



Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

DNR Aquatic Habitat Restoration and Enhancement, Phase 9
Laws of Minnesota 2026 Accomplishment Plan

General Information

Date: 10/13/2025

Project Title: DNR Aquatic Habitat Restoration and Enhancement, Phase 9

Funds Recommended: \$5,583,000

Legislative Citation:

Appropriation Language:

Manager Information

Manager's Name: Dean Paron

Title: Stream Habitat Supervisor

Organization: Mn DNR Section of Fisheries

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Location Information

County Location(s): Cook, Pine, Rice, Wright, Becker, Swift, Hubbard, Olmsted, Stevens, Carver, Scott, Le Sueur, Freeborn, Blue Earth, Mower, Faribault, Kandiyohi, Fillmore, Wabasha, Redwood, Meeker, Douglas, Pope, Dakota, Washington, Clay, Marshall, Chisago, Kanabec, Itasca, Lake, St. Louis, Carlton, Crow Wing, Cass, Aitkin, Beltrami and Otter Tail.

Eco regions in which work will take place:

Northern Forest

Forest / Prairie Transition

Southeast Forest

Metro / Urban

Prairie

Activity types:

Enhance

Restore

Priority resources addressed by activity:

Habitat

Narrative**Abstract**

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MNDNR) will complete projects in 4 different rivers including a fish-passage projects and three channel-restoration projects that restore habitat for fish and other aquatic life, creating over 2 miles of diverse habitat. The funds will also be used to enhance 675 acres of riparian and terrestrial habitat on Aquatic Management Areas. The footprint of fish passage project is small, but projects will reconnect miles of lake and river habitat. Stream projects were selected from a statewide list, prioritized by factors such as ecological benefit, scale of impact, urgency of completion, and local

Design and Scope of Work

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MNDNR) annually updates a statewide list of stream habitat projects. Submissions come both from MNDNR staff and from partner organizations. Projects are prioritized based on scale-of-impact, urgency, local support, and critical habitat for rare species. Based on this list, MNDNR and our partners are proposing four fish passage projects and three channel restorations, leveraging \$4,514,000.00.

Access to different habitats is critical for fish and other aquatic organisms to complete various life stages. The habitats they use to spawn, live as juveniles, over-winter, and feed as adults may all be different. These habitats can be fairly unique, such as high-gradient riffles favored by many spawning fish and may be miles apart. When dams or other obstructions prevent aquatic life from reaching ideal habitat, they are forced to use less optimal locations that can reduce their success. In some cases, this leads to the complete loss of sensitive species upstream of a barrier. Modifying or removing the barriers through our four proposed fish passage projects would have a footprint of 1 acres but create upstream access to 3,821 acres of lake and river habitat and restore river ecological processes that have ecosystem wide benefits. This will benefit fish such as Walleye, Northern Pike, and Lake Sturgeon present in these rivers, as well as five mussel species classified as threatened or special concern.

Streams naturally form habitat through the meandering of the river. Deeper, slower habitat is created by scour into the bed of the river around the outside of bends, while faster water and a rockier bottom is found in the straight sections in between. Wood, overhanging vegetation, and boulders serve as important habitat. In degraded sections of river, these natural processes are disrupted. Degraded habitat affects all life stages of river fishes. Working with partners, we will restore over 5 miles of habitat on three streams. These restored reaches also will connect reaches of quality habitat.

We propose to enhance 675 acres of riparian habitat and associated uplands on 124 Aquatic Management Areas (AMA). The DNR manages these lands to protect critical shoreline habitat used by spawning fish, waterfowl, wading birds, reptiles and amphibians and species of special concern. Uplands in these parcels provide a buffer to protect water quality, and habitat for more terrestrial species. Our enhancement work includes shoreline

plantings, invasive species control, and prescribed burns. Projects are selected based on management guidance documents that have been written for each AMA.

