



Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

DNR Grassland Enhancement - Phase 17
Laws of Minnesota 2026 Accomplishment Plan

General Information

Date: 10/14/2025

Project Title: DNR Grassland Enhancement - Phase 17

Funds Recommended: \$1,833,000

Legislative Citation:

Appropriation Language:

Manager Information

Manager's Name: Greg Hoch

Title: Prairie Habitat Supervisor

Organization: DNR

Address: 500 Lafayette Rd

City: St Paul, MN 55155

Email: greg.hoch@state.mn.us

Office Number: 651-259-5230

Mobile Number: 651-259-5230

Fax Number:

Website:

Location Information

County Location(s): Jackson, Yellow Medicine, Murray, Houston, Anoka, Wabasha, Goodhue, Clay, Kittson, Polk, Cottonwood, Martin, Rice, Faribault, Le Sueur, Chippewa, Redwood, Meeker, Renville, Lincoln, Lyon, Big Stone, Swift, Lac qui Parle, Winona, Stearns, Wright, Fillmore, Olmsted, Todd, Benton, Cass, Roseau, Marshall, Otter Tail, Wilkin, Pope, Grant, Douglas, Norman and Becker.

Eco regions in which work will take place:

Northern Forest

Forest / Prairie Transition

Prairie

Metro / Urban

Southeast Forest

Activity types:

Restore

Enhance

Priority resources addressed by activity:

Prairie

Narrative**Abstract**

Grasslands continue to be the most threatened habitat in the state. This programmatic request will build on the DNR's history of enhancing and restoring grasslands. The Prairie Plan and Wildlife Action Plan will guide our efforts to ensure we are operating in a strategic and targeted manner. This proposal will enhance and restore grasslands on over 2800 acres that are permanently protected using prescribed fire, tree removal, high-diversity seedings, and similar science-based practices. Most lands enhanced with these funds are public and open to hunting.

Design and Scope of Work

In many farmland counties less than five percent of the area is in public wildlife lands, often much less. While Minnesota does have acres enrolled in CRP as well as programs such as RIM and CREP, there is still very little grassland left in many counties of the state. Therefore, we need to make sure the remaining grasslands, especially those open to public recreation, are as diverse and productive as possible. These lands provide wildlife habitat as well as pollinator habitat and ecosystem services such as floodwater capture and groundwater recharge.

Wildlife and pollinator populations are a fraction of what they were even a couple decades ago. Water quality, especially nitrate contamination, is a human health and wildlife issue. Grasslands and embedded wetlands are also very good at sequestering and storing carbon, helping to mitigate the effects of climate change. These efforts can be an important part of the state's Climate Action Framework. Grassland and wetland restoration and enhancement, carefully guided by planning, is one of the best ways to address many of these issues.

This programmatic request seeks funding to enhance grassland habitat on permanently protected grasslands and prairies, most of which are open to public hunting. Without periodic management to simulate historic ecological disturbance patterns, grassland lose diversity and productivity. Invasive species may increase and woody vegetation will encroach into the grasslands, changing their very character and the species that inhabit the area. The activities listed in this proposal will use BMPs for grassland enhancement and diverse local ecotype seed mixes for restoration. These activities will include prescribed fire, installing grazing infrastructure, tree removal, seeding to increase plant diversity, and restoring cropland to grassland.

FAW staff include monitoring and contract management. Monitoring staff will work only on OHF funded restorations to plan restorations, monitor results, and determine what post-restoration management is most effective. They will then immediately communicate that information to DNR staff and partners to improve future restorations. This is the principle of quality control (business), continuous improvement (government), or adaptive management (wildlife). These staff will generate a number of research questions that will be passed on to academics. Monitoring tells us "what" our sites look like, while future research can tell us the "why". The PDs for

these positions are attached and include the acronym "OHF" at least 18 times. Contract managers will work across all open OHF appropriations. It is much more efficient to code their time to one appropriation than several appropriations. When occasionally working on non-OHF projects, they will code their time to alternative funding.

The SNA request will fund program coordinators who are responsible for overseeing appropriation budgets and reporting, as well as providing statewide and regional direction and guidance to field staff implementing OHF funded projects. Specialists and technicians are responsible for identifying, planning and implementing specific grassland enhancement projects via contracting and in-house operations. Laborers and seasonal staff provide additional on-the-ground capacity for specific enhancement projects as needed and where available

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

Grasslands and grassland wildlife continue to be the most threatened habitat and populations, both in Minnesota and across the Midwest.

