

ML 2027 / FY 2028 LSOHC Member Allocation Summary

Member Comments by Proposal Order

Project ID	Project Title	Organization	Suzanne Baird	Rep. John Burkel	Kristin Eggerling	David Hartwell	Sen. Founq Hawj	Matt Kucharski	Sen. Andrew Lang	Darrel Palmer	Tom Saxhaug	Ron Schara	Ted Suss	Rep. Samantha Vang
PA01	Accelerating the Wildlife Management Area Program - Phase XIX	Pheasants Forever						Track record of sucessful stewardship of dollars -strong public benefit and impact.		71, WMA additions			acquisition only	
PA03	DNR Accelerated Native Prairie Bank Protection-Phase IX	MN-DNR	Prohibit neonics			No neonic seeds		Native prairie protections via easements, relatively small dollar amount for the benefit.		45, easements, not open to public access		Review Chair Hartwell's concerns	acquisition only	
PA04	DNR WMA & SNA Acquisition, Phase XIV	DNR						Highly scored, aligned with OHF purpose, strong public benefit, need to scale		75, \$11,000/acre acq, open to public use		Huge increase in dollars requested. Based on history, doubtful money can be spent fast quickly. Slow and easy.	acquisition only	
PA05	Great Prairie Lakes and Wetlands Restoration Initiative	Spirit Lake Protective Association						Nice to see expansion west from Martin. Feel better that DU is involved in restoration.		77, acquistions, open to public use			acquisition only	
PA07	Martin County WMA Acquisition Phase 11	Fox Lake Conservation League, Inc.						Considering Jackson and Martin collectively.		65, Add to WMA's and restorations, Open to public use, \$15000/acre		Huge increase in dollars requested. Based on history, doubtful money can be spent fast quickly. Slow and easy.	acquisition only	
PA08	Minnesota Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (MN CREP)	Board of Water and Soil Resources				remain concerned about the program overpaying for easements. We need more analysis going forward on valuation where sales of property with RIM easements have taken place.		CREP/RIM program has high leverage and permanently takes marginal lands out of production. Pragmatic way to extend a CRP program long-term.		46, RIM Easement enhancements, looks like property owners end up getting paid more than the land value and still get to own and use the land.			acquisition only	
PA09	Minnesota River Watershed Habitat Conservation Program Phase 2	Great River Greening						Area that needs significant help. Grant is for both acquisition AND enhancement. Would like to see a bit more going to enhancement given fewer requests for enhancement.	restoration and acquisition only	45, use funds for Acquisitions and come back for future restoration efforts			MLT acquisition only	
PA10	MN Prairie Recovery Program	The Nature Conservancy						Good throughput for the dollars spent. Mostly enhancement vs acquisition?		61, high personnel costs, land acq and restoration, open to public			acquisition only significant unspent funds from ML 25 and previous	
PA11	Prairie Chicken Habitat Partnership of the Southern Red River Valley - Phase XIII	Pheasants Forever						Ancillary benefits - decent use of funds. Underserved area. Leveraging NAWCA.		72, Land Acq and restoration,			acquisition only, unspent funds from ML 25 and before	
PA12	RIM Buffers for Wildlife and Water - Phase XIII	Board of Water and Soil Resources				remain concerned about the program overpaying for easements. We need more analysis going forward on valuation where sales of property with RIM easements have taken place.		Riparian and floodplain easements. Prices going up for sure.		35, easements, \$14,000/acre, not open to public use?? Some areas allowed?			acquisition only	
PA13	Western Minnesota Prairie and Wetland Protection Program	Minnesota Land Trust				Rather fund easements at 60% of FMV than 90% with BWSR		Majority easements -- scaled.		49, easements, not open to public use,			acquisition only	
PRE01	Enhanced Public Land - Grasslands - Phase X	Pheasants Forever						Good program on public lands -- necessary to improve existing lands		67, enhance 6000 acres on public lands			Previous funding available for near term work	
PRE02	Restoring Minnesota's Prairie Pothole Ecosystem - Phase 1	Minnesota Land Trust						Wetland restorations - worthwhile and ancillary benefits on public lands. Wish we could resolve the cost per acre dilemma but not this applicant's issue.		54, duck stamp funds acquired easements, this request is for restoration			Previous funding available for near term work	
FA02	Mississippi Headwaters Habitat Corridor Project Phase 11	Mississippi Headwaters Board						Good program - Easements ok in terms of protecting watershed/headwaters corridor.*		46, 100% for Conservation Easements,				
FA03	MN Forests of the Future Phase XI South East Blufflands to Northern Forests Protection	MNDNR Division of Forestry						Easements -- best if adjacent to public lands. **		48, easement lands have 5-10% public access,				
FA04	Pine and Leech Watershed Phase IV Forest Habitat Protection	Crow Wing SWCD			leverage	No match		Benefits to watershed/riparian shoreline carry multiplier benefits ***		65, need 6000 acres to reach 75% goal, 14 parcels with 840 acres, RIM Easements, public access 5-10%		Easement pains	acquisition only	
FRE01	DNR Statewide Forest Enhancement-Phase 7	DNR			unspent funds	Spend what you have and come back		Important work, good use of funds.***		73, invasive species control, lots of unspent funds, maybe hold off until funds are spent		No explanation of excessive unspent funds, take a break??	unspent funds available for near term work	

