

#### **Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council**

#### Shell Rock River Watershed Habitat Restoration Program

ML 2026 Request for Funding

#### **General Information**

Date: 06/26/2025

Proposal Title: Shell Rock River Watershed Habitat Restoration Program

Funds Requested: \$5,336,700

**Confirmed Leverage Funds:** \$120,000

Is this proposal Scalable?: Yes

#### **Manager Information**

Manager's Name: Courtney Phillips Title: Program and Project Manager Organization: Shell Rock River Watershed District Address: 305 S 1st Ave City: Albert Lea, MN 56007 Email: courtney.phillips@co.freeborn.mn.us Office Number: 507-379-8782 Mobile Number: Fax Number: Website: www.shellrock.org

#### **Location Information**

County Location(s): Freeborn.

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

Prairie

#### Activity types:

Enhance

Restore

Protect in Fee

#### Priority resources addressed by activity:

Habitat

#### **Narrative**

#### Abstract

The Shell Rock River Watershed District (SRRWD) is seeking funding for their Habitat Restoration Program to restore, enhance, and protect 605 acres of essential prairie upland, wetland and streambank habitat across the watershed. As a result, key biological functioning parcels will be permanently protected, streambank habitat will be enhanced, vegetation and feeding sources will be restored for migratory fowl habitat, and wetlands and oak savannas will be restored. Projects are critical for the benefit of fish, waterfowl, and wildlife populations, reversing the trend of wetland loss and habitat degradation in the prairie ecoregion.

#### **Design and Scope of Work**

The SRRWD created the Habitat Restoration Program to restore, protect, and enhance degraded habitat conditions by implementing projects on a lake-shed basis. Specifically, this phase will contribute to the District's goals by:

- Restore 80 acres of oak savanna landscape on a WMA with native prairie diversity seeding.
- Habitat restoration on 20 acres of streambanks to improve floodplain connectivity, over-winter open water conditions, and to prevent further sedimentation into the watercourse.
- Installation of 324 acres of in-lake habitat structures creating more productive, self-sustaining fisheries in Fountain Lake and benefiting BIPOC and underserved communities. This includes rock reefs, spawning gravel, boulder clusters and native plantings.
- Acquire 31 acres from a willing landowner to complete upland prairie restoration and protect existing wetlands
- 35 acres of wetland enhancements in a floodplain dominated by Reed Canary. This includes wetland creation and native vegetation establishment.
- Restore 115 acres of wetland basins, reversing the trend of wetland loss and habitat degradation while improving nesting habitat and waterfowl food sources.

This proposal uses a programmatic approach to achieve protection, restoration, and enhancement of lakes, wetlands, streams and native prairie landscapes. The program includes projects that are prioritized on the significance of the benefits to aquatic habitat, urgency of the work, availability of leveraged funds, location of projects and agreements with relevant planning documents. All projects listed above have landowner support, who are eager to get funding. The SRRWD has a proven track record with the LSOHC and implementing projects that protect, restore and enhance natural resources. The SRRWD continues to receive strong support for these projects from landowners, local governments and sporting organizations.

The program will also interconnect and reestablish important flyway habitats within Minnesota. Once completed, the program will establish waterfowl and fish populations, increase habitat for wetland dependent wildlife, and recreate the wildlife mecca in southern Minnesota. Finally, this program will preserve an outdoor legacy for Minnesotans to use and enjoy for generations.

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

When critical habitats are lost due to land use changes and other factors, restoring the habitat is imperative to the protection of species and their ecological processes. Important species are disappearing at an alarming rate and the SRRWD has the opportunity to protect their specific habitats. Many of the proposed projects are turning habitat into multi-native species plantings that offer food, shelter, and breeding habitat for a wide array of species.

All restoration and enhancement projects will have vegetation management in low grounds that include bulrush, smartweed, and marsh milkweed species to provide habitat and food sources for migratory birds. Upland prairie mix will be established to promote pollinator success. Enhancement efforts to this large scale provides habitat for both spring and fall migration of waterfowl, overall increase the use days by migratory birds, and provides nesting habitat.

