Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

Accelerating the USFWS Habitat Conservation Easement Program
Laws of Minnesota 2027 Accomplishment Plan

General Information

Date: 10/19/2026

Project Title: Accelerating the USFWS Habitat Conservation Easement Program

Funds Recommended: $3,708,000

Legislative Citation:

Appropriation Language:

Manager Information

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Location Information

County Location(s): Otter Tail, Grant, Douglas, Kandiyohi, Meeker, Pope, Big Stone and Swift.

Eco regions in which work will take place:

Forest / Prairie Transition

Prairie

Activity types:

Restore

Enhance

Priority resources addressed by activity:

Wetlands

Prairie

Narrative

Abstract

DU, PF, and MJV will help accelerate USFWS wildlife habitat easements by restoring and enhancing 4,300 acres of protected private grasslands and wetlands in Minnesota's Prairie and Transition Sections. These are working lands under permanent federal conservation easements that allow delayed haying and/or grazing while protecting restored wetlands and prairie grasslands for nesting ducks, pheasants, and other wildlife. By restoring and enhancing protected grassland and wetland habitat while allowing for continued landowner use of these working private lands, USFWS habitat easements buffer existing protected lands and provide important conservation easement options that are compatible with working agricultural operations.

Design and Scope of Work

In Phase VII of this grant program, Ducks Unlimited (DU), Pheasants Forever (PF), and Monarch Joint Venture (MJV) will restore and enhance wetlands and prairie on private lands protected by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) through grassland habitat conservation easements in Minnesota. This proposal expands the partnership to include MJV, adding capacity and specialized expertise in prairie restoration and enhancement. MJV habitat staff will collaborate directly with DU field staff to implement projects using DU's established planning, design, and contracting infrastructure, with all project contracting coordinated through Ducks Unlimited and outputs incorporated into DU's overall program goals. Integrating MJV into project delivery will increase staff and technical capacity and accelerate the implementation of high-quality habitat projects across priority landscapes.

DU and PF will restore drained wetlands, convert cropland to native prairie, and enhance existing habitats. While USFWS has robust Migratory Bird Conservation Fund (MBCF) resources to acquire easements, these funds cannot be used for restoration or enhancement. OHF support allows partners to restore and enhance these protected lands, accelerating the rate at which USFWS can protect and improve habitat in key landscapes that already contain extensive public lands and permanent easements. These areas are among the most productive in the state for breeding waterfowl, pheasants, and other prairie wildlife. Working land easements complement other conservation programs by providing landowners with flexible options.

USFWS easements prevent wetland and prairie conversion and secure the right to restore habitats—central to this program's purpose. In partnership with USFWS, DU, PF, and MJV will restore and enhance easement lands using technical guidance from USFWS biologists and by hiring private contractors to seed native prairie, remove trees, and restore wetlands. DU engineers will design and oversee complex wetland restorations. On lands where grazing is allowed, projects may include installing or modifying fencing to support rotational grazing systems that improve habitat quality while maintaining agricultural use.

USFWS Habitat Easements have been purchased in Minnesota for over three decades and are a habitat protection

tool designed to complement public lands habitat complexes such as federal Waterfowl Production Areas and state Wildlife Management Areas. These easements keep privately owned restored grassland and wetland habitat intact and on county tax rolls while allowing for working use of the land. These easements provide landowners with the option of either delayed haying (after July 15) or both grazing and delayed haying, which results in adequate habitat for wetland and upland nesting birds and a working land use option that appeals to some private landowners. Importantly, these working land easements also help manage plant succession on their land, which is critical to prevent the encroachment of woody vegetation and invasive plant species. Well-managed grazing, delayed haying, and prescribed fire also benefits those grassland bird species that prefer more open prairie habitats, such as northern pintail, marbled godwit, snipe, and other prairie species.

NOTE: Restoration and enhancement costs in this proposal are estimated roughly equivalent due to costly large scale engineering enhancement projects on large wetlands.

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

This proposal will restore/enhance wetlands and grasslands to create/expand prairie wetland habitat complexes. USFWS easements can be grazed and delay hayed, land uses which are compatible with grassland nesting birds as per scientific research. Prairies and emergent marshes are identified as critical habitats for many "Species of Greatest Conservation Need" listed in Minnesota's "Tomorrow's Habitat for the Wild & Rare: An Action Plan for Minnesota Wildlife". Grassland nesting birds have shown the largest population decline of any of the bird groups. Specific species listed in the Action Plan as requiring prairie (page 255) include seven species of butterflies and three bird species that are native prairie specialists: chestnut-collared longspur, Sprague's pipit, and Baird's sparrow. Specific species listed in the Action Plan as requiring emergent marshes (page 267) include least bittern, American bittern, marsh wren, and Virginia rail. The Prairie Parkland has 139 species listed on the SGCN with 13 of these species being unique to the section. Grasslands are also critical to a diverse suite of declining pollinator species.