Department resources for stream habitat work falls short of the need; funding from the Outdoor Heritage Fund has been critical to an acceleration of stream habitat work by the department and partners. Funding for two stream habitat specialists, and three AMA staff are included in this proposal. These positions provide critical technical assistance, and construction oversight to partners working on Legacy-funded restoration and enhancement projects. These positions improve coordination efficiency by providing single points of contact and enhance outcomes of aquatic habitat.

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

The Necktie and Bucks Mills projects are key components to Lake Sturgeon restoration efforts in the Red River basin. Lake Sturgeon are an important game species and also listed as a species of Special Concern in Minnesota. Dams that blocked migrations to spawning habitat, overharvest, and poor water quality contributed to the extirpation of Lake Sturgeon from the Red River basin in the early 1900's. Lake Sturgeon reintroduction in the Red River basin has been ongoing for 20 years and mature fish are being captured during spring surveys now. However, barriers such as this project, block upstream migrations of mature Lake Sturgeon on the Otter Tail River. Removing these barriers to fish passage is key to restoring a naturally reproducing population of Lake Sturgeon in the Red River basin.

Endangered and threatened species often rely on migratory corridors. Or AMA riparian parcels serve as important habitat corridors for threatened and endangered species. Restoring and enhancing these parcels provides the optimal habitat for these species to recover and reach other critical habitat. In North America riparian habitat has the most diverse and rich array of bird, amphibian, and mammal species, maintaining this habitat is critical for biodiversity as well as threatened and endangered species.

There are 68 species of greatest conservation need that utilize headwaters to large streams, including birds, turtles, frogs, fish, and insects. Stream habitat projects are not designed with one species in mind, but instead are intended to benefit multiple functions and habitats of the river both within the stream and in the riparian area, which will have benefits for rare species.

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

The projects on our list have local support that may not be present in the future if public sentiment were given time to change, which can happen with dam removal or modification projects.

Matching funds are currently available for \$4,514,000 of our projects. Completing these projects would take advantage of those funds while they are available.

There are multiple one-time federal funding opportunities for aquatic habitat restoration and enhancement. We have been aggressively pursuing these funding sources using Outdoor Heritage Fund appropriations as leverage. Working out the timing between federal funding and Outdoor Heritage Fund appropriations is always challenging so we only include federal funding that has already been committed as leverage. However, we will continue to aggressively pursue all federal funding opportunities with these appropriations.

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

Science-based targeting was used to identify, design, and prioritize restoration and enhancement projects included in this proposal. Projects were prioritized based on multiple criteria, including scale-of-impact, critical habitat, technical feasibility, and compatibility with other resource initiatives. Projects that benefit or reconnect areas of high or outstanding biological significance or lakes of biological significance are targeted and prioritized.

Our proposal features projects intended to reduce fragmentation. Dams and other obstructions in rivers fragment areas of suitable habitat, similar to when pieces of prairie are separated by large areas of row-crop farmland. By removing or modifying barriers in streams, we will allow fish and other aquatic life to move between different patches of habitat that may be critical for their life-processes, such as spawning. Connectivity also expands fishing opportunities by acting as a conduit for recolonization after catastrophic events such as drought happen in one portion of a watershed. We have prioritized fish passage projects that connect large areas of high-quality habitat.

Similarly, our stream channel restoration projects and AMA enhancement projects target reaches of river where habitat is poor due to past alterations. Lengths of poor habitat can themselves act as barriers to animal movement, where a fish may choose not to migrate through a reach without adequate depth or cover to reach more suitable habitat upstream. Restoring the stream channel removes that "barrier" of poor habitat that fragments the stream. In the process, we also create high-quality habitat within the formerly degraded reach.

Which top 2 Conservation Plans referenced in MS97A.056, subd. 3a are most applicable to this project?

Minnesota DNR Strategic Conservation Agenda

Red River of the North Fisheries Management Plan

Explain how this plan 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.

Improving fish passage is one of the most effective ways to help conserve vulnerable species and improve climate resilience. Access to different habitats is critical for fish and other aquatic organisms to complete various life stages. The habitats they use to spawn, live as juveniles, over-winter, and feed as adults may all be different. These habitats can be fairly unique, such as high-gradient riffles favored by many spawning fish and may be miles apart. When dams or other obstructions prevent aquatic life from reaching ideal habitat, they are forced to use less optimal locations that can reduce their success. These projects will also restore river processes that allow for rivers to adjust to changing hydrology associated with climate change and therefore remain more resilient in the future.

