Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

Metro Big Rivers Phase 17

Laws of Minnesota 2027 Accomplishment Plan

General Information

Date: 10/19/2026

Project Title: Metro Big Rivers Phase 17

Funds Recommended: $6,119,000

Legislative Citation:

Appropriation Language:

Manager Information

Manager's Name: Neal Feeken
Title: Executive Director
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MVT: Neal Feeken - nfeeken@mnvalleytrust.org - 952-207-0247

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Location Information

County Location(s): Washington, Sherburne, Isanti, Dakota, Carver, Scott, Hennepin, Chisago, Wright and Sibley.

Eco regions in which work will take place:

Metro / Urban

Activity types:

Protect in Fee

Restore

Enhance

Priority resources addressed by activity:

Prairie

Forest

Habitat

Narrative

Abstract

Metro Big Rivers 17 will protect 340 acres in fee-title, restore 140 acres, and enhance 267 acres of priority habitat in the Big Rivers' corridors in the Metropolitan Urbanizing Area (747 acres total). MBR projects benefit game and non-game wildlife and Species in Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN), and provide increased public access and nature connections for Twin City metro residents. This program protects and enhances additional critical habitat for myriad songbirds during spring and fall migration periods. Restoration and enhancement projects will include public participation through volunteering, demonstrating engagement from local community members, and contributing significant in-kind contributions.

Design and Scope of Work

Metro Big Rivers 17 will protect, restore and enhance 747 acres of prioritized wildlife habitat in the Metropolitan Urban Area, with an emphasis on the Mississippi, Minnesota and St. Croix Rivers and their tributaries. Metro Big Rivers' work benefits wildlife, improves water quality and in-stream food availability, increases wildlife-based recreational opportunities, and connects metro residents with nature.

Friends of the Mississippi River (FMR) will enhance 152 acres at 4 sites to increase native plant diversity, improve pollinator and wildlife habitat, bolster water quality, and improve public access to natural spaces. Projects include restoration and enhancement tasks like invasive woody plant removal, seeding and planting of native prairie and forest species, mowing, spot-spraying, and prescribed burning. 9 acres of enhancement will occur on remnant native prairie.

Minnesota Valley Trust (MVT) will, through fee title acquisition, protect 85 acres river frontage, floodplain forest, wetland and upland habitat to expand the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge. Prospective lands are prioritized by the USFWS and will be restored/enhanced, then open for wildlife-based recreation. MVT will enhance an additional 75 acres of prairie/oak savanna habitat on multiple sites across Refuge units.

Trust for Public Land (TPL) will permanently protect 255 acres of at-risk wildlife habitat through fee-title acquisition. Additionally, TPL will restore/enhance 125 acres of prairie and forest habitat on the recently protected Keystone Woods WMA in Washington County. Prospective acquisitions are prioritized in state, regional, and local natural resource plans. Once acquired, these lands will be conveyed and managed by public partners and open for wildlife-based recreation.

Minnesota Land Trust (MLT) will restore 55 acres of high-quality habitats across 2 sites. These two adjacent conservation easements contain 55 acres of ag fields that will be restored to highly diverse, pollinator friendly prairies. This work is directly adjacent to the Sherburne National Wildlife Refuge and will bridge the gap between the refuge and nearby prairie restorations on other MLT easements, thereby creating corridors for movement and expanding this important habitat complex.

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

Metro Big Rivers projects protect and improve habitats needed by SGCN and other targeted species. Many of Minnesota's forest and grassland SGCNs are migratory. Improving habitat along and near the Mississippi Flyway (the three big rivers) provides great benefits to all wildlife species, especially during critical migration periods.

Friends of the Mississippi River will conduct habitat enhancement at four sites located along the Mississippi River, within the Important Bird Area. This corridor provides critical habitat for neotropical migrant birds and numerous SGCN. FMR has been tracking breeding bird species at these sites, recording 11 SGCNs. The sites are also vital for many other species, especially native pollinators, and provide connectivity to other natural areas. In addition, three sites are situated along the Vermillion River, a major tributary to the Mississippi, and an additional site is located adjacent to the Minnesota River, just outside of the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge.

Minnesota Valley Trust will acquire lands identified through the USFWS Comprehensive Conservation Plan for the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge. This plan prioritizes lands for high biodiversity, connectivity, and ability to preserve habitat for SGCN.