Using the Minnesota DNR Rare Species Guide, the SRRWD has identified species of importance for the oak savanna landscape. Those species include birds like the Loggerhead Shrike, mussels such as the Round Pigtoe, and amphibians including the Blanding's Turtle.

Citing the Minnesota Wildlife Action Plan, Blanding's turtles suffer from low reproductive rates and high nest predation, exacerbated by habitat loss and degradation. The proposal area has a known hotspot for Blanding's turtles identified in the Wildlife Action Network. Projects like the wetland enhancements and streambank restorations provide the needed wetland and upland habitats to complete the Blanding's turtle life cycle.

The Loggerhead Shrike is listed as endangered and can be attributed to the loss of suitable shelterbelts and grasslands. With the projects identified, prairie creation and tree management on current grasslands can provide better habitat.

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

For acquisition projects, landowner willingness is a large factor in determining the urgency to be completed. Securing properties, while having a willing landowner, is imperative to its success. Landowners often get frustrated if funding isn't available when they want to sell. The acquisition in this proposal has an eager landowner who came to the District for first right to purchase.

For the restoration and enhancement projects, with the extent of wetland, streambank, and in-lake habitat loss in Minnesota, restoration efforts are an issue that needs immediate attention. Science and resource-based planning have been utilized to strategically select projects that will advance restoration goals specified in our Restoration Program.

Projects selected in the program contribute to the success of long-term management plans. Key biological functioning parcels will be permanently protected, streambanks will be enhanced, there will be improved access to public lands, and vegetation will be restored.

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

The SRRWD utilizes precision conservation modeling with monitoring to identify Property Management Zones (PMZs) on a sub-watershed basis. The PMZs was a watershed wide parcel review where habitat areas were ranked on a 1 to 3 scale. This scale incorporated a variety of measures including size of the habitat complex to be protected, proximity to existing protection, and distance to a water source. All of the parcels included in this proposal are identified as either a 1 or 2 ranking, which are high value locations. Implementing site specific habitat restorations projects are progressively improving populations of native fish, waterfowl and wildlife habitat to once again create a wildlife mecca.

Additionally, 3 of the 7 proposed projects are located within a 3-mile radius of each other. This reduces habitat fragmentation and improves the overall habitat carrying capacity of the corridor.

#### Proposal #: HA16 Which top 2 Conservation Plans referenced in MS97A.056, subd. 3a are most applicable to this project?

Long Range Plan for Fisheries Management

Managing Minnesota's Shallow Lakes for Waterfowl and Wildlife

# 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.

In many prairie plantings, five different species types including wildflowers, legumes, warm-season grasses, coolseason grasses and sedges/rushes are planted to mimic a native plant community. To address the anticipated warmer temperatures, hardy species resistant to pests and diseases that can be found in southern regions are selected. Doing so ensures that habitat needs such nesting, shelter, and food sources, including pollen and seeds, will be available in changing climate conditions.

For streambank restorations, natural channel design that includes restoring a floodplain bench to accommodate higher flows reduces the likelihood of scour, severe undercutting, and erosion along streambanks and allows base flow to be maintained in a primary channel when water is low. By doing so, fish, mussel, and invertebrate habitats are more able to withstand extreme variability in water flow. Additionally, creating riffles and pools provides areas of refuge and maintains critical oxygen levels.

#### Which LSOHC section priorities are addressed in this proposal?

#### Prairie

Restore or enhance habitat on public lands

# 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:

All proposed projects included in this proposal will lead to permanent conservation by being installed on public waters, existing WMA's, WPA's, or involve acquisitions that will be in public ownership. Permanent habitat will result from the numerous proposed projects.

Habitat degradation of wetlands, streams, and shallow lakes is an issue of importance that requires accelerated investment in projects to reverse this degradation. Protection and restoration of this habitat is the highest priority of the SRRWD and is directly affected by invasive vegetation, land use changes, increased water demands, populations of invasive fish species, and artificial drainage. Degradation in habitat is influencing available food sources for game fish populations that include Northern Pike, Perch and Walleye, and duck populations including Pintail, Redhead, and Canvasback.

