amount of direct support services requested through this grant.

Other Equipment/Tools

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

R/E tools and personal safety gear.

Federal Funds

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

Yes

Are the funds confirmed?

Yes

- Cash : \$30,000
- In Kind : \$32,500
- Other : \$1,000,000 USFWS easement acquisition (Migratory Bird Conservation Fund)

Is Confirmation Document attached?

[Yes](#)

Output Tables

Acres by Resource Type (Table 1)

Type	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat	Total Acres
Restore	150	110	0	0	260
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Easement	0	0	0	0	0
Enhance	156	992	0	0	1,148
Total	306	1,102	0	0	1,408

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

Type	Native Prairie (acres)
Restore	0
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	0
Protect in Easement	0
Enhance	114
Total	114

Total Requested Funding by Resource Type (Table 2)

Type	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat	Total Funding
Restore	\$312,800	\$260,800	-	-	\$573,600
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	\$216,200	\$2,390,200	-	-	\$2,606,400
Total	\$529,000	\$2,651,000	-	-	\$3,180,000

Acres within each Ecological Section (Table 3)

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest	Total Acres
Restore	0	260	0	0	0	260
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	0	0	0	0	0
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	551	0	597	0	1,148
Total	0	811	0	597	0	1,408

Total Requested Funding within each Ecological Section (Table 4)

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest	Total Funding
Restore	-	\$573,600	-	-	-	\$573,600
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	-	\$1,256,300	-	\$1,350,100	-	\$2,606,400
Total	-	\$1,829,900	-	\$1,350,100	-	\$3,180,000

Average Cost per Acre by Resource Type (Table 5)

Type	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat
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Restore	\$2,085	\$2,370	-	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-
Enhance	\$1,385	\$2,409	-	-

Average Cost per Acre by Ecological Section (Table 6)

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest
Restore	-	\$2,206	-	-	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	-	\$2,280	-	\$2,261	-

Target Lake/Stream/River Feet or Miles

0

Parcels

Sign-up Criteria?

No

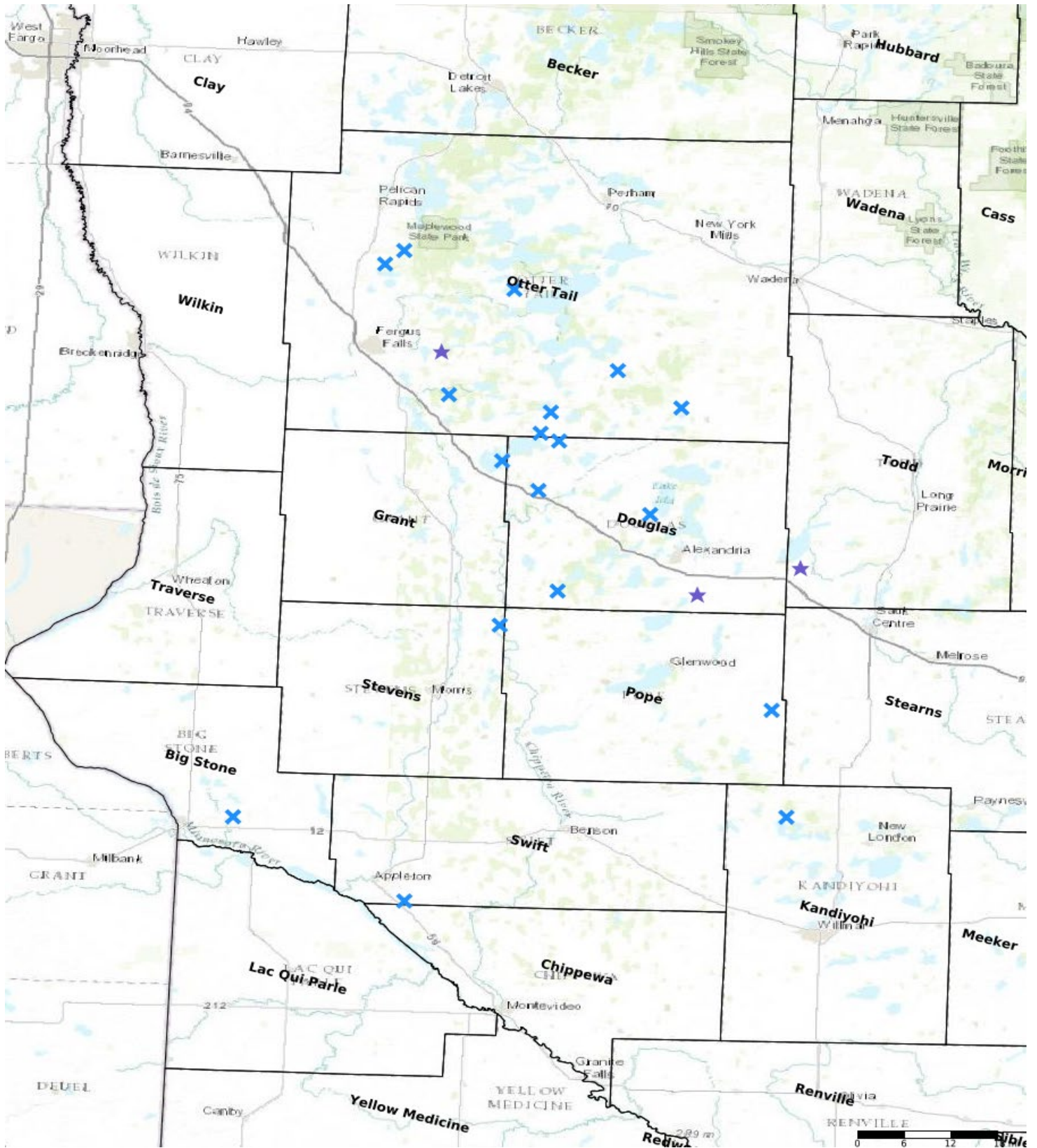
Explain the process used to identify, prioritize, and select the parcels on your list:

