Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

Protecting Minnesota's Lakes of Outstanding Biological Significance - Phase 6

Laws of Minnesota 2027 Accomplishment Plan

General Information

Date: 10/19/2026

Project Title: Protecting Minnesota's Lakes of Outstanding Biological Significance - Phase 6

Funds Recommended: $2,988,000

Legislative Citation:

Appropriation Language:

Manager Information

Manager's Name: Annie Knight
Title: Executive Director
Organization: Northern Waters Land Trust
Address: 800 Minnesota Ave W. PO Box 124
City: Walker, MN 56484
Email: AnnieK@nwlt-mn.org
Office Number: 218-547-4510
Mobile Number:
Fax Number:
Website: northernwaterslandtrust.org

Location Information

County Location(s): Cass and Crow Wing.

Eco regions in which work will take place:

Northern Forest

Activity types:

Protect in Fee

Priority resources addressed by activity:

Habitat

Narrative

Abstract

Minnesota's Lakes of Outstanding Biological Significance represent some of the state's highest quality aquatic ecosystems, supporting critical habitat for Species of Greatest Conservation Need. However, long-term integrity of these lakes depends not only on in-lake conditions, but on the health and resilience of their surrounding watersheds. Northern Waters Land Trust will protect 374 acres of priority habitat and 0.5 miles of shoreland through fee acquisition across northern Minnesota. By prioritizing intact landscapes and habitat connectivity, this project will enhance ecosystem resilience, safeguard water quality, and engage partners and communities in conserving some of Minnesota's most irreplaceable aquatic systems.

Design and Scope of Work

Northern Minnesota contains some of the most intact and biologically important freshwater ecosystems in the state. Its forested watersheds and lake systems support high levels of habitat connectivity and sustain robust populations of fish, wildlife and Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SCGN). However, these systems remain vulnerable to increasing development pressure, shoreline alteration, watershed disturbance, and climate change. Because these ecosystems remain largely intact, there is still significant opportunity, and urgency, to protect them before further degradation occurs.

Minnesota's Lakes of Outstanding Biological Significance (LOBS) represent the highest quality examples of aquatic and shoreline habitat in the state. Classified based on exceptional conditions within aquatic plant, fish, bird, and/or amphibian communities, these lakes support high species richness, floristic quality, wild rice, exceptional sport fisheries, and colonial waterbird habitat. A significant concentration of LOBS occurs in northern Minnesota, where relatively intact landscapes continue to support these high-functioning systems.

Consistent with the Minnesota Wildlife Action Plan, this project applies a watershed-scale conservation approach, recognizing that lake condition is directly influenced by the surrounding landscape. Sensitive and specialized native species often decline as shorelines become fragmented or developed and are replaced by more disturbance-tolerant generalist species. Protecting forested lands within LOBS watersheds reduces fragmentation and development pressure while protecting water quality, shoreline habitat, forest cover, and wildlife corridors essential to fish, game, and wildlife species.

NWLT will permanently protect 374 acres of land through fee-title acquisition within priority LOBS watersheds. Lands acquired in fee will be conveyed to public entities for long-term management and stewardship. Lakes were prioritized based on Minnesota DNR benefit-cost analyses and alignment with County Water Plans and One Watershed One Plan priorities. Protection efforts will focus on forested uplands, shorelands, wetlands, and connected aquatic habitats that support fisheries, waterfowl, colonial nesting birds, amphibians, and Species of Greatest Conservation Need. To further refine our efforts, NWLT developed a GIS-based parcel prioritization model through the Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership. This tool identifies properties that fill gaps in existing protected lands, contain high-quality habitat, and provide greatest conservation value. These results guide strategic landowner outreach and ensure that investments maximize ecological impact.

NWLT collaborates with lake associations, Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Tribal partners, nongovernmental organizations, and the Minnesota DNR to identify and advance protection opportunities. A Technical Advisory Committee reviews acquisition proposals, while ongoing coordination with partners strengthens implementation and ensures alignment with local and regional priorities. Northern Waters Land Trust has partnered closely with co-grantee Minnesota Land Trust throughout this program's previous five phases,

strengthening regional coordination and conservation impact across LOBS watersheds.