According to the Wildlife Action Plan, Minnesota's grasslands contain 4 state threatened species, 14 state endangered species, and 29 species of concern. The species on this list include 1 amphibian, 11 birds, 5 mammals, 16 moths and butterflies, 9 other invertebrates, and 5 reptiles. Waterfowl and game bird populations are still a fraction of what they were even 15-20 years ago. Grassland songbirds continue to decline from already low levels.

With few exceptions, grasslands for game species, nongame species, SGCN, and T&E species are similar. They all need habitat composed of a diversity of native grasses and forbs. Enhancements for one species will almost always benefit dozens of other species in the habitat. Many species of invertebrates and pollinators need a diversity and abundance of flowering plants. Many birds need grassland free of trees. All species need clean water. While the work proposed here will benefit game species, non-game species, SGCN, and T&E, it will also go beyond these objectives to provide numerous ecosystem services such as water filtration, floodwater retention and reduced flood damage, and create pollinator habitat to help sustain segments of the agricultural economy.

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

Without management, grassland habitat for many species of wildlife and pollinators will continue to degrade. The earlier we can address these issues, the more cost-effective the efforts are. For instance, removing a few scattered saplings early in a tree invasion is much less costly than waiting decades and removing a dense forest of large trees. The sooner we get areas restored to stands of diverse native grasses and wildflowers, the more carbon the soils will store in the long-term.

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

The projects in this proposal will be guided primarily by the Prairie Conservation Plan as well as individual wildlife species plans. First and foremost, these Plans outline focal areas (Core Areas and Habitat Complexes) where we can build on an existing base of conservation lands and improve the habitat there. The Prairie Plan identifies specific corridors and complexes that connect larger core areas. The latest science states that it isn't the size of an individual habitat parcel that matters as much as the amount of habitat in the larger surrounding landscape. These Plans, and the work proposed here, build on these concepts of landscape level habitat planning. We will not restrict ourselves to these focal areas. There are critical habitats outside these areas. However, we will use these Plans to focus our efforts in areas where they can have the greatest wildlife benefits.

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

Minnesota Prairie Conservation Plan

Other : Pheasant 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.

Prairie soils are famously dark, almost black. Prairie soils have a lot of carbon in them. When the prairie is broken, a lot of that carbon is lost. However, restoring grasslands using native grasses and wildflowers can significantly increase the amount of carbon taken out of the air and buried deep in the soil (Knops and Tilman 2000, Baer et al 2002, McLaughlin et al 2006, Fornara and Tilman 2008, Hernandez et al 2013, Ampleman et al 2014, Yang et al 2019). Matamala et al (2008) state that restoring prairie “has the potential to store relatively large amounts of SOC [Soil Organic Carbon]”. Research at the University of Minnesota found that using high diversity seed mixes sequesters more carbon than low diversity mixes. We've been doing this all along for pollinators and wildlife. What we were doing for pollinators is also be best practice for carbon capture.

Which LSOHC section priorities are addressed in this program?

Forest / Prairie Transition

Protect, enhance, and restore rare native remnant prairie

Metro / Urban

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

Northern Forest

Restore and enhance habitat on existing protected properties, with preference to habitat for rare, endangered, or threatened species identified by the Minnesota County Biological Survey

Prairie

Restore or enhance habitat on public lands

Southeast Forest

Protect, enhance, and restore remnant goat prairies

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 ~ *Migratory game and non-game birds will be some of the primary beneficiaries of this work. We hope to continue to strengthen partnerships with the University of Minnesota to incorporate graduate students into research and monitoring work.*

Programs in metropolitan urbanizing region:

Core areas protected with highly biologically diverse wetlands and plant communities, including native prairie, Big Woods, and oak savanna ~ *Monitoring will take place with the base level monitoring conducted by DNR staff and staff from other agencies/NGOs.*

Programs in the northern forest region:

Healthy populations of endangered, threatened, and special concern species as well as more common species ~ *Monitoring will take place with the base level monitoring conducted by DNR staff and staff from other agencies/NGOs. This includes surveys such as pheasant, sharp-tailed grouse, and woodcock, which are all dependent on open areas.*

Programs in prairie region:

Restored and enhanced upland habitats ~ *The multi-agency/NGO Grassland Monitoring Team (GMT) has developed standardized protocols for sampling grassland vegetation and a number of the sites on this request will be sampled over the 5 year period.*

Programs in southeast forest region:

Healthier populations of endangered, threatened, and special concern species as well as more common species ~ *Monitoring will primarily be done through studies conducted by the DNR's Ecological and Water Resources Division of key indicator species such as timber rattlesnakes.*

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.