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

Metro / Urban

Enhance and restore coldwater fisheries systems

Northern Forest

Protect shoreland and restore or enhance critical habitat on wild rice lakes, shallow lakes, cold water lakes, streams and rivers, and spawning areas

Prairie

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

Southeast Forest

Protect, enhance, and restore habitat for fish, game, and nongame wildlife in rivers, cold-water streams, and associated upland habitat

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 ~ *The Bucks Mills project aligns with “Reconnect the Red” efforts (Goal #3, Red River Fisheries Management plan; Phase 2 Lake Sturgeon Restoration Plan), and the Otter Tail River 1W1P (“enhancing aquatic connectivity” goal). This multi-phase collaboration builds on 30 years of Red River connectivity progress to date, 47 of 79 major barriers on the Red River and Minnesota tributaries have been removed or modified to allow fish passage. For this project, we will compare warmwater fish communities before and after project completion. We will also compare catch rates for critical species before and after project completion as indicators of population.*

Programs in metropolitan urbanizing region:

Improved aquatic habitat indicators ~ *The Deer Lake Outlet on Mill Creek will evaluate instream habitat and use routine fish surveys to gauge changes to the fish community to compare to pre-project data. Our AMA enhancement program will monitor all projects to insure that outcome goals are being met by looking at the diversity and abundance of native plant species that are supported by project sites as compared to pre-project.*

Programs in the northern forest region:

Improved aquatic habitat indicators ~ *The Necktie project the coldwater and warmwater fish communities will be assessed before and after project completion. Our AMA enhancement program will monitor all projects to insure that outcome goals are being met by looking at the diversity and abundance of native plant species that are supported by project sites as compared to pre-project.*

Programs in prairie region:

Other ~ *The Pomme de Terre River at Chrissy Dam channel restoration project will use metrics that evaluate instream and floodplain habitat to assess our success also monitoring the geomorphic stability of the channel restoration. For the Woolen Mills dam passage project, we will use routine fish surveys to gauge changes to the fish community, and compare with pre-project data. Our AMA enhancement program will monitor all projects to*

insure that outcome goals are being met by looking at the diversity and abundance of native plant species that are supported by project sites as compared to pre-project.

Programs in southeast forest region:

Rivers, streams, and surrounding vegetation provide corridors of habitat ~ *In this region the Cascade Creek Phase II project will improve in-channel and riparian habitat. We will use metrics that evaluate instream and floodplain habitat to assess our success. Our AMA enhancement program will monitor all projects to insure that outcome goals are being met by looking at the diversity and abundance of native plant species that are supported by project sites as compared to pre-project.*

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 an acceleration of DNR aquatic habitat work to a level not attainable but for the appropriation.

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

MNDNR has multiple potential avenues that could be used for ongoing maintenance of projects, including the Game and Fish Fund which is supported by license sales, the Heritage Enhancement account funded by taxes on lottery tickets, funds raised through the sale of Trout Stamps, the General Fund, and people who volunteer to help the department with projects.

Actions to Maintain Project Outcomes

Year	Source of Funds	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3
Annual	Game and Fish	Inspect Project	Control Invasives	Make instream adjustments as needed

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

The DNR Aquatic Habitat Restoration and Enhancement proposal has the following specific ties to BIPOC and diverse communities:

- Projects included in this proposal provide benefits at the watershed scale. These benefits extend well beyond the footprint of each individual project and benefit all Minnesotans.
- Tribal partners have been significant partners in efforts to restore Lake Sturgeon in the Red River basin. Multiple projects included in this proposal contribute to these efforts.