Expected outcomes include improved habitat for fish, waterfowl, and Species of Greatest Conservation Need; sustained water quality in priority lakes; intact native shoreline vegetation; and expanded long-term protection of shoreland and forest habitats

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

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has classified high-quality "lakes of biological significance" into three categories (outstanding, high, and moderate) based on the presence of unique plant and animal communities. This program will preserve critical shoreland and forested uplands within the watersheds of lakes in the Outstanding classification category (LOBS). These landscapes support diverse fish and wildlife populations, including walleye, northern pike, golden-winged warbler, common loon, and many other species. Previous phases of this program have protected loon nesting habitat, wild rice beds, muskie spawning areas, and diverse native plant communities.

Beyond providing direct habitat benefits, protecting forested shorelands and watersheds is also essential for maintaining the high water quality conditions these species depend upon. A growing body of research demonstrates strong links between watershed land cover, water clarity, and the long-term viability of sensitive aquatic and shoreline species. For example, a recent study (Piper et al. 2024) identified declining water quality as a likely contributor to population declines in common loons. Water clarity is strongly influenced by surrounding land use, with lakes in more heavily forested watersheds generally exhibiting higher average Secchi depths than those surrounded by agricultural or urban development (Brezonik et al. 2007). These trends are expected to intensify as heavier summer rainfall events associated with climate change increase runoff into lakes. This proposal seeks to permanently protect forested lands that safeguard water quality and sustain resilient aquatic ecosystems.

Targeted LOBS within this proposal represent some of Minnesota's highest-quality aquatic and shoreland habitats. These lakes are characterized by exceptional game and nongame fisheries, high aquatic plant richness and floristic quality, and populations of endangered, threatened, or otherwise imperiled plant and lake bird species.

Numerous plans have identified the protection of these habitats as a conservation priority for Minnesota, including the Minnesota Wildlife Action Plan, DNR's Aquatic Management Area program, the State Conservation and Preservation Plan, Minnesota DNR's Strategic Conservation Agenda, and Outdoor Heritage Fund: A 25 Year Framework. The central goal of this program is to protect high-quality habitat by securing permanent fee title acquisitions in strategic locations within watersheds of high biodiversity lakes.

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

Development and disturbance of Minnesota's remaining high-quality shoreland habitat continues to accelerate, particularly in north-central and northeastern regions where Lakes of Outstanding Biological Significance are concentrated. Strong and sustained demand for lakeshore and rural properties, coupled with rising land values, is increasing the likelihood that large, intact parcels will be subdivided or developed. Once fragmented, these shoreland and watershed systems are extremely difficult and costly to restore.

This proposal focuses on protecting remaining high-priority parcels while they are still intact and available. NWLT has identified priority lakes and parcels, developed a GIS-based targeting framework, and established strong partnerships to act quickly as opportunities arise. Maintaining this momentum is critical to securing conservation outcomes.

Timely investment will ensure protection of these systems before irreversible changes occur and will maximize the impact of prior public investments in conservation across these watersheds.

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

By utilizing fee title acquisitions and transfer to public ownership to protect lands within watersheds of LOBS, this program expands habitat corridors, connects fragmented landscapes, and improves long term ecosystem resilience. Protecting forested shorelands, streams, wetlands, and adjacent upland habitat helps maintain water quality, sustain wildlife movement, and support healthy fish and wildlife populations across entire lake ecosystems.

This proposal prioritizes lakes through analysis of the DNR's Lakes of Outstanding Biological Significance GIS layer for northeast and northcentral Minnesota. A parcel prioritization model we developed with a grant from the Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership and informed by collaboration with fisheries and habitat experts ranks properties by desired criteria. These include the Minnesota DNR's benefit-cost analysis framework, hydrologic connectivity, acreage, presence of SGCN, adjacency to existing protected lands, and others. This strategic approach ensures that we're targeting properties that are either expanding existing habitat complexes or possess a high conservation value through other factors, therefore ensuring that conservation investments will have the greatest long-term ecological return.

Recent research continues to demonstrate that intact, forested watersheds are critical to sustaining water quality, aquatic habitat, and resilient fish populations in northern Minnesota. Studies show that increasing watershed disturbance and shoreline development are strongly associated with declining lake health and habitat quality, reinforcing the importance of proactively protecting connected landscapes before fragmentation and degradation occur.

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

Long Range Plan for Fisheries Management

Minnesota's Wildlife Action Plan 2015-2025

Which LSOHC section priorities are addressed in this program?