The streambank restoration projects will create spawning habitat, cover, and refuge for fish, habitat for wildlife, and will restore the growth of healthy aquatic vegetation. The proposal also demonstrates a permanent conservation legacy by restoring habitat on public lands, increasing public access to fishing, improving native fish reproduction and provides protection from long term endangerment from invasive plant species by incorporating vegetation management.

#### **Outcomes**

#### Programs in prairie region:

Protected, restored, and enhanced shallow lakes and wetlands ~ *Restored and enhanced parcels that include inlake and streambank restorations will be measured by the increase of Fish IBI Scores based on DNR surveys. Wetland restorations will be evaluated by use days for migrating waterfowl as well as increased species biodiversity survey (pre and post restoration) that supports waterfowl. Upland prairie restorations will be monitored for increased usage, such as Pheasant Roadside surveys. Additionally, the number of prairie acres restored, and wetland acres created will be reported in the SRRWD's reporting framework.* 

#### 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.

This request is not supplanting funding or substituting from any previous funding.

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

The SRRWD has multiple funding sources including a citizen driven local option sales tax, local levy, and multiple public funding sources to assist in the District's restoration efforts. Following this LSOHC appropriation timeline, the District will use their general fund dollars for maintenance implementations.

Additionally, the SRRWD is authorized by Minnesota state statute 103D and operates under a series of 10-year Water Management Plans that are approved by the Minnesota Board of Soil and Water Resources (BWSR). These plans include a comprehensive list detailing natural resource restoration, enhancement, along with protection and management strategies that can be used for funding in the future for maintenance.

#### **Actions to Maintain Project Outcomes**

Year	Source of Funds	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3
2027-2029	Sales Tax and LSOHC	Construction	Vegetation	-
			Maintenance	
2030+	Sales Tax	Maintenance	Maintenance	-
		Inspections	Implementation	

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

The SRRWD annually utilizes the Understanding Environmental Justice in Minnesota tool developed by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, to understand where BIPOC, diverse and unserved communities are present in the planning area by using the socioeconomic indicators layers. This program also includes income poverty status. Projects identified in this proposal, specifically the in-lake habitat restoration and channel restoration are targeted to improve public lands that are located in, and used by, BIPOC and underserved communities. This tool is ran annually to help determine project locations, along with the Priority Management Zone mapping. The District will include the assessment outcomes in each of the project's operations and maintenance forms.

Additionally, the SRRWD has a digital option to view all completed work. Digital options give diverse community members an option to engage regardless of color, transportation, and gender.

#### **Activity Details**

#### **Requirements**

Will county board or other local government approval <u>be formally sought\*\*</u> prior to acquisition, per 97A.056 subd 13(j)?

Yes

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

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

**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 proposal either in the process of restoration or use as food plots? No

Is this land currently open for hunting and fishing?

No

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

Yes

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

Public waters are open to state fishing regulations. Private lands are currently not open to public hunting but will be once acquired and restored.

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

Local Unit of Government

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

Other : Shell Rock River Watershed District

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

No

Will new trails or roads be developed or improved as a result of the OHF acquisition? No

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

Yes

#### **Other OHF Appropriation Awards**

Have you received OHF dollars through LSOHC in the past? Yes

Are any of these past appropriations still OPEN?