Restoration and enhancement work will take place on private lands over which MLT and USFWS have secured permanent conservation easements to protect wetlands and associated upland habitat. The projects included in the parcel list were identified as priorities for restoration/enhancement by USFWS staff in their Morris and Fergus Falls offices and MLT staff.

Restore / Enhance Parcels

Name	County	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection
HODE	Big Stone	12145205	56	\$21,000	Yes
ECOO	Douglas	12740224	80	\$200,000	Yes
DSCH	Douglas	12737221	10	\$50,000	Yes
MSWEPh2	Douglas	13040201	140	\$250,000	Yes
ESPO	Douglas	12940210	50	\$100,000	Yes
KWIL	Douglas	12938227	55	\$200,000	Yes
LCHRJ	Grant	13041224	17	\$51,000	Yes
NEAS	Kandiyohi	12235230	80	\$24,500	Yes
LLAKT	Otter Tail	13443202	140	\$350,000	Yes
BPRE	Otter Tail	13137207	20	\$40,000	Yes
DBOR	Otter Tail	13242202	110	\$200,000	Yes
TLAKB	Otter Tail	13440219	28	\$56,000	Yes
JMAR	Otter Tail	13142201	10	\$15,000	Yes
WEVAHPh2	Otter Tail	13140234	50	\$75,000	Yes
RKON	Otter Tail	13542230	54	\$50,000	Yes
KOLE	Otter Tail	13239213	95	\$150,000	Yes
KEVAFF	Otter Tail	13140214	160	\$225,000	Yes
JSON	Pope	12436211	52	\$40,000	Yes
SARK	Stevens	12641213	40	\$25,100	Yes
NRBY	Swift	12042232	21	\$100,000	Yes
OCOM	Todd	12835232	140	\$180,000	Yes

Parcel Map



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

Wetland Habitat Protection and Restoration Program

Phase 9



Request **\$3,180,000**

Leverage **\$1,062,500**

New USFWS easements \$1,000,000

R/E match from FWS \$62,500

Acres restored **1,408**

For more information:

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How Does the Program Support State Goals?

This program targets high-priority wetlands and associated upland habitat, advancing a primary goal identified by the Statewide Wildlife Action Plan through stabilization of Species in Greatest Conservation Need.