Northern Forest

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

Outcomes

Programs in the northern forest region:

Forestlands are protected from development and fragmentation ~ *This outcome will be measured by the number of acres and shoreline feet permanently protected within priority Lakes of Outstanding Biological Significance watersheds, and by the extent to which projects expand connected habitat complexes and reduce fragmentation risk. NWLT uses GIS analysis and conservation planning tools to evaluate adjacency to existing protected lands, watershed forest cover, and habitat connectivity. Success is further demonstrated through*

completion of fee title acquisitions, transfer of lands to long-term managing entities, and protection of priority habitats identified through Minnesota DNR and regional conservation planning efforts.

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.

Funding procured by NWLT through this Outdoor Heritage Fund proposal will not supplant or substitute any previous funding from a non-Legacy fund used for the same purpose.

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

Northern Waters Land Trust (NWLT) is an accredited land trust with a long history of successfully completing complex land protection projects throughout northern Minnesota. Accreditation through the Land Trust Alliance demonstrates NWLT's commitment to permanent land conservation, sound financial management, and long-term stewardship practices.

The long-term sustainability of this work is ensured through permanent fee title acquisitions that provide enduring protection for priority lands within Lakes of Outstanding Biological Significance watersheds. Lands acquired in fee will be conveyed to long-term managing entities, including the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, county land departments, Tribal governments, or federal partners, which have the capacity and authority to manage these lands in perpetuity for conservation, habitat protection, and public benefit.

This program also builds upon existing public conservation lands and prior Outdoor Heritage Fund investments, creating larger connected habitat complexes that are more resilient and cost-effective to manage over time. By strategically protecting lands adjacent to existing protected areas, the program strengthens long-term ecological function while reducing future fragmentation and development pressure.

NWLT maintains strong partnerships with local governments, lake associations, Tribal partners, and conservation organizations to support ongoing coordination, stewardship, and community support for protected lands.

Actions to Maintain Project Outcomes

Year	Source of Funds	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3
2031 and in perpetuity	managing government agency	Ongoing management in line with developed management plans	-	-

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

NWLT deeply values inclusiveness, collaboration, teamwork and diversity in all of our programs, projects, and community work. We believe that enduring conservation success depends on the active involvement of people and partners whose lives and cultures are linked to the natural systems we seek to conserve. Currently, NWLT is directly including Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe in these protection efforts by engaging in regular discussions, acknowledging which lands have cultural and ecological significance, and engaging in partnership on conservation projects where possible. NWLT is focused on building relationships based on trust, listening, and mutual respect. We will listen and seek out potential authentic partnerships that can advance our goals of conserving the best of Minnesota's remaining habitats while building relationships with and working collaboratively with diverse communities such as Tribal Nations, rural landowners, and multi-generational families. The Environmental Protection Agency has developed an environmental justice mapping and screening tool. This tool indicates several of the proposed parcels fall within areas identified as environmental justice areas of concern. Demographic

indicators used are: percent low-income, percent people of color, less than high school education, linguistic isolation, age under 5 and over 64. Protecting these lands mitigates some of the environmental justice concerns for at-risk populations.

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)?**
Yes

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

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:
The land will be transferred to a public entity and will be publicly accessible for hunting and fishing.

Who will eventually own the fee title land?

State of MN

County

Federal

Local Unit of Government

Tribal

NGO

Land acquired in fee will be designated as a:

WMA

SNA

AMA

State Forest

County Forest

Tribal

What is the anticipated number of closed acquisitions (range is fine) you plan to accomplish with this appropriation?
We anticipate closing 5 acquisitions 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?
No

NWLT will not be completing restoration or enhancement work through this grant, however after land is acquired and conveyed to the MN DNR, they will execute initial restoration activities as outlined in the DNR IDP plan. We have allocated the appropriate funds for this in the DNR IDP budget line.

Will the land that you acquire (fee or easement) be restored or enhanced within this program's funding and availability?
No

Explain how and when the restoration/enhancement work will be completed and identify the source of funding:
NWLT will not be completing restoration or enhancement work through this grant, however after land is acquired and conveyed to the MN DNR, they will execute initial restoration activities as outlined in the DNR IDP plan. We have allocated the appropriate funds for this in the DNR IDP budget line.

Timeline

Activity Name	Estimated Completion Date
Protection of 374 acres via fee acquisition; conveyance to governmental agency.	June 2031
Landowner outreach for fee acquisition program	Ongoing through 2031

Date of Final Report Submission: 10/01/2031

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, 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.