In addition to these specific wildlife species listed as SGCN in the Action Plan, restored prairie and wetlands in the Prairie Parkland will provide habitat of significant value for other species listed in Appendix B of the Action Plan. Restored and protected prairie will provide habitat of significant value for other SGCN including bird species: upland sandpiper, bobolink, burrowing owl, Le Conte's sparrow, grasshopper sparrow, eastern meadowlark, swamp sparrow, sharp-tailed grouse, short-eared owl, northern harrier, dickcissel, Henslow's sparrow, and Nelson's sharp-tailed sparrow. Upland nesting waterfowl will also benefit including waterfowl listed as SGCN; northern pintail and lesser scaup, which have both seen declines in continental populations. Wetland associated birds such as trumpeter swan, black tern, American bittern, Wilson's phalarope, and marbled godwit will benefit from wetlands restored and buffered in the prairie landscape through the habitat easements. Mammals including northern grasshopper mouse and Richardson's ground squirrels, reptiles such as lined snake and Blanding's turtle, and amphibians such as northern cricket frog and common mudpuppy are SGCN in the Prairie Parkland.

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

USFWS currently has a large list of landowners with thousands of acres who want to protect their grasslands and wetlands with USFWS habitat conservation easements. Increased interest has resulted through word of mouth, but USFWS needs help and funding to restore/enhance their eased lands. USFWS also has over 150+ purchased easements that need restoration/enhancement.

Timing is critical for many landowners with expiring CRP contracts, business decisions related to expanding livestock operations, and sometimes estate planning or other family decisions. When USFWS is not able to move

forward quickly enough, landowners may choose less ecologically desirable uses for their land that often include putting land back into row crop production, especially in the case of expiring CRP. Often, landowners cannot afford to forego annual income after CRP contracts expire, and without other options, are forced to return land to row crop production, even when doing so is not preferred.

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

USFWS biologists score and rank each grassland habitat easement proposal based on ecological site attributes and landscape juxtaposition of protected lands. This ranking process was designed to be relatively simple and evaluate the capability of the proposed easement to provide biological benefits for wetland and grassland dependent wildlife species by considering the habitat on the easement tract as well as its contribution and benefits to other protected lands in the surrounding area. Periodically, the USFWS Minnesota Wetland Acquisition Office in Fergus Falls uses these rankings to re-prioritize the proposals to assure that the USFWS is working on and purchasing the highest ranking proposals throughout the year. DU and PF will rely on the high level of science-based expertise of the USFWS to ensure that easement opportunities are prioritized, and will work closely as a partnership to share the workload and accelerate the easement program in west-central Minnesota. DU, PF, MJV, and the USFWS will work together to use science-based targeting to focus promotion of this accelerated habitat conservation easement program, with focus on tracts near existing federal WPAs, state WMAs, and other permanent private land easements. High priority tracts will be those with restorable drained wetlands and converted prairie or expiring CRP that, once fully restored, will build and expand prairie-wetland complexes for ducks, pheasants, and migratory birds in landscapes with a high density of other protected habitats. Science-based models such as the USFWS "Thunderstorm Maps" and "Restorable Wetlands Inventory" will help us determine landscape importance to breeding waterfowl, as will the state Pheasant Plan and Minnesota's Prairie Conservation Plan that helps guide prairie conservation efforts within Complexes, Core, and Corridor areas of western Minnesota. Finally, parcels near sites with relatively high biological diversity and significance based on the Minnesota DNR County Biological Survey (MCBS) will be a priority, and parcels with unique ecological values will be shared with other conservation easement program partners to ensure collaboration, avoid duplication of effort, and that the best conservation easement program option is offered to private landowners.

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

Long Range Duck Recovery Plan

Long Range Plan for the Ring-Necked Pheasant in MN

Which LSOHC section priorities are addressed in this program?