ML 2027 / FY 2028 LSOHC Member Allocation Summary

Member Comments by Proposal Order

Project ID	Project Title	Organization	Suzanne Baird	Rep. John Burkell	Kristin Eggerling	David Hartwell	Sen. Fount Hawj	Matt Kucharski	Sen. Andrew Lang	Darrell Palmer	Tom Saxhaug	Ron Schara	Ted Suss	Rep. Samantha Vang
FRE02	Enhancing Black Ash Forests for Resilience and Habitat	Audubon Upper Mississippi River						Would really like to see this funded - and the effectiveness tracked over time. Will leverage scale? **		68, Seems to be a bit of a research project yet				
FRE03	Metro Forests for Minnesota Wildlife and Communities	Great River Greening				Exclude acoustic monitoring.		Good metro area program. **	CPL grants should be utilized	56,Not opposed to project but suggest applicant should access the CPL program for individual projects, \$11,000/acre seems high		complement with CPL if possible???		
FRE04	Minnesota Forest Recovery Project	The Nature Conservancy						Extremely important to do these restorations. **		74, Need to better understand prioritizations of how they choose parcels				
WA01	Accelerating the Waterfowl Production Area Program - Phase XIX	Pheasants Forever						the amount I recommended last year. I know that they would do more if they had more but need to manage a lot of needs.		64, land acquisition,		Good leverage	acquisition only	
WA02	RIM Wetlands - Restoring the most productive habitat in Minnesota	Board of Water and Soil Resources				remain concerned about the program overpaying for easements. We need more analysis going forward on valuation where sales of property with RIM easements have taken place.		Similar to last year's allocation - willing landowners and protection of important lands.		45, Easements, not open to public access			acquisition only	
WA03	Shallow Lake & Wetland Protection & Restoration Program	Ducks Unlimited						Feels to me like the poster child for OHF land acquisitions. Should fund to the extent able knowing there are lots of needs out there.		69, land acquisition - only DU program that does land acquisition, open to public			acquisition only most previous funds spent	
WRE01	Accelerating the USFWS Habitat Conservation Easement Program	Ducks Unlimited						Necessary but lean more towards restoration and enhancement of public lands where there is need.		47, restore and enhance Fed conservation easements, not open to public use			considerable unspent funds for near term work	
WRE02	DNR Shallow Lakes and Wetland Enhancements Phase 19	DNR			cap the amount for staff costs	Did the funding for the 23 active projects not include staff time to build them? The memo does not explain the the difference between the initial request and the scaleable options. Nor does it explain what happens if there are 5 positions funded by this round.		Absolutely am behind the wetland work being done here - I wish OHF wasn't having to fund the staff for other non-OHF projects and am concerned about the precedent. Would like to set a cap (50%) of dollars going to staff? Open to other percentages.		63, huge funding request, staffing issue		Doubt if DNR has staff to deliver on \$23 million request?	over half of previous funding unspent and available for near term work	
WRE03	DNR Statewide control and reduction of invasive Phragmites Phase I	Department of Natural Resources						Relatively small ask for high-impact work. Want to stipulate only on permanently protected land.		59, suggest seeking LCCMR and CPL funding				
WRE04	Living Shallow Lakes and Wetlands Enhancement & Restoration Initiative	Ducks Unlimited						Different type of program from WRE02. Appreciate both.		54, restore/enhance 2500 acres of wetlands			\$20 million available for near term work	
WRE05	Mud River Enhancement Phase II	Red Lake Watershed District	Fully fund and done. We partially funded last year to complete the engineering/ design and asked them to come back for the remaining funding. Lets fund and complete!			Not Scaleable		Let's finish this off. Not really scaleable.		79, Fund it and get project done			how much water flow reduction can be achieved through more conservation minded farming practices	
WRE06	Otter and Campbell Lakes Habitat Enhancement and Restoration Phase 1	City of Hutchinson						Having trouble with this one in the same way I had trouble with the Howard Lake and Delano projects last year. Worthwhile project but I don't know how we fund these - there have to be hundreds of them (or more) across the state in the same condition.		87, good project				
HA01	2027 Riparian Habitat Protection In the kettle and Snake River Watersheds	Pine County Soil and Water Conservation District			leverage			similar to last year - watershed protection. Easements		53,			acquisition only	
HA02	2027 St. Croix Watershed Habitat Protection and Restoration Phase 8	Wild Rivers Conservancy						Public land use, Key area.		63,		Low leverage???	acquisition only	