Totals

Item	Funding Request	Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	$170,000	-	-	$170,000
Contracts	$30,000	-	-	$30,000
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	$2,430,000	$243,000	Landowners, Lake Associations	$2,673,000
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	-	-	-	-
Easement Acquisition	-	-	-	-
Easement Stewardship	-	-	-	-
Travel	$4,000	-	-	$4,000
Professional Services	$170,000	-	-	$170,000
Direct Support Services	$43,000	-	-	$43,000
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	$73,000	-	-	$73,000
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	-	-	-	-
Supplies/Materials	$2,500	-	-	$2,500
DNR IDP	$65,500	-	-	$65,500
Grand Total	**$2,988,000**	**$243,000**	**-**	**$3,231,000**

Personnel

Position	Annual FTE	Years Working	Funding Request	Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
NWLT Land Protection Staff	0.75	4.0	$170,000	-	-	$170,000

Amount of Request: $2,988,000
Amount of Leverage: $243,000
Leverage as a percent of the Request: 8.13%
DSS + Personnel: $213,000
As a % of the total request: 7.13%
Easement Stewardship: -
As a % of the Easement Acquisition: -

How will this program accommodate the reduced appropriation recommendation from the original proposed requested amount?
We received 41% of our requested appropriation. Acquisition dollars were reduced to 41% of what was proposed. Personnel was reduced to 48% of what was proposed. This is because the majority of staff time is tied to fixed administrative, coordination, and compliance tasks that remain constant regardless of projects completed.

Detail leverage sources and confirmation of funds:
NWLT leverages multiple funding sources to support acquisitions, including landowner donations, lake association contributions, private philanthropy, and individual donors. We anticipate $243,000 of leverage; not confirmed. Any expenses not covered by this grant will be funded through general operating income.

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 true to budget and protection goals and would be most effective if funded fully. If 50% funding was received, outputs would be reduced by approximately 50-65%.

Describe how personnel and DSS expenses would be adjusted and if not proportionately reduced, why?
Personnel and DSS costs would be reduced, but less than proportionally to the reduction in acquisition funding. Certain costs, including landowner outreach, project development, grant administration, and due diligence, are necessary regardless of project size. Some projects also require substantial staff time before feasibility can be fully determined.

Personnel

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

Contracts

What is included in the contracts line?
Funds in the contract line are for outreach services (with appropriate approval) and for pre-conveyance site cleanup services, such as well sealing, building removal, and general contracting, etc.

Professional Services

What is included in the Professional Services line?

Appraisals

Other : Environmental assessments, project mapping

Surveys

Title Insurance and Legal Fees

Fee Acquisition

What is the anticipated number of fee title acquisition transactions?
We anticipate completing 5 acquisitions with the proposed funds.

Travel

Does the amount in the travel line include equipment/vehicle rental?
No

Explain the amount in the travel line outside of traditional travel costs of mileage, food, and lodging

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?

In a process annually reviewed and approved by MNDNR Grants (most recently in August of 2025), NWLT determined our direct support services rate to include all allowable direct and necessary expenditures not captured in other line items in the budget. NWLT also provides MNDNR Grants with a copy of our financial audit as an additional validation as part of the request for DSS rate approval.

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	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	374	374
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	-	-	-	-	-
Total	**-**	**-**	**-**	**374**	**374**

Total Requested Funding by Resource Type (Table 2)

Type	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat	Total Funding
Restore	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	$2,988,000	$2,988,000
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	-	-	-	-	-
Total	**-**	**-**	**-**	**$2,988,000**	**$2,988,000**

Acres within each Ecological Section (Table 3)

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest	Total Acres
Restore	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	374	374
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**374**	**374**

Total Requested Funding within each Ecological Section (Table 4)

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest	Total Funding
Restore	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	$2,988,000	$2,988,000
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**$2,988,000**	**$2,988,000**

Average Cost per Acre by Resource Type (Table 5)

Type	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat
Restore	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	$7,989
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-
Enhance	-	-	-	-

Average Cost per Acre by Ecological Section (Table 6)

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest
Restore	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	$7,989
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	-	-	-	-	-

Target Lake/Stream/River Feet or Miles

.5

Parcels

Parcel Information

Sign-up Criteria?
No

Explain the process used to identify, prioritize, and select the parcels on your list:
Parcels are identified and prioritized through a science-based ranking framework designed to evaluate their conservation value for protecting forested lake watersheds, sensitive shorelines, and connected habitat complexes. The system emphasizes maintaining intact forest cover, protecting sensitive shorelines, and reducing habitat fragmentation and watershed degradation.