Yes

Approp Year	Funding Amount	Amount Spent to	Funding Remaining	% Spent to Date
	Received	Date		
2024	\$2,072,000	\$419,009	\$1,652,991	20.22%
2023	\$2,198,000	\$17,259	\$2,180,741	0.79%
2022	\$1,438,000	\$526,610	\$911,390	36.62%
2021	\$1,547,000	\$1,547,000	-	100.0%
2020	\$1,918,000	\$1,494,754	\$423,246	77.93%
2019	\$2,046,000	\$2,046,000	-	100.0%
2018	\$1,421,000	\$1,421,000	-	100.0%
2017	\$1,779,000	\$1,779,000	-	100.0%
2016	\$1,200,000	\$1,200,000	-	100.0%
2015	\$2,414,000	\$2,405,200	\$8,800	99.64%
2013	\$1,827,000	\$1,827,000	-	100.0%
2011	\$2,577,000	\$2,577,000	-	100.0%
2010	\$655,000	\$655,000	-	100.0%
Totals	\$23,092,000	\$17,914,832	\$5,177,168	77.58%

#### **Timeline**

Activity Name	Estimated Completion Date
Begin project planning, design, and permitting work for	Late 2026-2027
restorations and enhancements. Complete survey and	
appraisals for acquisitions.	
Begin restoration and enhancement projects during the	2027-2028 Construction Season
2026-2027 construction season following completion of	
design and permitting.	
Finalize acquisitions and start seeding the sites for	May 2029
restoration.	
Implement vegetation enhancements on restoration	July 2030
projects, compete final project construction.	
Conduct maintenance and monitoring of all restoration and	Ongoing
habitat improvement projects.	

#### **Budget**

#### **Totals**

Item	Funding Request	Total Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	\$80,000	\$20,000	Local Option Sales Tax	\$100,000
Contracts	\$3,963,500	-	-	\$3,963,500
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	-	-	-	-
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	\$292,300	-	-	\$292,300
Easement Acquisition	-	-	-	-
Easement Stewardship	-	-	-	-
Travel	-	-	-	-
Professional Services	\$1,000,900	\$100,000	Local Option Sales Tax	\$1,100,900
Direct Support Services	-	-	-	-
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	-	-	-	-
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	-	-	-	-
Supplies/Materials	-	-	-	-
DNR IDP	-	-	-	-
Grand Total	\$5,336,700	\$120,000	-	\$5,456,700

#### Personnel

Position	Annual FTE	Years Working	Funding Request	Total Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Program Assistant	0.43	5.0	\$35,000	\$10,000	Local Option Sales Tax	\$45,000
Program Manager	0.43	5.0	\$45,000	\$10,000	Local Option Sales Tax	\$55,000

Amount of Request: \$5,336,700 Amount of Leverage: \$120,000 Leverage as a percent of the Request: 2.25% DSS + Personnel: \$80,000 As a % of the total request: 1.5% Easement Stewardship: -As a % of the Easement Acquisition: -

Total Leverage (from above)	Amount Confirmed	% of Total Leverage	Amount Anticipated	% of Total Leverage
\$120,000	\$120,000	100.0%	-	0.0%

#### Detail leverage sources and confirmation of funds:

Leverage sources mainly include the District's local option sales tax, the City of Albert Lea, and the City of Twin Lakes.

#### 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?

The District submits this proposal with the capability and intentions to complete all projects if fully funded. A 50% reduction would mean the in-lake habitat project and channel restoration would have to be reduced in scope, and the acquisition and one wetland restoration would be removed.

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

The District does not use DSS. Personnel would be reduced from \$100,000 down to \$60,000, similar to a proportionate reduction.

#### If the project received 30% of the requested funding

**Describe how the scaling would affect acres/activities and if not proportionately reduced, why?** Although not ideal, funding would be centered on the channel restoration. This is a phased project that is funded with an earlier appropriation. To keep the timing of the project cohesive, almost all other projects would have to be removed.

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

The District does not use DSS. The grant funded personnel costs would be reduced to \$45,000 but the inkind staff dollar amounts would be moved from personnel to professional expenses, creating a near proportionate reduction.

#### 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?

The SRRWD has an extensive time tracking system that allows staff members to track time for each project within each grant. Each year, this system is updated to reflect current active grants.

#### Contracts

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

All the work in the contracts line is centered on enhancement and restoration construction costs minus professional services and staff time.

#### **Professional Services**

#### What is included in the Professional Services line?

Appraisals

Design/Engineering

Surveys

Title Insurance and Legal Fees

#### **Fee Acquisition**

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

There is one planned acquisition.