DNR's OHF projects aim to serve all Minnesotans. At the same time, we are bringing more focus in all our work to BIPOC and diverse communities. The Minnesota DNR has adopted advancing diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) as a key priority in its strategic plan. The plan focuses on increasing the cultural competence of our staff, creating a workforce that is reflective of Minnesota, continuing to strengthen tribal consultation and building partnerships with diverse communities.

The OHF funds high quality habitat projects that provide ecosystem services like clean water and carbon sequestration that support environmental justice. OHF also supports public access and recreational opportunities on these lands. OHF projects and outcomes benefit BIPOC and diverse communities through recreational opportunities that are close-to-home, culturally responsive and accessible to Minnesotans with disabilities.

The DNR has diversity, equity and inclusion strategies that benefit all OHF projects:

- Multilingual and culturally specific hunting and fishing education programs take place on public lands.
- All hiring is equal opportunity, affirmative action, and veteran friendly. Contracting seeks out Targeted Group, Economically Disadvantaged and Veteran-Owned businesses.
- Public engagement seeks out BIPOC voices and involves diverse communities. Outreach and marketing of projects has this focus as well.
- Partnerships are at the center of all projects. Tribes in particular are consulted in all pertinent areas of the DNR's work, under EO 19-24.

Activity Details

Requirements

If funded, this program 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?

WMA

AMA

County/Municipal

Public Waters

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

Will insecticides or fungicides (including neonicotinoid and fungicide treated seed) be used within any activities of this program either in the process of restoration or use as food plots?

No

Timeline

Activity Name	Estimated Completion Date
Vegetation maintenance on fish passage and channel restoration projects	June 2029
Construction of fish passage and channel restoration projects	September 2029
Permitting and environmental review of fish passage and channel restoration projects	December 2027
Design of fish passage and channel restoration projects	March 2027

Date of Final Report Submission: 11/01/2030

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 for fee title acquisition of land 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, 2030;
- (2) money appropriated for restoring and enhancing land acquired with an appropriation in this section is available for four years after the acquisition date with a maximum end date of June 30, 2034;
- (3) money appropriated for restoring or enhancing other land is available until June 30, 2031;
- (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.

Totals

Item	Funding Request	Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	\$1,140,800	-	-	\$1,140,800
Contracts	\$4,287,900	\$2,214,000	City of Rochester, EPA 319 Federal Off-system bridge fund, Local Option sales tax	\$6,501,900
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	-	-	-	-
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	-	-	-	-
Easement Acquisition	-	-	-	-
Easement Stewardship	-	-	-	-
Travel	\$34,000	-	-	\$34,000
Professional Services	\$10,200	-	-	\$10,200
Direct Support Services	\$110,100	-	-	\$110,100
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	-	-	-	-
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	-	-	-	-
Supplies/Materials	-	-	-	-
DNR IDP	-	-	-	-
Grand Total	\$5,583,000	\$2,214,000	-	\$7,797,000

Personnel

Position	Annual FTE	Years Working	Funding Request	Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
AMA technician	1.0	2.0	\$153,600	-	-	\$153,600
Stream Habitat Specialist	2.0	2.0	\$577,200	-	-	\$577,200
AMA specialist	2.0	2.0	\$410,000	-	-	\$410,000

Amount of Request: \$5,583,000

Amount of Leverage: \$2,214,000

Leverage as a percent of the Request: 39.66%

DSS + Personnel: \$1,250,900

As a % of the total request: 22.41%

Easement Stewardship: -

As a % of the Easement Acquisition: -

How will this program accommodate the reduced appropriation recommendation from the original proposed requested amount?

We will implement stream and AMA projects based on our prioritized list, completing the highest priority projects with available funding.

Detail leverage sources and confirmation of funds:

Cascade Creek Phase II \$274,000 City of Rochester,

Necktie River \$290,000 EPA 319

Deer Lake Outlet \$900,000 Federal Off-system bridge fund, \$300 Local Option sales tax (1.2m tot)

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?

Projects come from a prioritized list. With partial funding, we would fund only the top projects from our list that fit within the amount allocated. At 50% funding, we estimate that we would still be able to achieve approximately 40-50% of enhancement and restoration acres.