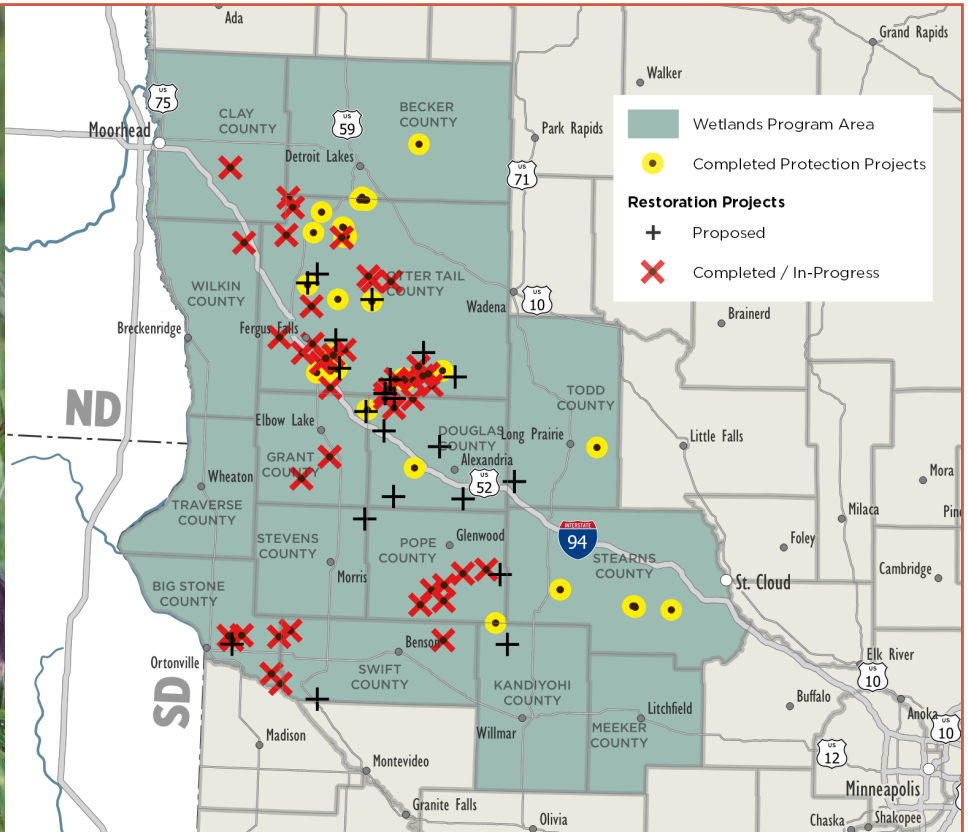
Protection and restoration of wetlands and grasslands are primary strategies identified in Minnesota's Prairie Conservation Plan, the Long Range Duck Recovery Plan, and the Long Range Plan for the Ring-Necked Pheasant in Minnesota.

This year Minnesota Land Trust will be focusing on the restoration and enhancement of the Wetlands Program. In partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Partners for Fish and Wildlife program, the Land Trust will restore and enhance 1,408 acres of important wetland and prairie habitat on private lands protected through conservation easement. This partnership will bring \$1,062,500 of leverage from the USFWS and the Migratory Bird Conservation Fund.



What Are the Outcomes?

- Healthy wetland habitat complexes and associated populations of waterfowl, upland birds, and Species in Greatest Conservation Need.
- Improved water quality.
- Increased participation of private landowners in habitat projects.
- Enhancement of prior public investment in wetland protection and restoration.



What has Been Accomplished to Date in the Program?

Complete (Phase 1 & 2):

Completed 23 conservation easements, protecting 2,987 acres of habitat and 31 miles of shoreline.

In Progress (Phases 3, 4, 5, 6, 7):

Sixteen conservation easements have been completed protecting 2,798 acres of habitat and over 25 miles of shoreline. So far, 374 acres of restoration/enhancement of wetland and prairie habitats have been completed with additional acres underway.

Planned (Phase 8):

Starting in July, we will begin the eighth phase of the program to protect 745 acres and restore/enhance an additional 945 acres of habitat.

The Wetland Habitat Protection Program has generated considerable interest among landowners in protecting these places. **Collectively they have contributed over \$12.9 million in easement value as leverage to the \$8.3 million spent by the Outdoor Heritage Fund.**

Contact Us

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Mission

The Minnesota Land Trust protects and restores Minnesota's most vital natural lands in order to provide wildlife habitat, clean water, outdoor experiences, and scenic beauty for generations to come.