#### Federal Funds

**Do you anticipate federal funds as a match for this program?** No

#### **Output Tables**

#### Acres by Resource Type (Table 1)

Туре	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat	Total Acres
Restore	195	0	0	10	205
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	0	0	0	31	31
Protect in Easement	0	0	0	0	0
Enhance	35	0	0	334	369
Total	230	0	0	375	605

#### **Restoration/Enhancement Acres of OHF Acquired Lands (Table 1a.1)**

	RESTORE		Total	ENHANCE		Total
	Lands acquired in this proposal	Lands acquired with previous OHF approprations (<5yrs old)		Lands acquired in this proposal	Lands acquired with previous OHF approprations (<5yrs old)	
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	31	-	31	-	-	0
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	31	-	31	-	-	-

#### **Restoration/Enhancement Acres Breakdown of Existing Protected Lands (Table 1a.2)**

	RESTORE		ENHANCE	
	Lands acquired with OHF	Lands NOT acquired with OHF	Lands acquired with OHF	Lands NOT acquired with OHF
DNR Lands (WMA, State Forests, etc)	-	-	-	324
Non-DNR Lands (city, state, federal, etc.)	195	10	-	45
Easements	-	-	-	-
Total	195	10	-	369

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

Туре	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat	Total Funding
Restore	\$361,000	-	-	\$1,716,000	\$2,077,000
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	\$318,300	\$318,300
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	\$141,000	-	-	\$2,800,400	\$2,941,400
Total	\$502,000	-	-	\$4,834,700	\$5,336,700

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

Туре	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest	Total Acres
Restore	0	0	0	205	0	205
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	0	0	0	31	0	31
Protect in Easement	0	0	0	0	0	0
Enhance	0	0	0	369	0	369
Total	0	0	0	605	0	605

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

Туре	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest	Total Funding
Restore	-	-	-	\$2,077,000	-	\$2,077,000
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	\$318,300	-	\$318,300
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	-	-	-	\$2,941,400	-	\$2,941,400
Total	-	-	-	\$5,336,700	-	\$5,336,700

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

Туре	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat
Restore	\$1,851	-	-	\$171,600
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	\$10,267
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-
Enhance	\$4,028	-	-	\$8,384

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

Туре	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest
Restore	-	-	-	\$10,131	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	\$10,267	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	-	-	-	\$7,971	-

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

48,970 Feet

#### **Parcels**

#### Sign-up Criteria?

No

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

Parcels are selected using the Property Management Zones (PMZs). The PMZs are identified using precision conservation modeling, along with monitoring, and science-based targeting. Parcels are then prioritized and ranked based on the degree of habitat degradation, restoration potential, and landowner interest and support. All parcels listed below have willing landowners ready to initiate the projects if funding allows.