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

Personnel would reduce to 30 to 40% of the requested amount. Staff time would focus on project coordination, administration, and project development.

Direct Support Services is determined by a standard DNR process taking into account the amount of funding and the number of allocations made with that funding.

Personnel

Has funding for these positions been requested in the past?

Yes

Contracts

What is included in the contracts line?

100% of contracts are for R/E work and CCMI crews.

\$3,841,260 for R/E work

\$446,640 for CCMI crews

Professional Services

What is included in the Professional Services line?

Surveys

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

All travel line costs will be used for mileage, food, and lodging.

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?

DNR calculates the program's fair share to pay for support costs directly related to and necessary for the appropriation, and an internal Service Level Agreement (contract) guarantees each program will receive the services for the calculated amount.

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	-	-	-	24	24
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	-	-	-	676	676
Total	-	-	-	700	700

Total Requested Funding by Resource Type (Table 2)

Type	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat	Total Funding
Restore	-	-	-	\$3,048,300	\$3,048,300
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	-	-	-	\$2,534,700	\$2,534,700
Total	-	-	-	\$5,583,000	\$5,583,000

Acres within each Ecological Section (Table 3)

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest	Total Acres
Restore	-	-	7	8	9	24
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	116	100	45	234	181	676
Total	116	100	52	242	190	700

Total Requested Funding within each Ecological Section (Table 4)

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest	Total Funding
Restore	-	-	\$1,239,500	\$846,300	\$962,500	\$3,048,300
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	\$117,200	\$101,600	\$20,800	\$2,136,300	\$158,800	\$2,534,700
Total	\$117,200	\$101,600	\$1,260,300	\$2,982,600	\$1,121,300	\$5,583,000

Average Cost per Acre by Resource Type (Table 5)

Type	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat
Restore	-	-	-	\$127,012
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-
Enhance	-	-	-	\$3,749

Average Cost per Acre by Ecological Section (Table 6)

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest
Restore	-	-	\$177,071	\$105,787	\$106,944
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	\$1,010	\$1,016	\$462	\$9,129	\$877

Target Lake/Stream/River Feet or Miles

2

Parcels

Parcel Information

Sign-up Criteria?

No

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

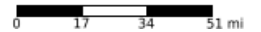
MN DNR uses a prioritized list to select stream habitat projects for submission. Project submissions are solicited from MN DNR staff as well as partner organizations. Criteria used to rank projects includes the scale of impact, critical habitat for rare species, the urgency of completing the project, feasibility, and local support. From that list we select the highest-ranked projects that we feel could be completed during the life of the OHF appropriation.