Trust for Public Land will acquire land in fee that are identified and prioritized in state, regional, and local natural resource plans due to their high biodiversity significance, connectivity to existing public lands, and ability to preserve habitat for SGCN. Permanent protection from development, and subsequent habitat management increase breeding and migratory habitat for waterfowl, shorebirds, neo-tropical migrants, and non-migratory resident species, protect the diversity of native ecosystems, and improve connectivity and resilience.

Minnesota Land Trust targets its restoration/enhancement work to build high-quality habitat complexes that support SGCN and T&E species in the Metro area. Permanently-protected privately-owned lands will be prioritized to build the size of and connections between existing protected lands, enhancing the ability of these species to persist over the long term. Restoration and enhancement of habitat is proposed for lands already protected through easement.

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

The three major rivers, which converge in the Metro Urbanizing Area (MUA), and identified in the LSOHC Ecological Section Vision and Priorities, are of significant importance to myriad migrating species and SGCN. Four intersecting issues create urgency for Metro Big Rivers Partnerships' work in the MUA -- 1) continued decline of many wildlife species, most notably birds and pollinators, 2) declining habitat these species need to rebound and thrive, 3) rising land values and development and 4) metro residents' need for access to nature nearby.

Protecting and enhancing habitat in the MUA is especially critical now, as land values and developments continue to rise, placing constant demand on lands throughout the area. MBR projects provide needed and significant wildlife habitat, improve connectivity and habitat values (especially for wildlife and SGCN) and increase much-

needed public access to wildlife-based outdoor opportunities throughout the MUA, including hunting, fishing and wildlife observation.

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

Protection partners prioritize work through science-based processes led by the public entities that will ultimately own interest in the properties (e.g., MN DNR, USFWS). Plans followed include Minnesota Biological Survey, Minnesota State Wildlife Action Plan, and the Comprehensive Conservation Plan for the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge. Actions are targeted toward building conservation corridors and priority habitat complexes. Restoration and enhancement partners use science-based criteria to prioritize activities. This includes consideration of the highest quality natural areas (as determined by MN Biological Survey), as well as prioritization of work within important ecological corridors identified by a coalition of conservation partners and based on rare species and sensitive landscape features. This prioritization ensures that projects reduce fragmentation and link natural areas within already-established corridors. All of the restoration and enhancement sites are located along or near the three big rivers and important tributaries - some of the most important ecological corridors for migrating and sedentary plant and animal life.

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

Minnesota's Wildlife Action Plan 2015-2025

Outdoor Heritage Fund: A 25 Year Framework

Which LSOHC section priorities are addressed in this program?

Metro / Urban

Protect habitat corridors, with emphasis on the Minnesota, Mississippi, and St. Croix rivers (bluff to floodplain)

Outcomes

Programs in metropolitan urbanizing region:

A network of natural land and riparian habitats will connect corridors for wildlife and species in greatest conservation need ~ *Partners work together to identify priority lands using existing data and public plans, then coordinate protection, restoration and enhancement activities in those priority areas. Work builds upon prior phases and is intended to continue into the future for maximum impact. Mapping shows progress in connecting corridors. Species collections and counts measure impact of activities over time on wildlife and Species in Greatest Conservation Need.*

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 or substituting for any previous funding that was not from a legacy fund and was used for the same purpose.

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

All public partners have committed to maintaining restoration and enhancement habitat improvements.

All MBR restore/enhance partners will raise funds and work with partners to ensure the project benefits are maintained. FMR will continue hosting public and group volunteer events to maintain habitat investments.

Lands acquired in fee title by MVT for the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge will be sustained and maintained over the long-term by the USFWS. Habitat restoration / enhancement will be completed by MVT prior to transfer to the USFWS.

MLT provides habitat management plans to landowners and helps them access resources and technical expertise to undertake restoration, enhancement and ongoing management.

Lands acquired in fee title by TPL will be conveyed to the DNR or local units of government for permanent stewardship. Estimated costs for initial restoration work are included in this proposal. TPL will work with DNR or LGUs to complete a restoration and management plan, and implementation of that plan will be conducted once land has been conveyed. These properties will be managed and maintained by the respective government entities according to OHF standards.