Initial parcel identification is guided by geographic analysis of priority LOBS lake watersheds. Parcels are screened using ecological and landscape criteria including adjacency to protected lands, shoreline characteristics, hydrologic connectivity, land cover diversity, documented rare features, Minnesota Biological Survey biodiversity rankings, and risk of conversion to urban or agricultural land uses.

For fee-title acquisitions, the framework places strong emphasis on adjacency to existing protected lands in order to expand contiguous habitat complexes, maintain intact forested shorelines, and improve long-term management efficiency. Additional priority factors include presence of LOBS shoreline, proximity to riparian areas, location within sensitive shoreland zones, hydrologic connectivity, and documented rare species or habitats.

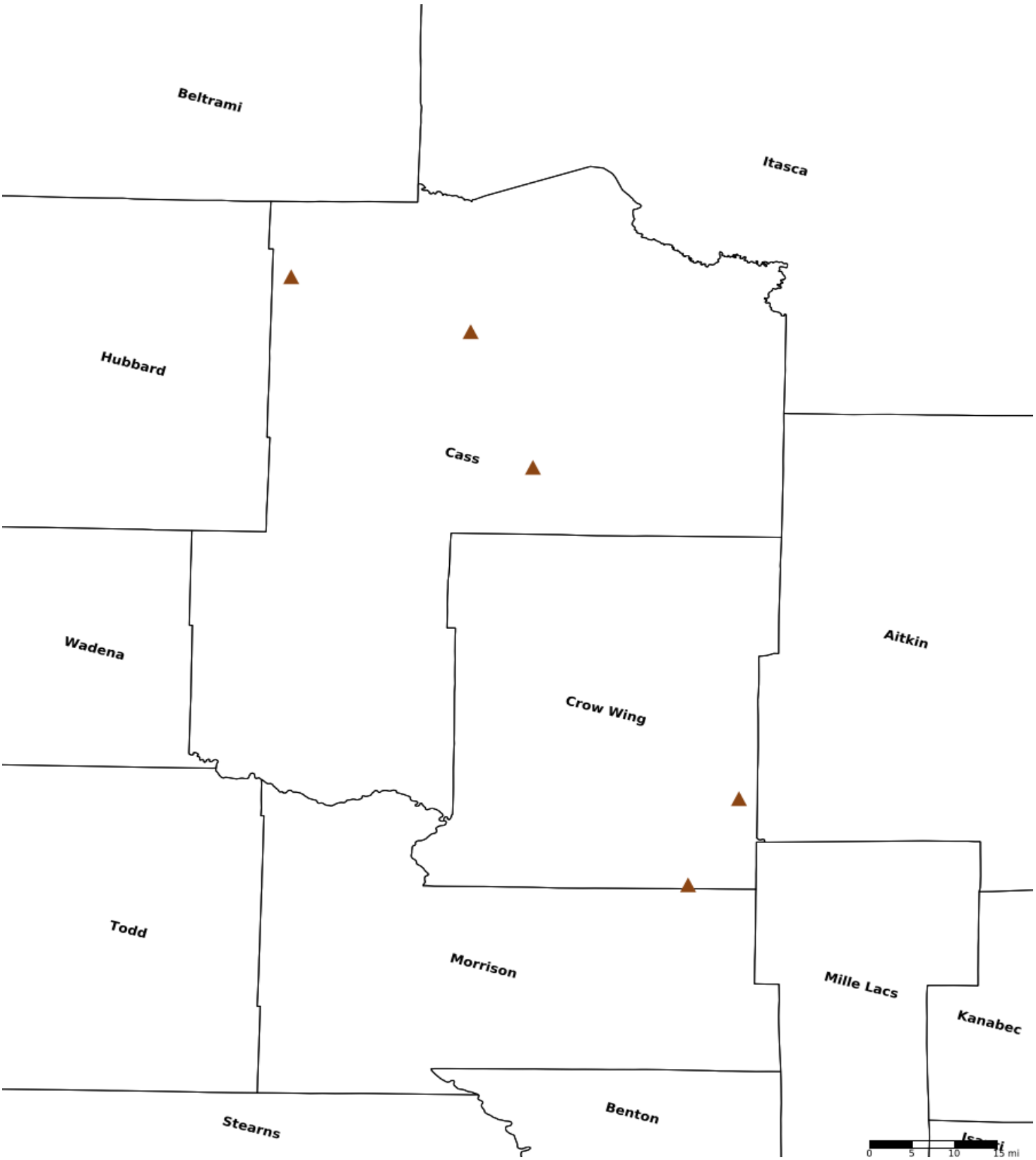
The ranking process uses a benefit index that combines parcel adjacency with ecological priority factors. Final rankings also consider project cost through a benefit-cost ratio analysis to maximize conservation return on investment and ensure strategic use of Outdoor Heritage Funds.