These funds are for additional enhance/restoration work beyond what the DNR is already conducting.

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

We select projects with these funds that strategically enhance priority habitats. We will continue management of these sites with agency staff. The OHF provides Minnesota's conservation community with a large amount of non-Federal dollars as match that other Midwestern states don't have. In recent years, the Minnesota prairie conservation partners have been coordinating to maximize our efforts with funding sources such as the North American Wetland Conservation Act (NAWCA) and the America the Beautiful Challenge Grants.

Actions to Maintain Project Outcomes

Year	Source of Funds	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3
2028 and beyond	Those listed above and OHF	Continue monitoring	adapt results to future projects	seek funding for continued monitoring
2027	Those listed above and OHF	Monitor subset of projects	Document results	Determine capacity for traditional funds to meet results

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

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.

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

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

SNA

AMA

Permanently Protected Conservation Easements

State Forests

WPA

Refuge Lands

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?

Yes

Explain what will be planted and include the maximum percentage of any acquired parcel that would be planted into foodplots by the proposer or the end owner of the property:

There may be an instance of very limited rowcrop planting as part of a restoration process. But this would only be for a very short time before the site is planted to native grasses and forbs. Some of the crops may be GMO, but none of the crops should be treated with neonicotinoid seed coats per DNR guidelines and any farming will follow standard chemical use practices as outlined in DNR Operational Orders. Chemical usage on WMAs is reported and recorded by the Section of Wildlife.

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
SNA / NPB Enhancements / Restorations - contract work	6/30/2029
WMA Enhancement / Restoration - contract work	6/30/2029

Date of Final Report Submission: 10/31/2031

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	\$1,001,800	-	-	\$1,001,800
Contracts	\$614,100	-	-	\$614,100
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	-	-	-	-
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	-	-	-	-
Easement Acquisition	-	-	-	-
Easement Stewardship	-	-	-	-
Travel	\$51,500	-	-	\$51,500
Professional Services	-	-	-	-
Direct Support Services	\$112,100	-	-	\$112,100
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	-	-	-	-
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	\$4,500	-	-	\$4,500
Supplies/Materials	\$49,000	-	-	\$49,000
DNR IDP	-	-	-	-
Grand Total	\$1,833,000	-	-	\$1,833,000

Personnel

Position	Annual FTE	Years Working	Funding Request	Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
WLD staff - contract and monitoring	3.0	2.0	\$844,800	-	-	\$844,800
SNA staff - specs, tech, laborers	2.4	4.0	\$157,000	-	-	\$157,000

Amount of Request: \$1,833,000

Amount of Leverage: -

Leverage as a percent of the Request: 0.0%

DSS + Personnel: \$1,113,900

As a % of the total request: 60.77%

Easement Stewardship: -

As a % of the Easement Acquisition: -

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

We reduced the acreage goals to 15% of the original request. This is close to the 18% allocated while still allowing us to cover staff and DSS.

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?

This proposal is composed of numerous projects. If we receive less than we request, we can scale back the number of projects and acres accordingly.

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

Personnel work across OHF appropriations as described in the narrative. We would not be able to scale this part of our budget.

Personnel

Has funding for these positions been requested in the past?

Yes

Contracts

What is included in the contracts line?

Contract line includes projects where we hire local companies to conduct the projects.

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

There might be the occasional "non-traditional" cost, but almost everything will fall into the traditional mileage, etc categories.

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?

We used the standard DNR calculator.

Other Equipment/Tools

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

Drip torches, PPE, etc.

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?

These funds will be matched with Pittman-Robertson, which is part of the DNR's annual funding cycle.

Output Tables**Acres by Resource Type (Table 1)**

Type	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat	Total Acres
Restore	-	40	-	-	40
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	-	2,850	-	-	2,850
Total	-	2,890	-	-	2,890

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

Type	Native Prairie (acres)
Restore	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-
Protect in Easement	-
Enhance	200
Total	200

Total Requested Funding by Resource Type (Table 2)

Type	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat	Total Funding
Restore	-	\$24,700	-	-	\$24,700
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	-	\$1,808,300	-	-	\$1,808,300
Total	-	\$1,833,000	-	-	\$1,833,000

Acres within each Ecological Section (Table 3)

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest	Total Acres
Restore	-	-	1	39	-	40
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	50	265	120	2,389	26	2,850
Total	50	265	121	2,428	26	2,890