Actions to Maintain Project Outcomes

Year	Source of Funds	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3
Post-Acquisition, Ongoing	MBR Organizations, Public Partners	Post acquired property	Develop & implement habitat restoration and enhancement plans	Transfer property to public partner, steward
Ongoing	MBR organizations, Local Partners, Private Landowners	Monitoring and assessment of restoration and enhancement projects	Target actions, engage local partners and landowners	Take restorative action to correct any damage

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

MBR partners have a shared objective of providing all metro residents with high-quality natural spaces nearby. We believe everyone should be able to easily connect with nature, enjoy high-quality wildlife habitat and engage in wildlife-dependent recreation, regardless of race, ethnicity, or socio-economic status. Our projects benefit a diversity of communities, from lower-income, densely populated neighborhoods to urbanizing suburban/rural areas. Examples of how MBR engages and benefits diverse communities include:

Friends of the Mississippi River actively engages residents in habitat work in their communities through targeted outreach for volunteer events. Their youth programming targets young people from diverse backgrounds for exploring environmental careers. FMR's Environmental Stewards Institute increases underrepresented youth participating in environmental career pathway programs; at least 65% of participants identify as black, indigenous, or a person of color.

Metro residents can step off the light rail and into the wildness on the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge to connect with nature and wildlife at no cost. The Refuge and Minnesota Valley Trust provide free busing for schools with a high percentage of low-income students and have a free lending program (e.g. snowshoes, fishing poles, field backpacks, binoculars). Their internship and apprenticeship program recruits a diversity of youth to explore the outdoors and conservation careers.

Through its partnership with the MN Chapter of Backcountry Hunters and Anglers, Trust for Public Land facilitates mentored hunting and angling opportunities for diverse communities on public lands and waters across

Minnesota, with a focus on ones protected by the OHF. Like mentee participants, the mentors come from historically marginalized communities with diverse ethnic and racial backgrounds. We know that seeing diversity in outdoor spaces helps foster a sense of representation, belonging and inclusion.

Minnesota Land Trust's commitment includes numerous projects to protect camps. The recent protection of the Girl Scouts' Camp Elk River and past protection of Phyllis Wheatley Community Center's Camp Katherine Parsons enables the youth of Minnesota to create lifelong memories and connections to natural spaces by providing opportunities for the camps to expand their programming while also protecting high-quality habitat.

Activity Details

Requirements

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

Will county board or other local government approval be formally sought prior to acquisition, per 97A.056 subd 13(j)?**
No

Describe any measures to inform local governments of land acquisition under their jurisdiction:
Local units of government will be notified of pending fee title acquisitions, as required by law.

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?

SNA

Permanently Protected Conservation Easements

County/Municipal

WMA

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?
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

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:
Lands acquired for the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge will be open for public hunting and fishing according to the National Wildlife Refuge Improvement Act. The lands will be opened through a public process prescribed by the Act. We anticipate hunting and fishing opportunities will be like those already established for lands previously acquired for the Refuge. For specific information, refer to the Refuge's website - https://www.fws.gov/refuge/minnesota-valley/visit-us/activities/hunting

Lands acquired by Trust for Public Land will be open for fishing and hunting.

Who will eventually own the fee title land?

State of MN

Federal

Local Unit of Government

County

Land acquired in fee will be designated as a:

WMA

National Wildlife Refuge

SNA

State Forest

AMA

Other : County Conservation Area

What is the anticipated number of closed acquisitions (range is fine) you plan to accomplish with this appropriation?

Will new trails or roads be developed or improved, beyond those used for maintenance and management, as a result of the proposed acquisition?
No

Will the acquired parcels be restored or enhanced within this appropriation?
-

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

Timeline

Activity Name	Estimated Completion Date
MLT - Restore/Enhance 55 acres	June 2032
MVT - Enhance and restore 75 acres	June 2031
TPL - Restore and enhance 125 acres	June 2031
TPL - Protect 255 acres through fee title acquisition	June 2031
MVT - Protect 85 acres through fee title acquisition	June 2031
FMR - Enhance 152 acres	June 2032

Date of Final Report Submission: 10/01/2035

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, 2031;
(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, 2035;
(3) money appropriated for restoring or enhancing other land is available until June 30, 2032;
(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.