Restore / Enhance Parcels

Name	County	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection	Description
Spirit Lake	Aitkin	04627224	1	\$4,000	Yes	Buckthorn control
Big Cormorant Lk. - D Farnham/H. Bolley AMA	Becker	13843224	15	\$16,000	Yes	buckthorn
Bucks Mill - Culvert	Becker	13841231	1	\$800,000	Yes	Culvert Replacements
Bucks Mill AMA	Becker	13841231	10	\$9,000	Yes	buckthorn
Detroit Lakes Headquarters AMA	Becker	13842236	25	\$16,000	Yes	buckthorn
Long Lake AMA	Becker	13941211	5	\$5,000	Yes	wild parsnip
Toad Lake AMA	Becker	13938216	5	\$9,000	Yes	common tansy
Bemidji Lake South AMA	Beltrami	14633215	4	\$8,000	Yes	Invasive Spp. Control
Preece Point	Beltrami	14633230	10	\$2,500	Yes	Invasive Spp. Control
Ida Lake AMA	Blue Earth	10528212	5	\$20,000	Yes	homestead enhancement
Ida Lake AMA	Blue Earth	10528212	8	\$7,000	Yes	tree control
Blackhoof River	Carlton	04716230	10	\$45,000	Yes	Tree planting maintenance
Lotus Lake AMA	Carver	11623201	7	\$7,000	Yes	buckthorn/invasive control
Agate Rearing Pond	Cass	13529232	9	\$50,000	Yes	Invasives species control
Sunrise Lake	Chisago	03420217	10	\$10,000	Yes	Buckthorn Follow-up/Trash clean-up
Silver Lake AMA	Clay	13945225	30	\$9,500	Yes	Prescribed burn
Silver Lake AMA	Clay	13945225	20	\$6,000	Yes	invasives, birdsfoot
Cascade River AMA	Cook	06221204	5	\$21,000	Yes	Gap planting
Devil Track River AMA	Cook	06211201	5	\$5,000	Yes	Gap planting
Swamp River AMA	Cook	06304229	5	\$10,000	Yes	Gap planting
Bertha Moody lake	Crow Wing	13528232	100	\$4,000	Yes	Buckthorn follow-up
Nokasissippi River	Crow Wing	04529228	50	\$8,000	Yes	Ash Diversification
North Long Lake	Crow Wing	13428229	20	\$8,000	Yes	Oak TSI
Roosevelt	Crow Wing	13826204	30	\$8,000	Yes	Tree cage maintenance
South Branch Vermillion River AMA	Dakota	11418229	20	\$15,000	Yes	oak savanna maintenance
South Branch Vermillion River AMA	Dakota	11418229	30	\$8,500	Yes	prairie invasive control
Vermillion River AMA	Dakota	11418220	30	\$10,000	Yes	prairie invasive control
Bliss AMA	Douglas	13037221	10	\$3,300	Yes	buckthorn control
Ida Lake AMA	Douglas	12938226	12	\$13,400	Yes	buckthorn control
Jessie Lake AMA	Douglas	12837227	15	\$5,000	Yes	wild parsnip control
Miltona Lake AMA	Douglas	15750230	6	\$8,000	Yes	buckthorn control
Miltona Lake AMA	Douglas	15750230	30	\$10,000	Yes	caragana, thistles
Tegel's Slough AMA	Douglas	12838226	20	\$8,000	Yes	wild parsnip control
Blue Earth River AMA	Faribault	10428228	10	\$9,000	Yes	prescribed burn
Blue Earth River AMA	Faribault	10428228	50	\$4,200	Yes	tree control