Total Requested Funding within each Ecological Section (Table 4)

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest	Total Funding
Restore	-	-	\$400	\$24,300	-	\$24,700
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	\$30,700	\$164,500	\$74,400	\$1,521,800	\$16,900	\$1,808,300
Total	\$30,700	\$164,500	\$74,800	\$1,546,100	\$16,900	\$1,833,000

Average Cost per Acre by Resource Type (Table 5)

Type	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat
Restore	-	\$617	-	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-
Enhance	-	\$634	-	-

Average Cost per Acre by Ecological Section (Table 6)

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest
Restore	-	-	\$400	\$623	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	\$614	\$620	\$620	\$637	\$650

Target Lake/Stream/River Feet or Miles

Parcels

Parcel Information

Sign-up Criteria?

No

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

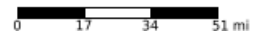
Parcels are identified by Area Wildlife Managers and approved by Regional Managers. Priorities are set by the Plans identified earlier in this proposal.

Restore / Enhance Parcels

Name	County	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection	Description
Metro SNAs	Anoka	03123226	80	\$52,000	Yes	Contract Rx Burn
Metro SNAs	Anoka	03123226	40	\$26,000	Yes	Woody Removal
Agassiz-Olson WMA	Becker	13939208	450	\$67,500	Yes	Contract Rx Burn
Clay County WMA	Becker	13845222	300	\$90,000	Yes	Woody Removal
Burleene WMA	Benton	12733209	300	\$105,000	Yes	Contract Rx Burn
Glendorado WMA	Benton	13132225	200	\$70,000	Yes	Contract Rx Burn
25th Anniversary WMA	Big Stone	11645221	1,151	\$120,000	Yes	Contract Rx Burn
Bail Out WMA	Big Stone	11643222	1,379	\$206,850	Yes	Contract Rx Burn
Danvers WMA	Big Stone	11743234	360	\$450,000	Yes	Interseeding
Lac qui Parle WMA	Big Stone	11841206	272	\$200,000	Yes	Woody Removal
Lac qui Parle WMA: Main Unit	Big Stone	11943224	150	\$60,000	Yes	Woody Removal
Big Rice WMA: Access Unit	Cass	14126225	10	\$32,800	Yes	Interseeding
Acton WMA	Chippewa	11639205	1,000	\$150,000	Yes	Contract Rx Burn
Benderberg WMA: North Unit	Chippewa	11840205	547	\$225,000	Yes	Conservation Grazing
Cuka WMA	Chippewa	11639205	100	\$500,000	Yes	Woody Removal
Lac qui Parle WMA	Chippewa	11942236	32	\$50,000	Yes	Woody Removal
Lac qui Parle WMA	Chippewa	11942234	5	\$15,000	Yes	Woody Removal
Lac qui Parle WMA: Main Unit	Chippewa	11943203	190	\$100,000	Yes	Woody Removal
Lac qui Parle WMA: Main Unit	Chippewa	11943224	100	\$100,000	Yes	Woody Removal
Northwest SNAs	Clay	14245220	5	\$25,000	Yes	Restoration
Bennett WMA	Cottonwood	10129206	750	\$112,500	Yes	Contract Rx Burn
Caron WMA	Cottonwood	10332229	99	\$125,000	Yes	Interseeding
Alberta WMA	Douglas	12343203	45	\$225,000	Yes	Woody Removal
Anton Velishek Memorial WMA	Faribault	10224211	790	\$50,000	Yes	Conservation Grazing
Charlotte Hynes WMA	Faribault	10327204	163	\$100,000	Yes	Woody Removal
Beaver Creek WMA	Fillmore	10113228	46	\$69,000	Yes	Interseeding
Beaver Creek WMA	Fillmore	10113221	137	\$174,200	Yes	Woody Removal
Buck Family Memorial WMA	Fillmore	10112204	500	\$190,000	Yes	Contract Rx Burn
Rush Creek Woods WMA	Fillmore	10212216	60	\$132,000	Yes	Woody Removal
Haverhill WMA	Goodhue	10515204	74	\$101,500	Yes	Restoration
Southeast SNAs	Goodhue	11316225	5	\$25,000	Yes	Restoration
Alberta WMA: North Unit	Grant	12443233	100	\$40,000	Yes	Woody Removal
Southeast NPBs	Houston	10304226	20	\$13,000	Yes	Woody Removal
Southeast NPBs	Houston	10304226	20	\$13,000	Yes	Contract Rx Burn
Southwest NPBs	Jackson	10134227	5	\$25,000	Yes	Restoration
Caribou WMA	Kittson	16345233	40	\$60,000	Yes	Interseeding
Northwest NPBs	Kittson	16345202	250	\$87,100	Yes	Contract Rx Burn
Northwest NPBs	Kittson	16345202	150	\$100,000	Yes	Woody Removal
Haydenville WMA: Main Unit	Lac qui Parle	11845233	116	\$98,000	Yes	Woody Removal
Haydenville WMA: Supplement Unit	Lac qui Parle	11845221	4	\$25,000	Yes	Woody Removal