Grand Totals Across All Partnerships

Item	Funding Request	Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	$313,400	$45,000	-, members, donors	$358,400
Contracts	$1,281,800	$70,000	-, members, donors, MVT Private funds	$1,351,800
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	$3,080,000	-	-	$3,080,000
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	$1,052,000	$150,000	MVT Private funds	$1,202,000
Easement Acquisition	-	-	-	-
Easement Stewardship	-	-	-	-
Travel	$8,000	$2,000	-, Private	$10,000
Professional Services	$60,000	-	-	$60,000
Direct Support Services	$116,700	$99,200	cities, foundations, members, Private	$215,900
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	$102,000	-	-	$102,000
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	$500	-	-	$500
Supplies/Materials	$60,600	$1,000	cities, foundations, members	$61,600
DNR IDP	$44,000	-	-	$44,000
Grand Total	**$6,119,000**	**$367,200**	**-**	**$6,486,200**

Partner: FMR

Totals

Item	Funding Request	Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	$63,400	$45,000	members, donors	$108,400
Contracts	$577,300	$20,000	members, donors	$597,300
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	-	-	-	-
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	-	-	-	-
Easement Acquisition	-	-	-	-
Easement Stewardship	-	-	-	-
Travel	$6,000	-	-	$6,000
Professional Services	-	-	-	-
Direct Support Services	$53,200	$53,200	cities, foundations, members	$106,400
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	-	-	-	-
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	-	-	-	-
Supplies/Materials	$60,100	$1,000	cities, foundations, members	$61,100
DNR IDP	-	-	-	-
Grand Total	**$760,000**	**$119,200**	**-**	**$879,200**

Personnel

Position	Annual FTE	Years Working	Funding Request	Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
FMR Staff	0.1	5.0	$63,400	$45,000	members, donors	$108,400

Partner: MLT

Totals

Item	Funding Request	Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	$65,000	-	-	$65,000
Contracts	$164,500	-	-	$164,500
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	-	-	-	-
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	-	-	-	-
Easement Acquisition	-	-	-	-
Easement Stewardship	-	-	-	-
Travel	$2,000	-	-	$2,000
Professional Services	-	-	-	-
Direct Support Services	$17,500	-	-	$17,500
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	-	-	-	-
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	$500	-	-	$500
Supplies/Materials	$500	-	-	$500
DNR IDP	-	-	-	-
Grand Total	**$250,000**	**-**	**-**	**$250,000**

Personnel

Position	Annual FTE	Years Working	Funding Request	Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Restoration Program Staff	0.12	5.0	$65,000	-	-	$65,000

Partner: MVT

Totals

Item	Funding Request	Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	-	-	-	-
Contracts	$240,000	$50,000	MVT Private funds	$290,000
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	-	-	-	-
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	$750,000	$150,000	MVT Private funds	$900,000
Easement Acquisition	-	-	-	-
Easement Stewardship	-	-	-	-
Travel	-	-	-	-
Professional Services	-	-	-	-
Direct Support Services	-	-	-	-
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	$10,000	-	-	$10,000
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	-	-	-	-
Supplies/Materials	-	-	-	-
DNR IDP	-	-	-	-
Grand Total	**$1,000,000**	**$200,000**	**-**	**$1,200,000**

Partner: TPL

Totals

Item	Funding Request	Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	$185,000	-	-	$185,000
Contracts	$300,000	-	-	$300,000
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	$3,080,000	-	-	$3,080,000
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	$302,000	-	-	$302,000
Easement Acquisition	-	-	-	-
Easement Stewardship	-	-	-	-
Travel	-	$2,000	Private	$2,000
Professional Services	$60,000	-	-	$60,000
Direct Support Services	$46,000	$46,000	Private	$92,000
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	$92,000	-	-	$92,000
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	-	-	-	-
Supplies/Materials	-	-	-	-
DNR IDP	$44,000	-	-	$44,000
Grand Total	**$4,109,000**	**$48,000**	**-**	**$4,157,000**

Personnel

Position	Annual FTE	Years Working	Funding Request	Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Protection and Legal	0.25	4.0	$185,000	-	-	$185,000

Amount of Request: $6,119,000
Amount of Leverage: $367,200
Leverage as a percent of the Request: 6.0%
DSS + Personnel: $430,100
As a % of the total request: 7.03%
Easement Stewardship: -
As a % of the Easement Acquisition: -

How will this program accommodate the reduced appropriation recommendation from the original proposed requested amount?
Metro Big Rivers reduced the number of projects it will complete and acres impacted to accommodate the reduced appropriation recommendation.