ML 2027 / FY 2028 LSOHC Member Allocation Summary

Member Comments by Proposal Order

Project ID	Project Title	Organization	Suzanne Baird	Rep. John Burkel	Kristin Eggerling	David Hartwell	Sen. Fount Hawj	Matt Kucharski	Sen. Andrew Lang	Darrel Palmer	Tom Saxhaug	Ron Schara	Ted Suss	Rep. Samantha Vang
HA03	Cannon River Watershed Habitat Protection and Restoration Program - 16	Clean River Partners						In an area without an overabundance of projects, watershed protection and public access..		56			conflict	
HA04	Dakota County Habitat Protection/Restoration Phase IX	Dakota County						Lots of leverage. Mostly restoration? Metro area. Fixed administrative issues. Has been funded for a long time (any end?)	prior issues with spending and projects coupled with the the county match/bond need to be corrected	58, public access?, Not opposed to projects but can this project be broken down into smaller parcels and use the CPL funds that are available now?			acquisition only	
HA05	Fisheries Habitat Protection on Strategic North Central Minnesota Lakes - ML2027	Northern Waters Land Trust						Like the acquisitions around lakes for the watershed purposes, and also like that it's public access v. easements.		73, land Acquisition, lake protection			acquisition only	
HA06	Metro Big Rivers Phase 17	MN Valley Trust (Metro Big Rivers)						In line with last year's allocation. Metro area, Decent leverage and public land access.	would like to see the outstanding funds spent down prior to awarding additional dollars	56, lots of unspent funds, suggest accessing CPL funds			acquisition only about half of previous allocations are unspent	
HA07	Protecting Minnesota's Lakes of Outstanding Biological Significance - Phase 6	Northern Waters Land Trust						Similar to last year -- good public land acquisition along shorelines/watershed protection, decent leverage.		72, land acquisition, lake protection			most of prior allocations unspent	
HA08	RIM Priority Habitat	Board of Water and Soil Resources				90% of FMV???		More partial to the ones more closely tied to watershed. These are good in that they are adjacent to other permanently protected lands.		48, easements, no public access				
HA09	Southeast Minnesota Protection and Restoration Phase 15	The Nature Conservancy						Big bump last year for Wacouta bay? Good program in an area with limited support. Prefer the public access vs. easements but reasonable mix.	would like to see the outstanding funds spent down prior to awarding additional dollars, last funding cycle was substantial to previous years,testimony stated 5 mil in unencumbered funds	56, mix of Acq and easements				
HA10	Wild Rice Shoreland Protection Phase X	Board of Water and Soil Resources						Good targeted program - while easements, they are on publicly accessible lakes and water quality benefits. In line with previous plus some increase for land cost increases.		53, Easements - shoreline, 60% of value				
HRE01	Anoka Sand Plain Habitat Enhancement and Restoration - Phase 11	Great River Greening						Metro area, good restoration and enhancement program.. Scalable.	would like to see the fund balance spent down, significant funds remaining	50, not open to public use				
HRE02	Beaver Creek Habitat Restoration	Minnesota Trout Unlimited	Fully fund!			If they get \$1.5M, they need to match to finish the project not scale it back.		Single project, benefits to do programs at same time. Let's fund it and be done.	unscalable	77, open to public, a bit of a research project, one and done			not scalable	
HRE03	Daylighting Phalen Creek - Phase 2	Wakan Tipi Awanyankapi	Apply to CPL to complete reaches 7-8. Not sure the value of restoration in other reaches is worthy \$25 M.		I love this concept/ project but seems more appropriate to fund later in the process	Come back when there is habitat restoration proposal. Proposal is for complete design of area at Wakan Tipi but only partial design of the vast majority and it is hard to imagine this will contain much more than a narrow strip of green along the daylighted creek for most of the Reach 6. Concerned that the City/County does not seem to be engaged or providing any funding. Volunteer coordinator cost (\$169K for \$20K of volunteer labor) when the proposal is primarily for engineering design.		For me, this is about finishing the upper section	interesting project, does not seem to fit the scope of habitat goals that the council, very expensive for very little habitat, unsure of the feasibility and design goals from LSOHC dollars	55, Not sure how they will fit in a "restored channel", is this a "park" project?	Revise request to end of creek?			