Forest / Prairie Transition

Protect, enhance, and restore wild rice wetlands, shallow lakes, wetland/grassland complexes, aspen parklands, and shoreland that provide critical habitat for game and nongame wildlife

Prairie

Protect, enhance, or restore existing wetland/upland complexes, or convert agricultural lands to new wetland/upland habitat complexes

Outcomes

Programs in forest-prairie transition region:

Wetland and upland complexes will consist of native prairies, restored prairies, quality grasslands, and restored shallow lakes and wetlands ~ *USFWS habitat easements will add restored and protected grassland and small wetland acres to augment existing public lands and other permanent easements to create prairie-wetland complexes with a more diverse mix of habitats and conservation options for private landowners. The measure of success will be the number of functioning prairie wetland complexes that provide adequate wetland and grassland acres within a landscape. This is a long-term, programmatic landscape conservation effort that will take time to achieve.*

Programs in prairie region:

Agriculture lands are converted to grasslands to sustain functioning prairie systems ~ *USFWS easements restore and enhance lands that have previously been in row crop agriculture or at threat of conversion to row crop agriculture. These protected lands are free from the threat of future conversion and, as part of the easement, are converted to native grassland. This supports functioning prairie and wetland landscapes while also providing landowners with an income stream from managed haying or grazing. This is a long-term, programmatic landscape conservation effort that will take time to achieve.*

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 OHF funding request does not supplant or substitute for any previous funding. This new OHF funding will be used for new conservation work to accelerate USFWS conservation easement delivery in Minnesota to accelerate protection and restoration of wetlands and prairie, and provide working land conservation easements options for landowners.

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

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service is responsible for long-term annual monitoring and enforcement. The terms of the easement allow limited delayed haying after July 15 or delayed haying and grazing, but require wetlands and grasslands to be maintained by the private landowner. The easement terms allow DU, PF, and MJV, under the direction of the USFWS, to restore and help enhance wetland restorations or improve grasslands in the future when determined by the Service to be necessary for wildlife habitat management purposes. Through this proposal, DU, PF, and MJV will assist USFWS in restoring and enhancing easements with state OHF grant funds after USFWS protects the land through easement acquisition with MBCF funding. Long-term habitat management and compliance with easement provisions will be the responsibility of the federal USFWS.

Actions to Maintain Project Outcomes

Year	Source of Funds	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3
2028	U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service	Annually Monitor Easements	Identify Problems, if any	Work with Private Landowners to Resolve

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

DU, PF, MJV and USFWS conserve wetlands and prairie for wildlife and people alike. Our habitat projects restore natural infrastructure, which helps to alleviate society's climate impacts and provide clean water for BIPOC communities, which are disproportionately impacted by the effects of wetland loss and climate change. PF and DU

have organizational initiatives to increase the inclusion of BIPOC and to ensure a sense of belonging among all people. USFWS purchases easements from willing sellers, including individuals that identify as BIPOC and other underserved citizens. Wetlands recharge groundwater in aquifers, providing clean, dependable water supplies while removing pollutants and reducing downstream flooding. Generational wealth in BIPOC communities is compromised by a lack of natural infrastructure such as wetlands. BIPOC community resiliency is enhanced by the function of wetlands and adjacent grassland habitats that clean water and help absorb impacts from severe weather events. Restoring wetlands in the Mississippi River watershed benefits BIPOC communities who draw their water from the river such as Minneapolis, St. Paul, and St. Cloud. Minneapolis alone draws 21 billion gallons of water a year from the Mississippi to produce 57 million gallons of drinking water/day. Indigenous communities may benefit from DU wetland enhancements and restorations that create suitable conditions for wild rice to proliferate. Wetlands deliver a return on investment that supports the health, resiliency, and well-being of BIPOC communities. USFWS works strategically to purchase easements on lands with drained wetlands and restorable prairie that are important to waterfowl, prairie wildlife, and people. DU, PF, and MJV will restore drained wetlands and adjacent uplands back to native prairie grasslands for both wildlife habitat and the public using competitively-selected contractors following state procurement guidelines, including minority and women-owned businesses. Additionally, USFWS easements are most often implemented in rural, low to middle income areas. The associated easement payments and dollars from habitat work go into these communities. Maintaining these easements as working lands can lead to more stability for the small farms and ranches that rent/own them, which in turn leads to more vibrant rural communities and higher quality of life in rural Minnesota.

Activity Details

Requirements

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

Will restoration and enhancement work follow best management practices including MS 84.973 Pollinator Habitat Program?
Yes

Is the restoration and enhancement activity on permanently protected land per 97A.056, Subd 13(f), tribal lands, and/or public waters per MS 103G.005, Subd. 15 or on lands to be acquired in this program?
Yes

Where does the activity take place?