Detail leverage sources and confirmation of funds:
Leverage includes committed partner and other private funds (FMR, MVT, TPL), committed and anticipated city funds (FMR).

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?
A reduction in funding would reduce outputs (acres/activities). The reduction will not be exactly proportional, as partners have some fixed costs that do not change based on project size.

Describe how personnel and DSS expenses would be adjusted and if not proportionately reduced, why?
Personnel and DSS expenses are scalable, but not proportionately, due to grant management, landowner outreach and other fixed costs. Some fee acquisitions fail to close, but still have costs.

Personnel

Has funding for these positions been requested in the past?
Yes

Contracts

What is included in the contracts line?
FMR, MVT, TPL, MLT - Restoration / enhancement contracts with service providers.

Professional Services

What is included in the Professional Services line?

Appraisals

Design/Engineering

Other : Phase 1 Environmental Review

Surveys

Fee Acquisition

What is the anticipated number of fee title acquisition transactions?
3 to 5

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
NA

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?

FMR – As of October 27, 2023, FMR's DSS rate has been approved by DNR staff. Our rate includes the allowable direct and necessary expenditures that are not captured in other line items in the budget. A portion not exceeding 50% of these costs are requested from the grant and the balance is contributed as leverage.
MLT - In a process approved by the DNR on March 17, 2017, MLT's DSS rate includes the allowable direct and necessary expenditures that are not captured in other line items in the budget. This is similar to the MLT's proposed federal indirect rate. MLT will apply this DNR-approved rate only to personnel expenses.
TPL - DSS rate is based upon our federal rate which has been approved by the DNR. 50% of these costs are requested from the grant, 50% is contributed as leverage.

Other Equipment/Tools

Give examples of the types of Equipment and Tools that will be purchased?
Hand tools, saws, brush cutters, GPS devices, safety gear and other necessary equipment to complete restoration and enhancement activities.

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	-	85	-	55	140
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	235	235
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	105	105
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	-	152	40	75	267
Total	**-**	**237**	**40**	**470**	**747**

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	9
Total	**9**

Total Requested Funding by Resource Type (Table 2)

Type	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat	Total Funding
Restore	-	$164,000	-	$250,000	$414,000
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	$3,509,000	$3,509,000
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	$1,060,000	$1,060,000
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	-	$760,000	$136,000	$240,000	$1,136,000
Total	**-**	**$924,000**	**$136,000**	**$5,059,000**	**$6,119,000**

Acres within each Ecological Section (Table 3)

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest	Total Acres
Restore	140	-	-	-	-	140
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	235	-	-	-	-	235
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	105	-	-	-	-	105
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	267	-	-	-	-	267
Total	**747**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**747**

Total Requested Funding within each Ecological Section (Table 4)

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest	Total Funding
Restore	$414,000	-	-	-	-	$414,000
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	$3,509,000	-	-	-	-	$3,509,000
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	$1,060,000	-	-	-	-	$1,060,000
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	$1,136,000	-	-	-	-	$1,136,000
Total	**$6,119,000**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**$6,119,000**

Average Cost per Acre by Resource Type (Table 5)

Type	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat
Restore	-	$1,929	-	$4,545
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	$14,931
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	$10,095
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-
Enhance	-	$5,000	$3,400	$3,200

Average Cost per Acre by Ecological Section (Table 6)

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest
Restore	$2,957	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	$14,931	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	$10,095	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	$4,254	-	-	-	-

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:
FMR works with their public partners and other interested stakeholders to identify priority projects and areas. Criteria includes ecological and habitat value and potential (biodiversity, size and location), congruence with existing plans and priority areas, adjacency and connectedness to other public and protected lands and complexes, willing and committed landowners and leveraged opportunities.

MVT seeks to acquire land within the boundaries established by the USFWS for the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge in its Comprehensive Conservation Plan. Within those boundaries, parcels are prioritized based on adjacency or proximity to lands already publicly-protected, the opportunity to protect lands from development and restore habitat to meet ecological and public use objectives, and the feasibility of completing large blocks of protected and publicly-managed lands over time.

TPL works with its public partners (Minnesota DNR and local units of government) to identify priority opportunities that expand on and create new public conservation investments that protect high-quality wetland, woodland, prairie and riparian habitat.