Parcels included in the proposal represent high-priority properties where landowners have expressed interest or engaged in direct discussions with project staff. Ongoing outreach within priority watersheds will continue throughout the grant period to expand the pipeline of willing participants and future conservation opportunities.

Fee Parcels

Name	County	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection
NWLT - Leech Lake	Cass	14329226	38	$0	No
NWLT - Steamboat Lake	Cass	14431220	23	$550,000	No
NWLT - Wabedo Lake	Cass	14028222	33	$351,900	No
NWLT - Platte Lake	Crow Wing	04328231	44	$643,900	No
NWLT - Round Rice Mille Lacs	Crow Wing	04428202	220	$416,000	No

Parcel Map



- Protect in Easement
- Protect in Fee with PILT
- Protect in Fee W/O PILT
- Restore
- Enhance
- Other

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

Protecting Minnesota's Lakes of Outstanding Biological Significance - Phase 6

Comparison Report

Program Title: ML 2027 - Protecting Minnesota's Lakes of Outstanding Biological Significance - Phase 6
Organization: Northern Waters Land Trust
Manager: Annie Knight

Budget

Requested Amount: $7,330,000
Appropriated Amount: $2,988,000
Percentage: 40.76%

Item	Requested Proposal	Leverage Proposal	Appropriated AP	Leverage AP	Percent of Request	Percent of Leverage
Personnel	$355,000	-	$170,000	-	47.89%	-
Contracts	$60,000	-	$30,000	-	50.0%	-
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	$6,000,000	$600,000	$2,430,000	$243,000	40.5%	40.5%
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	-	-	-	-	-	-
Easement Acquisition	-	-	-	-	-	-
Easement Stewardship	-	-	-	-	-	-
Travel	$13,000	-	$4,000	-	30.77%	-
Professional Services	$492,000	-	$170,000	-	34.55%	-
Direct Support Services	$95,700	-	$43,000	-	44.93%	-
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	$180,000	-	$73,000	-	40.56%	-
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	-	-	-	-	-	-
Supplies/Materials	$3,000	-	$2,500	-	83.33%	-
DNR IDP	$131,300	-	$65,500	-	49.89%	-
Grand Total	**$7,330,000**	**$600,000**	**$2,988,000**	**$243,000**	**40.76%**	**40.5%**

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 true to budget and protection goals and would be most effective if funded fully. If 50% funding was received, outputs would be reduced by approximately 50-65%.

Describe how personnel and DSS expenses would be adjusted and if not proportionately reduced, why?
Personnel and DSS costs would be reduced, but less than proportionally to the reduction in acquisition funding. Certain costs, including landowner outreach, project development, grant administration, and due diligence, are necessary regardless of project size. Some projects also require substantial staff time before feasibility can be fully determined.

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 true to budget and protection goals and would be most effective if funded fully. If 30% funding was received, outputs would be reduced by approximately 70-80%.

Describe how personnel and DSS expenses would be adjusted and if not proportionately reduced, why?
Personnel and DSS costs would be reduced, but less than proportionally to the reduction in acquisition funding. Certain costs, including landowner outreach, project development, grant administration, and due diligence, are necessary regardless of project size. Some projects also require substantial staff time before feasibility can be fully determined.

Output

Acres by Resource Type (Table 1)

Type	Total Proposed	Total in AP	Percentage of Proposed
Restore	0	-	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	750	374	49.87%
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	0	-	-
Protect in Easement	0	-	-
Enhance	0	-	-

Total Requested Funding by Resource Type (Table 2)

Type	Total Proposed	Total in AP	Percentage of Proposed
Restore	-	-	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	$7,330,000	$2,988,000	40.76%
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-
Enhance	-	-	-

Acres within each Ecological Section (Table 3)

Type	Total Proposed	Total in AP	Percentage of Proposed
Restore	0	-	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	750	374	49.87%
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	0	-	-
Protect in Easement	0	-	-
Enhance	0	-	-

Total Requested Funding within each Ecological Section (Table 4)

Type	Total Proposed	Total in AP	Percentage of Proposed
Restore	-	-	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	$7,330,000	$2,988,000	40.76%
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-
Enhance	-	-	-