Bob Gehlen WMA	Le Sueur	11026211	61	\$70,000	Yes	Woody Removal
Anderson Lake WMA	Lincoln	11145206	500	\$75,000	Yes	Contract Rx Burn
Archerville WMA	Lincoln	11345206	184	\$100,000	Yes	Woody Removal
Chain-O-Sloughs WMA	Lincoln	11140235	217	\$217,000	Yes	Restoration
Discors WMA	Lincoln	10944205	140	\$30,000	Yes	Woody Removal
Hopeful WMA	Lincoln	10944212	590	\$90,660	Yes	Conservation Grazing
Rost WMA	Lincoln	11244232	58	\$30,000	Yes	Woody Removal
Brawner Lake WMA	Lyon	11042217	138	\$50,000	Yes	Conservation Grazing
Clifton WMA	Lyon	11140206	729	\$160,000	Yes	Conservation Grazing
Meadow Creek WMA	Lyon	11141236	100	\$110,000	Yes	Interseeding
Prairie Marshes WMA	Lyon	11043201	452	\$155,000	Yes	Conservation Grazing
Sioux Prairie WMA	Lyon	11143207	500	\$75,000	Yes	Contract Rx Burn
Red River of the North WMA	Marshall	15750215	200	\$300,000	Yes	Interseeding
Center Creek WMA	Martin	10129206	229	\$114,500	Yes	Woody Removal
Kingston WMA	Meeker	12129228	185	\$40,000	Yes	Contract Rx Burn
Southwest NPBs	Murray	10543205	250	\$87,100	Yes	Woody Removal
Southwest NPBs	Murray	10543210	250	\$87,100	Yes	Contract Rx Burn
Twin Valley WMA: North Unit	Norman	14344230	120	\$118,000	Yes	Interseeding
Whitewater WMA: Callahan Unit	Olmsted	10610201	200	\$253,500	Yes	Woody Removal
Fergus Falls WMA	Otter Tail	13343222	206	\$272,950	Yes	Interseeding
Fergus Falls WMA	Otter Tail	13343222	368	\$237,000	Yes	Woody Removal
Dugdale WMA	Polk	14745209	600	\$150,000	Yes	Woody Removal
Northwest SNAs	Polk	14844230	250	\$87,100	Yes	Woody Removal
Northwest SNAs	Polk	14844230	22	\$87,100	Yes	Contract Rx Burn
Cin WMA	Pope	12336206	1,000	\$150,000	Yes	Contract Rx Burn
Cin WMA	Pope	12336206	1,000	\$125,000	Yes	Contract Rx Burn
Lowry WMA: North East Unit	Pope	12639223	25	\$40,000	Yes	Interseeding
Cedar Rock WMA: North West Unit	Redwood	11336204	108	\$160,000	Yes	Woody Removal
Cedar Rock WMA: South East Unit	Redwood	11336210	156	\$234,000	Yes	Woody Removal
Klabunde WMA	Redwood	11335230	33	\$45,000	Yes	Woody Removal
Whispering Ridge AMA	Redwood	11436232	144	\$200,000	Yes	Woody Removal
Cold Springs WMA	Renville	11336211	126	\$175,000	Yes	Woody Removal
Granite Prairie WMA	Renville	11335218	53	\$106,000	Yes	Woody Removal
Whispering Ridge WMA	Renville	11436229	12	\$36,000	Yes	Woody Removal
Boyd Sartell WMA: Main Unit	Rice	11119225	650	\$84,480	Yes	Conservation Grazing
Roseau River WMA	Roseau	16343217	100	\$50,000	Yes	Woody Removal
Roseau River WMA	Roseau	16343217	150	\$45,000	Yes	Woody Removal
Milton Kjeldahl WMA	Stearns	12435226	198	\$40,000	Yes	Contract Rx Burn
Norman T. Dahlman WMA	Stearns	12335226	30	\$36,000	Yes	Woody Removal
North Fork WMA	Stearns	12232203	43	\$53,750	Yes	Interseeding
Lac qui Parle WMA: Main Unit	Swift	12043229	116	\$58,000	Yes	Woody Removal
Quistorff WMA	Todd	12735221	100	\$35,000	Yes	Contract Rx Burn
McCarthy Lake WMA	Wabasha	10909218	31	\$156,000	Yes	Woody Removal
Southeast SNAs	Wabasha	10909230	40	\$26,000	Yes	Woody Removal
Southeast SNAs	Wabasha	10909230	80	\$60,000	Yes	Contract Rx Burn
Akron WMA	Wilkin	13445222	20	\$30,000	Yes	Interseeding
Whitewater WMA: Main Branch Unit	Winona	10810226	167	\$207,000	Yes	Woody Removal
Whitewater WMA: Main Branch Unit	Winona	10810226	55	\$99,000	Yes	Woody Removal
Whitewater WMA: Main Branch Unit	Winona	10810226	75	\$95,000	Yes	Woody Removal
Whitewater WMA: North Branch Unit	Winona	10710208	100	\$227,000	Yes	Interseeding