MLT prioritizes parcels for restoration and enhancement that are of high ecological significance, adjacent or close to public conservation investments and owned by landowners committed to conservation.

Restore / Enhance Parcels

Name	County	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection	Description
MVT - Rapids Lake Lundquist	Carver	11524236	50	$27,500	Yes	Oak savanna enhancement
MVT - Rapids Lake Unit #2	Carver	11524225	57	$25,000	Yes	Oak Savanna enhancement
MVT - Rapids Lake VC	Carver	11423206	1	$5,000	Yes	Oak savanna enhancement
MVT - San Francisco Belter Unit	Carver	11424225	10	$235,000	Yes	Oak Savanna enhancement
MVT -Perbix WPA	Carver	11526234	20	$25,000	Yes	Grassland enhancement
MVT -Tiger Lake WPA	Carver	11526215	50	$15,000	Yes	Grassland enhancement
MVT-Rapids Lake Unit North	Carver	11524225	90	$530,000	Yes	Oak Savanna enhancement
MLT - Kroon Lake (Fredell)	Chisago	03320210	4	$75,000	Yes	Wetland enhancements on 2 basins
FMR - Hastings River Flats	Dakota	11517221	22	$77,600	Yes	Enhance 22 acres of restored prairie through prescribed burns and seeding
FMR - Lake Rebecca Park	Dakota	11517221	23	$95,900	Yes	Enhance 23 acres of restored priarie through prescribed burns and seeding
MVT -Soberg WPA	Dakota	11421235	25	$5,000	Yes	Grassland enhancement
MVT - Long Meadow Lake	Hennepin	02723218	15	$50,000	Yes	Floodplain forest enhancement
MVT - Long Meadow Lake BLVC Unit	Hennepin	02723206	12	$250,000	Yes	Oak savanna enhancement
MVT - Upgrala Unit	Hennepin	11622233	72	$100,000	Yes	Grassland/Wetland enhancement

MVT - Wilkie Unit	Hennepin	11522201	16	$100,000	Yes	Oak Savanna restoration
FMR - Eagle Creek AMA	Scott	11521218	35	$386,500	Yes	Enhance 35 acres of prairie (9.5 native prairie) through woody removal, prescribed burns, and seeding
FMR - Houlton Conservation Area	Sherburne	03326233	83	$200,000	Yes	Enhance 72 acres of restored prairie through prescribed burns and native seeding
MLT - LongPond Elk Farm (Angstman 1) wetland	Sherburne	03526222	10	$25,000	Yes	Wetland enhancements on 2 basins
MLT - LongPond Elk Farm (Angstman 3) wetland	Sherburne	03526223	11	$10,000	Yes	Wetland enhancement on 1 basic
MLT - Sherburne Hardwoods (Anderson Stombaugh 2)	Sherburne	03428212	40	$120,000	Yes	Prairie restoration
MLT - Sherburne Hardwoods (Nystrom)	Sherburne	03428212	15	$45,000	Yes	Prairie restoration
MVT - Redhead WPA	Sibley	11426222	40	$25,000	Yes	Grassland/Wetland enhancement
TPL - Keystone Woods WMA	Washington	03120218	800	$1,500,000	Yes	Restore 600 acres of prairie, enhance 200 acres of forest