Permanently Protected Conservation Easements

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

Timeline

Activity Name	Estimated Completion Date
Some easement restoration plans finalized by DU, PF, and MJV.	June 2028
Remaining easements restored or enhanced by DU, PF, and MJV.	June 2032
Some easements restored or enhanced while other restoration plans continue being developed by DU and PF.	December 2028
Easements closed by USFWS and restoration plans drafted.	December 2027

Date of Final Report Submission: 10/01/2032

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	$711,000	$58,500	USFWS IRA, NAWCA Personnel, DU, NAWCA Personnel, DU, NFWF, USFWS	$769,500
Contracts	$2,815,000	$70,000	-, NAWCA Contract Dollars	$2,885,000
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	-	-	-	-
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	-	-	-	-
Easement Acquisition	-	$1,000,000	-, USFWS Migratory Bird Fund	$1,000,000
Easement Stewardship	-	-	-	-
Travel	$30,000	-	-	$30,000
Professional Services	$3,500	-	-	$3,500
Direct Support Services	$75,500	-	-	$75,500
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	-	-	-	-
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	$28,000	-	-	$28,000
Supplies/Materials	$45,000	-	-	$45,000
DNR IDP	-	-	-	-
Grand Total	**$3,708,000**	**$1,128,500**	**-**	**$4,836,500**

Partner: Ducks Unlimited, Inc.

Totals

Item	Funding Request	Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	$390,000	$25,000	USFWS IRA, NAWCA Personnel, DU, NAWCA Personnel, DU	$415,000
Contracts	$1,865,000	$70,000	NAWCA Contract Dollars	$1,935,000
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	-	-	-	-
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	-	-	-	-
Easement Acquisition	-	$1,000,000	USFWS Migratory Bird Fund	$1,000,000
Easement Stewardship	-	-	-	-
Travel	$20,000	-	-	$20,000
Professional Services	$2,500	-	-	$2,500
Direct Support Services	$31,000	-	-	$31,000
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	-	-	-	-
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	$19,000	-	-	$19,000
Supplies/Materials	$30,000	-	-	$30,000
DNR IDP	-	-	-	-
Grand Total	**$2,357,500**	**$1,095,000**	**-**	**$3,452,500**

Personnel

Position	Annual FTE	Years Working	Funding Request	Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Ducks Unlimited Field Biologists	0.64	3.5	$225,000	$12,000	USFWS IRA, NAWCA Personnel, DU	$237,000
Ducks Unlimited Wetland Engineers	0.32	3.5	$117,000	$10,000	NAWCA Personnel, DU	$127,000
Ducks Unlimited Regional Biologist	0.13	3.5	$48,000	$3,000	USFWS IRA, NAWCA Personnel, DU	$51,000

Partner: Monarch Joint Venture

Totals

Item	Funding Request	Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	$86,000	$8,500	NFWF	$94,500
Contracts	-	-	-	-
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	-	-	-	-
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	-	-	-	-
Easement Acquisition	-	-	-	-
Easement Stewardship	-	-	-	-
Travel	-	-	-	-
Professional Services	-	-	-	-
Direct Support Services	$8,500	-	-	$8,500
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	-	-	-	-
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	-	-	-	-
Supplies/Materials	-	-	-	-
DNR IDP	-	-	-	-
Grand Total	**$94,500**	**$8,500**	**-**	**$103,000**

Personnel

Position	Annual FTE	Years Working	Funding Request	Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
MJV Habitat Specialists	0.26	3.5	$86,000	$8,500	NFWF	$94,500

Partner: Pheasants Forever

Totals

Item	Funding Request	Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	$235,000	$25,000	USFWS	$260,000
Contracts	$950,000	-	-	$950,000
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	-	-	-	-
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	-	-	-	-
Easement Acquisition	-	-	-	-
Easement Stewardship	-	-	-	-
Travel	$10,000	-	-	$10,000
Professional Services	$1,000	-	-	$1,000
Direct Support Services	$36,000	-	-	$36,000
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	-	-	-	-
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	$9,000	-	-	$9,000
Supplies/Materials	$15,000	-	-	$15,000
DNR IDP	-	-	-	-
Grand Total	**$1,256,000**	**$25,000**	**-**	**$1,281,000**

Personnel

Position	Annual FTE	Years Working	Funding Request	Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Pheasants Forever Biologist, Land, and Legal Staff	0.64	3.5	$235,000	$25,000	USFWS	$260,000

Amount of Request: $3,708,000
Amount of Leverage: $1,128,500
Leverage as a percent of the Request: 30.43%
DSS + Personnel: $786,500
As a % of the total request: 21.21%
Easement Stewardship: -
As a % of the Easement Acquisition: -

How will this program accommodate the reduced appropriation recommendation from the original proposed requested amount?
This program will reduce the acres and outcomes proportionally to the amount we have been funded. This funding amount will allow us to continue work on this program, albeit at a smaller scale than proposed.