ML 2027 / FY 2028 LSOHC Member Allocation Summary

Member Comments by Proposal Order

Project ID	Project Title	Organization	Suzanne Baird	Rep. John Burkel	Kristin Eggerling	David Hartwell	Sen. FOUNG Hawj	Matt Kucharski	Sen. Andrew Lang	Darrel Palmer	Tom Saxhaug	Ron Schara	Ted Suss	Rep. Samantha Vang
HRE04	DNR Aquatic Habitat Restoration and Enhancement Phase 10	Department of Natural Resources						Similar allocation to previous year -- high impact projects with lots of downstream (literally) benefit.		76, connectivity solutions on rivers/streams/lakes		Need to expedite past prjcts and dollars.	Most of previous funding unspent	
HRE05	DNR Fish Habitat Restoration and Enhancement Phase 1	Mn DNR Section of Fisheries						Lakes that are part of extended complexes feel to me like where the priority should lie. Would like to have some of that be stipulated vs. stand-alone lakes without much comple connectivity		77, lake restoration start		Some overlap with HRE04	Funding for program startup, planning, and design	
HRE06	DNR Irish Creek Watershed Enhancement, Phase 1	MNDNR				Fund Irish creek only		Feels like a textbook OHF project - worthwhile, scaleable, leverage, major benefits to the surrounding area. Would love to see this get funded.		70,			I support Moose habitat	
HRE08	Enhancing Agate Bay's Coastal Wetland Habitat along the Lake Superior Shore in Lake County, Minnesota	Lake County (MN) Soil & Water Conservation District	Feels like a better fit for Parks funding		CPL for the future, parks and trails, possibly later in the project	Not enough habitat benefit for the cost		This looks like a great project - unfortunately not one that we should be funding out of OHF dollars. There have to be other sources.	needs council discusion	65		Where's wildlife habitat requirement???		
HRE09	Knife River Habitat Rehabilitation Project-PH VIII	Lake Superior Steelhead Association (LSSA) w/Rajala Woods Foundation (RWF)			not scalable?	Not scaleable because they don't want to administer other appropriations? Did not answer the question that was asked about this proposal being a mirror of the one that already received funding.		We can see the light at the end of the tunnel on this - if we have funds to close it out great - if not maybe extend one more year.		74, Phase 8 and FINAL Phase!				
HRE10	Little Cannon River Stream Habitat Restoration - Construction Phase	Minnesota Trout Unlimited				Clean River Partners does not seem that important to this project.		Design not completely done but should be soon (funds just released). Fund 1/3 of it?		63,			conflict	
HRE12	Minnesota Statewide Trout Habitat Enhancement & Protection - Construction	Minnesota Trout Unlimited						I think we should fund it and then have a gap year.		71,			unspent funds available for near term work	
HRE13	Protection and Resiliency in the Rainy River Headwaters	Cook County						Good project -- clear proposal. Scaling based on available funds.		82				
HRE14	Restoring priority habitats for Hennepin County's sensitive wildlife	Hennepin County						Suggest funding partial based on scalability		59, seek CPL funding			one of the few metro applications	
HRE15	Swift Coulee Channel Restoration/ Enhancement - Phase 2	Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District	Fully fund.					Same amount as last year. Appreciate the cost effectiveness of the ask.		67, asked for \$3,623,200 last yr for all work. Recvd \$2,635,000 - short \$988,200. Why do they need \$2043,000 now?				
HRE16	Tamarac River Enhancement Project - Phase 1	Marshall County				How can ethey submit a proposal and not understand if RIM easements are even available for it?		I like the finite time frame of this -- could be scaled over the course of a few more years but I do like the overall intent of the project.		56,			wouldlike to see more enforcable commitment to farming practices to reduce runoff	
CPL	Conservation Partners Legacy Grant Program ML27/FY28	DNR						I would like to go back to stipulating percentages for metro/urban and rural					Reduced due to Metro Only	
O1	2027 Contract Management	DNR												
O2	2027 Restoration Evaluations - ML 2027	DNR				180,000 is all that is required								
O3	DNR Core Functions in Partner-led OHF Acquisitions	DNR												
O4	DNR Roving Crew 4	DNR												