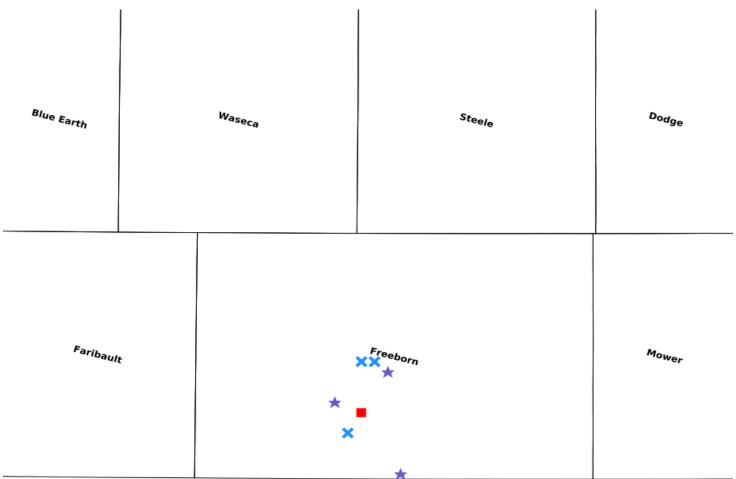
#### **Restore / Enhance Parcels**

Name	County	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection	Description
Channel Restoration, Phase 3	Freeborn	10221209	10	\$1,700,000	Yes	Restoration and naturalization of a Channel in an urban setting to increase habitat success
Church Lake Wetland and Seeding Diversity	Freeborn	10222226	80	\$120,000	Yes	Wetland Restoration, Oak Savanna Prairie Restoration with native seeding
Edgewater and West Main Bay In- Lake Habitat	Freeborn	10221205	324	\$2,402,400	Yes	In-Lake habitat including spawning gravel, boulder clusters, and fish cribs.
Sanderson Wetland Restoration	Freeborn	10121234	115	\$225,000	Yes	Wetland restoration work on a newly acquired parcel to join adjacent WMA restorable wetland basin.
Twin Lakes Stream Enhancements	Freeborn	10122212	10	\$382,000	Yes	Stream Restoration including in-stream habitat work featuring rock riffles, turtle hibernaculum's and toe-wood installation.
Wedge Creek Reach 6 Wetland Restoration	Freeborn	10221206	35	\$125,000	Yes	Wetland scrapes in a floodplain to increase wetland capacity and provide waterfowl habitat.

#### **Protect Parcels**

Name	County	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection
Rognes Property	Freeborn	10221231	31	\$302,250	No

#### Parcel Map



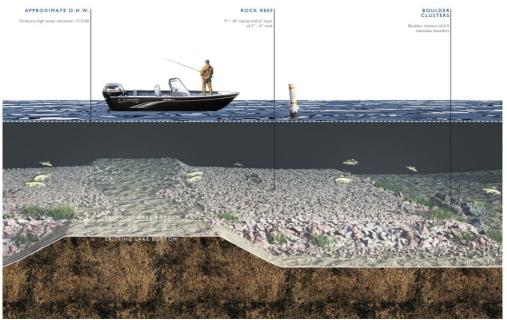
SRRWD Shell Rock River Watershed District Shell Rock River Watershed Habitat Restoration Program **Funding Request: \$5,336,700** 

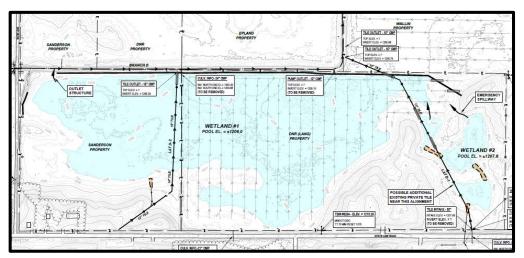
In-Lake Habitat

The installation of features including rock reefs, boulder cluster piles, and spawning gravel are part of this proposal's ongoing improvements for Edgewater and West Main Bay.

Utilizing different size stones creates crevices among the rock structures to serve as habitat for minnows, attracting larger prey species.

Rock reefs and boulder clusters provide excellent structure for walleye and smallmouth bass.





Sanderson Wetland Restoration

This wetland restoration is approximately 115-acres and the project is at 60% plan set design. The SRRWD used LSOHC funding to acquire the Sanderson Property, allowing for a complete restoration on the adjacent DNR WMA Lang Property.

## RESTORE. PROTECT. ENHANCE.



Channel Restoration

The streambank restoration project involves restoring a degraded shoreline in an open-water winter refuge and popular fishing area. BIPOC communities will be better served with improved fishing conditions. This is partially funded with previous LSOHC appropriations in a phased process.

Church Lake

Diversity seeding and native prairie are planned within an 80-acre oak savanna restoration. Efforts will also be made to rehabilitate a previously drained wetland. This parcel was purchased using LSOHC dollars in the SRRWD ML 19 proposal and is now a WMA.

## Juin Lakes Streambank

This streambank enhancement project will connect Goose Creek to its historic floodplain while reducing sedimentation. This project will also incorporate habitat features for fish and amphibians that includes toe-wood installation and rock riffles.

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