Etna Creek AMA	Fillmore	10212236	20	\$8,000	Yes	wild parsnip/vetch control and prescribed burn
Lanesboro Hatchery AMA	Fillmore	10310226	45	\$32,000	Yes	prescribed burn
Juglans Woods AMA	Freeborn	10221225	22	\$15,000	Yes	tree control
Juglans Woods AMA	Freeborn	10221225	40	\$6,400	Yes	buckthorn control follow up
Lester Lake	Hubbard	14232232	5	\$10,000	Yes	Tree planting maintenance
Necktie River	Hubbard	14532222	57	\$4,000,000	Yes	Channel Restoration
Dixon Lake	Itasca	14829225	5	\$5,000	Yes	Prescribed burn/ native seeding
Little Knife	Kanabec	04424228	27	\$9,000	Yes	Rx Burn
Little Knife	Kanabec	04424228	20	\$9,000	Yes	Invasives
Games Lake AMA	Kandiyohi	12235232	30	\$7,000	Yes	garlic mustard control
Green Lake AMA	Kandiyohi	12034203	5	\$8,200	Yes	invasive/buckthorn control
Middle Lake AMA	Kandiyohi	12135209	4	\$1,750	Yes	garlic mustard control
New London Hatchery AMA	Kandiyohi	12134209	8	\$30,000	Yes	buckthorn and herbaceous invasives
Norway Lake AMA	Kandiyohi	12136206	5	\$9,400	Yes	garlic mustard/buckthorn control
East Beaver River	Lake	05608209	30	\$20,000	Yes	Spruce Budworm Rx/Tree Planting
East Beaver River	Lake	05608209	15	\$4,000	Yes	Ash Diversification
Manitou River	Lake	05806233	30	\$12,000	Yes	Planting following harvest/burn and within riparian (Cramer Lake parcel)
Split Rock River	Lake	05509217	15	\$2,000	Yes	Spruce Budworm Rx/Tree Planting- Round 2
Split Rock River	Lake	05509217	80	\$5,000	Yes	Ash Stand Girdling/Planting
Francis Lake AMA	Le Sueur	10924235	15	\$25,000	Yes	buckthorn control
Sakatah Lake AMA	Le Sueur	10922217	25	\$20,000	Yes	prescribed burn and interseeding
St Peter AMA	Le Sueur	11026214	17	\$12,800	Yes	buckthorn control
Waterville Hatchery AMA	Le Sueur	10923228	10	\$15,000	Yes	prescribed burn
Frank Rose	Marshall	15750230	20	\$10,000	Yes	Prairie enhancement; woody control, invasives
Frank Rose	Marshall	15750230	40	\$8,000	Yes	Prescribed burn
Hutchinson FMA	Meeker	11730235	10	\$5,000	Yes	buckthorn control
Minniebelle Lake AMA	Meeker	11831212	15	\$15,000	Yes	prescribed burn and interseeding
Minniebelle Lake AMA	Meeker	11831212	3	\$45,000	Yes	buckthorn control
North Fork Crow River AMA	Meeker	12132224	12	\$3,500	Yes	prescribed burn and interseeding
Cedar River AMA	Mower	10218215	17	\$15,000	Yes	prescribed burn and interseeding
Cascade Creek Phase II	Olmsted	10614205	8	\$952,000	Yes	Channel Restoration
Dead River Walker AMA	Otter Tail	13440211	12	\$20,000	Yes	Prescribed burn and native seeding
Dead River Walker AMA	Otter Tail	13440211	20	\$8,000	Yes	thistles, invasives
Eagle Lake AMA	Otter Tail	13140215	7	\$5,000	Yes	buckthorn, honeysuckle
East Lost Lake AMA	Otter Tail	13341211	10	\$8,000	Yes	buckthorn
Jewett Lake AMA	Otter Tail	13443224	1	\$2,000	Yes	Prescribed burn
North Turtle Lake AMA	Otter Tail	13341223	3	\$5,000	Yes	buckthorn
Toad River AMA	Otter Tail	13738232	5	\$5,000	Yes	birds foot trefoil
Barnes Springs	Pine	04118212	30	\$9,000	Yes	Invasive Spp.
Barnes Springs	Pine	04118212	15	\$15,000	Yes	Rx Burn
Barnes Springs	Pine	04118212	15	\$30,000	Yes	Tree Planting and maintenance
Big Pine	Pine	04121224	40	\$10,000	Yes	Buckthorn/honeysuckle

Pelican Lake AMA	Pope	12538209	15	\$15,000	Yes	buckthorn control; invasives
Sanborn AMA	Redwood	10936227	16	\$9,400	Yes	remnant woody control
Whispering Ridge AMA	Redwood	11436227	20	\$20,000	Yes	woody invasives on outcrops
Whispering Ridge AMA	Redwood	11436232	7	\$9,000	Yes	S. parking lot prairie reconstruction
Whispering Ridge AMA	Redwood	11436232	100	\$19,000	Yes	prescribed burn
Cannon River (Dundas) AMA	Rice	11120215	20	\$8,900	Yes	prescribed burn
Cannon River (Morristown) AMA	Rice	11120215	20	\$4,500	Yes	tree control
Fairbault Dam - Woolen Mills	Rice	11020230	1	\$2,750,000	Yes	Dam Modification
Eagle Creek AMA	Scott	11521218	15	\$21,000	Yes	buckthorn control and understory seeding
Eagle Creek AMA	Scott	11521218	30	\$15,000	Yes	garlic mustard control
Eagle Creek AMA	Scott	11521218	12	\$7,400	Yes	prescribed burn and prairie invasive control
Lester River	St. Louis	05214223	100	\$25,000	Yes	Buckthorn and exotic honeysuckle control
Whiteface River	St. Louis	05416208	20	\$8,000	Yes	Riparian Planting? Protect/Add Conifer in upland.
Pomme de Terre River at Crissy Dam	Stevens	12442212	9	\$650,000	Yes	Channel Restoration
Swift Falls	Swift	12238203	1	\$1,500,000	Yes	Dam Modification
Miller Creek AMA	Wabasha	11112209	44	\$60,000	Yes	buckthorn control follow up
Miller Creek AMA	Wabasha	11112209	26	\$150,000	Yes	tree control
Brown's Creek AMA	Washington	03020221	5	\$15,000	Yes	woody invasive control
Deer Lake Outlet on Mill Creek	Wright	11926201	1	\$400,000	Yes	Dam Modification
Ramsey Lake AMA	Wright	12026218	6	\$20,000	Yes	buckthorn control and understory seeding
Silver Creek AMA	Wright	12226215	4	\$12,800	Yes	buckthorn and garlic mustard control