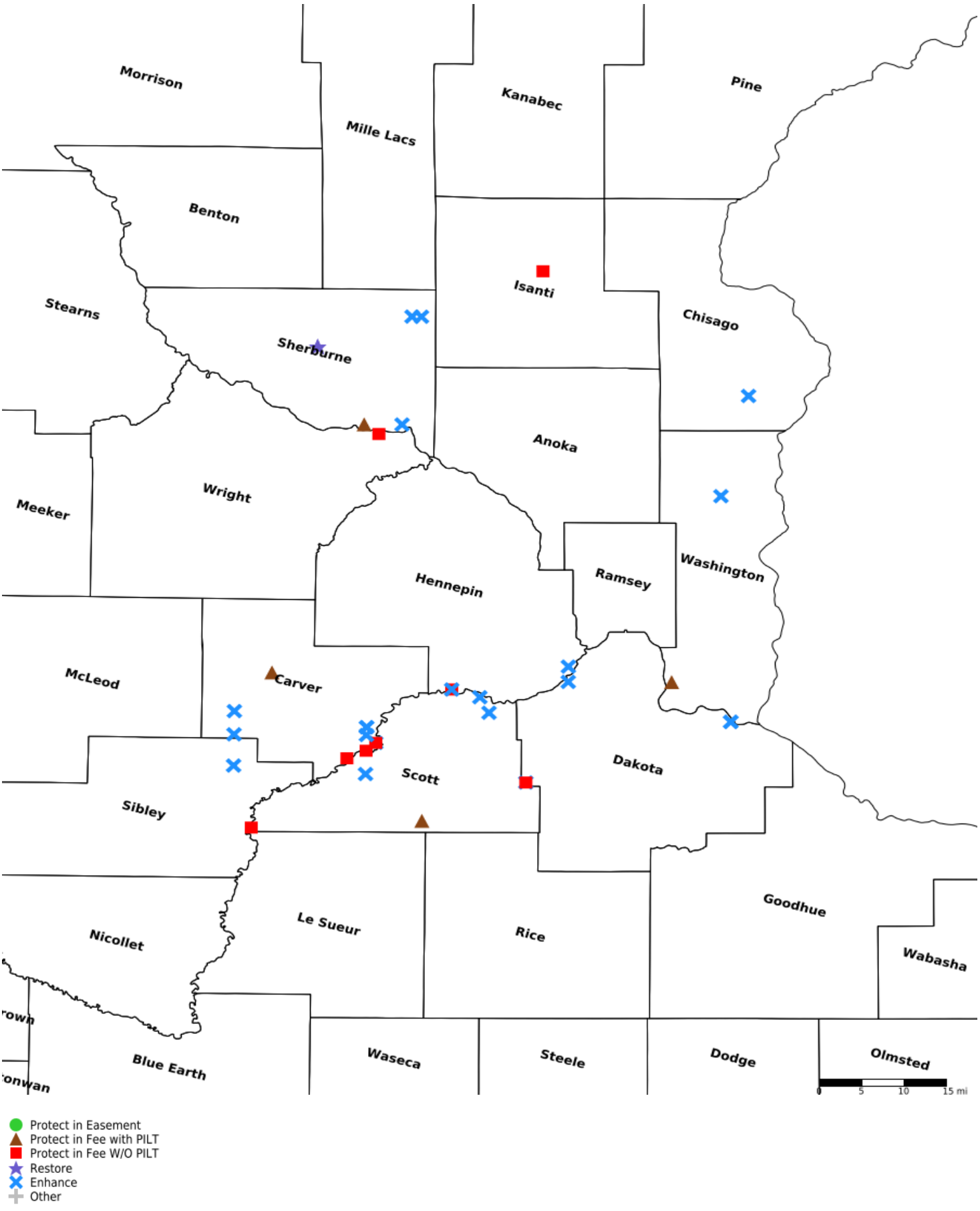
Fee Parcels

Name	County	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection
MVT - Rapids Lake Unit Addition, MN Valley National Wildlife Refuge	Carver	11423206	118	$826,000	No
MVT - San Francisco Unit Addition, MN Valley National Wildlife Refuge	Carver	11424215	353	$1,147,250	No
MVT - San Francisco Unit Addition, MN Valley National Wildlife Refuge	Carver	11424212	168	$546,000	No
MVT - Soberg WPA Addition,	Dakota	11421235	220	$2,400,000	No
MVT - Blakeley Unit Addition, MN Valley National Wildlife Refuge	Scott	11326236	194	$630,500	No
TPL - Ney WMA Addition 3	Scott	11323225	193	$1,500,000	No
TPL - Mississippi Sherburne North	Sherburne	03327235	34	$1,200,000	No
TPL - Nesvig AMA	Washington	02722213	200	$5,000,000	No
TPL - Mississippi River Conservation Area	Wright	12123218	133	$3,500,000	No

Fee Parcels with Buildings

Name	County	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection	Buildings	Value of Buildings
TPL - Patterson Lake WMA addition	Carver	11625220	755	$9,800,000	No	3	$100,000
MVT - Upgrala Unit Addition, MN Valley National Wildlife Refuge	Hennepin	11622233	116	$1,200,000	No	2	$0
TPL - Becklin Homestead Park	Isanti	03624224	57	$400,000	No	1	$50,000