Whitewater WMA: South Branch Unit	Winona	10710225	75	\$60,000	Yes	Woody Removal
Grass Lake WMA: Main Unit	Wright	11828213	76	\$22,800	Yes	Contract Rx Burn
Southwest SNAs	Yellow Medicine	11438212	270	\$175,000	Yes	Woody Removal
Southwest SNAs	Yellow Medicine	11438212	250	\$87,100	Yes	Contract Rx Burn
Stoney Run WMA	Yellow Medicine	11641230	130	\$93,000	Yes	Woody Removal



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Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

DNR Grassland Enhancement - Phase 17

Comparison Report

Program Title: ML 2026 - DNR Grassland Enhancement - Phase 17

Organization: DNR

Manager: Greg Hoch

Budget

Requested Amount: \$9,962,400

Appropriated Amount: \$1,833,000

Percentage: 18.4%

Item	Requested Proposal	Leverage Proposal	Appropriated AP	Leverage AP	Percent of Request	Percent of Leverage
Personnel	\$1,282,300	-	\$1,001,800	-	78.13%	-
Contracts	\$7,988,000	-	\$614,100	-	7.69%	-
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	-	-	-	-	-	-
Easement Acquisition	-	-	-	-	-	-
Easement Stewardship	-	-	-	-	-	-
Travel	\$217,000	-	\$51,500	-	23.73%	-
Professional Services	-	-	-	-	-	-
Direct Support Services	\$225,800	-	\$112,100	-	49.65%	-
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	\$25,000	-	\$4,500	-	18.0%	-
Supplies/Materials	\$224,300	-	\$49,000	-	21.85%	-
DNR IDP	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grand Total	\$9,962,400	-	\$1,833,000	-	18.4%	-

If the project received 70% of the requested funding

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

This proposal is composed of numerous projects. If we receive less than we request, we can scale back the number of projects and acres accordingly.

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

Personnel work across OHF appropriations as described in the narrative. We would not be able to scale this part of our budget.

If the project received 50% of the requested funding

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

This proposal is composed of numerous projects. If we receive less than we request, we can scale back the number of projects and acres accordingly.

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

Personnel work across OHF appropriations as described in the narrative. We would not be able to scale this part of our budget.

Output

Acres by Resource Type (Table 1)

Type	Total Proposed	Total in AP	Percentage of Proposed
Restore	306	40	13.07%
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	0	-	-
Protect in Easement	0	-	-
Enhance	21,929	2,850	13.0%

Total Requested Funding by Resource Type (Table 2)

Type	Total Proposed	Total in AP	Percentage of Proposed
Restore	\$137,100	\$24,700	18.02%
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-
Enhance	\$9,825,300	\$1,808,300	18.4%

Acres within each Ecological Section (Table 3)

Type	Total Proposed	Total in AP	Percentage of Proposed
Restore	306	40	13.07%
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	0	-	-
Protect in Easement	0	-	-
Enhance	21,929	2,850	13.0%

Total Requested Funding within each Ecological Section (Table 4)

Type	Total Proposed	Total in AP	Percentage of Proposed
Restore	\$137,100	\$24,700	18.02%
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-
Enhance	\$9,825,300	\$1,808,300	18.4%