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Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

DNR Aquatic Habitat Restoration and Enhancement, Phase 9

Comparison Report

Program Title: ML 2026 - DNR Aquatic Habitat Restoration and Enhancement, Phase 9

Organization: Mn DNR Section of Fisheries

Manager: Dean Paron

Budget

Requested Amount: \$16,558,200

Appropriated Amount: \$5,583,000

Percentage: 33.72%

Item	Requested Proposal	Leverage Proposal	Appropriated AP	Leverage AP	Percent of Request	Percent of Leverage
Personnel	\$2,563,400	-	\$1,140,800	-	44.5%	-
Contracts	\$12,652,000	\$4,514,000	\$4,287,900	\$2,214,000	33.89%	49.05%
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	-	-	-	-	-	-
Easement Acquisition	-	-	-	-	-	-
Easement Stewardship	-	-	-	-	-	-
Travel	\$100,000	-	\$34,000	-	34.0%	-
Professional Services	\$30,000	-	\$10,200	-	34.0%	-
Direct Support Services	\$411,800	-	\$110,100	-	26.74%	-
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	-	-	-	-	-	-
Supplies/Materials	\$801,000	-	-	-	0.0%	-
DNR IDP	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grand Total	\$16,558,200	\$4,514,000	\$5,583,000	\$2,214,000	33.72%	49.05%

If the project received 70% of the requested funding

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

Projects come from a prioritized list. With partial funding, we would fund only the top projects from our list that fit within the amount allocated. At 50% funding, we estimate that we would still be able to achieve approximately 40-50% of enhancement and restoration acres.

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

Personnel would reduce to 50 to 60% of the requested amount. Staff time would focus on project coordination, administration, and project development.

Direct Support Services is determined by a standard DNR process taking into account the amount of funding and the number of allocations made with that funding.

If the project received 50% of the requested funding

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

Top ranked projects are watershed-scale connectivity projects; at 30% funding we will achieve approximate 30-40% of our initial proposed acres for enhancement and 11% of our initial restoration acres.

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

Personnel would reduce to 30 to 40% of the requested amount. Staff time would focus on project coordination, administration, and project development.

Direct Support Services is determined by a standard DNR process taking into account the amount of funding and the number of allocations made with that funding.

Output

Acres by Resource Type (Table 1)

Type	Total Proposed	Total in AP	Percentage of Proposed
Restore	89	24	26.97%
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	0	-	-
Protect in Easement	0	-	-
Enhance	2,255	676	29.98%

Total Requested Funding by Resource Type (Table 2)

Type	Total Proposed	Total in AP	Percentage of Proposed
Restore	\$2,083,600	\$3,048,300	146.3%
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-
Enhance	\$14,474,600	\$2,534,700	17.51%

Acres within each Ecological Section (Table 3)

Type	Total Proposed	Total in AP	Percentage of Proposed
Restore	89	24	26.97%
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	0	-	-
Protect in Easement	0	-	-
Enhance	2,255	676	29.98%

Total Requested Funding within each Ecological Section (Table 4)

Type	Total Proposed	Total in AP	Percentage of Proposed
Restore	\$2,083,600	\$3,048,300	146.3%
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-
Enhance	\$14,474,600	\$2,534,700	17.51%