Parcel Map


Morrison
Mille Lacs
Kanabec
Pine
Benton
Isanti
Stearns
Sherburne
Chisago
Anoka
Meeker
Wright
Hennepin
Ramsey
Washington
McLeod
Carver
Scott
Dakota
Sibley
Nicollet
Le Sueur
Rice
Goodhue
Wabasha
Blue Earth
Waseca
Steele
Dodge
Olmsted
0 5 10 15 mi
Protect in Easement
Protect in Fee with PILT
Protect in Fee W/O PILT
Restore
Enhance
Other

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

Metro Big Rivers Phase 17

Comparison Report

Program Title: ML 2027 - Metro Big Rivers Phase 17
Organization: MN Valley Trust (Metro Big Rivers)
Manager: Neal Feeken

Budget

Requested Amount: $20,569,000
Appropriated Amount: $6,119,000
Percentage: 29.75%

Item	Requested Proposal	Leverage Proposal	Appropriated AP	Leverage AP	Percent of Request	Percent of Leverage
Personnel	$1,035,000	$62,500	$313,400	$45,000	30.28%	72.0%
Contracts	$3,394,000	$325,000	$1,281,800	$70,000	37.77%	21.54%
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	$12,000,000	-	$3,080,000	-	25.67%	-
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	$3,200,000	$250,000	$1,052,000	$150,000	32.88%	60.0%
Easement Acquisition	-	-	-	-	-	-
Easement Stewardship	-	-	-	-	-	-
Travel	$18,000	$2,000	$8,000	$2,000	44.44%	100.0%
Professional Services	$111,000	-	$60,000	-	54.05%	-
Direct Support Services	$302,000	$583,900	$116,700	$99,200	38.64%	16.99%
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	$251,000	-	$102,000	-	40.64%	-
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	$1,000	-	$500	-	50.0%	-
Supplies/Materials	$99,000	$1,000	$60,600	$1,000	61.21%	100.0%
DNR IDP	$158,000	-	$44,000	-	27.85%	-
Grand Total	**$20,569,000**	**$1,224,400**	**$6,119,000**	**$367,200**	**29.75%**	**29.99%**

If the project received 70% of the requested funding

Describe how the scaling would affect acres/activities and if not proportionately reduced, why?
A reduction in funding would reduce outputs (acres/activities). The reduction will not be exactly proportional, as partners have some fixed costs that do not change based on project size.

Describe how personnel and DSS expenses would be adjusted and if not proportionately reduced, why?
Personnel and DSS expenses are scalable, but not proportionately, due to grant management, landowner outreach and other fixed costs. Some fee acquisitions fail to close, but still have costs.

If the project received 50% of the requested funding

Describe how the scaling would affect acres/activities and if not proportionately reduced, why?
A reduction in funding would reduce outputs (acres/activities). The reduction will not be exactly proportional, as partners have some fixed costs that do not change based on project size.

Describe how personnel and DSS expenses would be adjusted and if not proportionately reduced, why?
Personnel and DSS expenses are scalable, but not proportionately, due to grant management, landowner outreach and other fixed costs. Some fee acquisitions fail to close, but still have costs.

Output

Acres by Resource Type (Table 1)

Type	Total Proposed	Total in AP	Percentage of Proposed
Restore	140	140	100.0%
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	830	235	28.31%
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	270	105	38.89%
Protect in Easement	0	-	-
Enhance	724	267	36.88%

Total Requested Funding by Resource Type (Table 2)

Type	Total Proposed	Total in AP	Percentage of Proposed
Restore	$564,000	$414,000	73.4%
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	$13,166,000	$3,509,000	26.65%
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	$3,346,000	$1,060,000	31.68%
Protect in Easement	-	-	-
Enhance	$3,493,000	$1,136,000	32.52%

Acres within each Ecological Section (Table 3)

Type	Total Proposed	Total in AP	Percentage of Proposed
Restore	140	140	100.0%
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	830	235	28.31%
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	270	105	38.89%
Protect in Easement	0	-	-
Enhance	724	267	36.88%

Total Requested Funding within each Ecological Section (Table 4)

Type	Total Proposed	Total in AP	Percentage of Proposed
Restore	$564,000	$414,000	73.4%
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	$13,166,000	$3,509,000	26.65%
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	$3,346,000	$1,060,000	31.68%
Protect in Easement	-	-	-
Enhance	$3,493,000	$1,136,000	32.52%