Detail leverage sources and confirmation of funds:
The USFWS leverages $1,000,000 of funds from the Migratory Bird Conservation Fund to purchase easements, which DU, PF, and MJV restore with OHF. DU will leverage USFWS IRA, USFWS In-Kind, and NAWCA funds. PF will leverage PF DSS and USFWS funds. MJV will leverage NFWF and DSS.

Does this project have the ability to be scalable?
Yes

If the project received 50% of the requested funding

Describe how the scaling would affect acres/activities and if not proportionately reduced, why?
This funding request will be scaled proportionately to the funding provided. Acres and Activity Outcomes would be reduced proportionately.

Describe how personnel and DSS expenses would be adjusted and if not proportionately reduced, why?
This funding request will be scaled proportionately to the funding provided. Acres and Activity Outcomes would be reduced proportionately.

Personnel

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

Contracts

What is included in the contracts line?
Contracts are for prairie and wetland restoration/enhancement work contracted to private sector firms, including activities such as field site preparation, tree removal, prairie grass and wetland seeding, old fence removal and new fence installation, ditch plugging, drain tile and sediment removal, dike and berm construction, and water control structures.

Professional Services

What is included in the Professional Services line?

Other : Archaeological surveys may be required to fulfill necessary permitting on some easements.

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
None - all travel funding will be used for in-state mileage, meals, and lodging, as necessary.

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?
Minnesota DNR grants staff previously reviewed and approved DU accounting methodology for Direct Support Services, which are calculated and included in DU staff costs. DU Direct Support Services constitute approximately 8% of DU overall staff costs on average among all billable DU conservation staff categories. DU breaks out and

invoices for Direct Support Service expenses approved by DNR for reimbursement separately from Personnel expenses. These costs represent expenses that directly support the labor cost necessary for the development of a specific water/wetlands conservation project.

PF utilizes the Total Modified Direct Cost de minimis method. This methodology is annually approved by the U.S. Department of Interior's National Business Center as the basis for the organization's Indirect Cost Rate agreement. PF's allowable direct support services cost is 15%.

MJV does not hold a negotiated indirect cost rate agreement. In accordance with 2 CFR 200.414(f), MJV uses the federal de minimis rate of 15% of Modified Total Direct Costs (MTDC) as its Direct Support Services rate. MJV will be billing 10% DSS and leveraging an additional 5% in DSS from MJV.

Other Equipment/Tools

Give examples of the types of Equipment and Tools that will be purchased?
GPS survey equipment for performing engineering wetland restoration survey work and engineering surveys of shallow lake and large wetland enhancement projects, including survey equipment lease charges instead of actual outright equipment purchases to avoid buying equipment that becomes obsolete due to upgrades and advancements. Other equipment may include field equipment for biologists and engineers such as soil corers, muck boots, power tools, hand tools, and other necessary items to carry out surveys and construction management.

Federal Funds

Do you anticipate federal funds as a match for this program?
Yes

Are the funds confirmed?
Yes

Is Confirmation Document attached?
Yes, on file

Cash : $1,000,000

In Kind : $100,000

Output Tables

Acres by Resource Type (Table 1)

Type	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat	Total Acres
Restore	110	330	-	-	440
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	165	495	-	-	660
Total	**275**	**825**	**-**	**-**	**1,100**

Total Requested Funding by Resource Type (Table 2)

Type	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat	Total Funding
Restore	$370,800	$1,112,400	-	-	$1,483,200
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	$556,200	$1,668,600	-	-	$2,224,800
Total	**$927,000**	**$2,781,000**	**-**	**-**	**$3,708,000**

Acres within each Ecological Section (Table 3)

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest	Total Acres
Restore	-	290	-	150	-	440
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	-	436	-	224	-	660
Total	**-**	**726**	**-**	**374**	**-**	**1,100**

Total Requested Funding within each Ecological Section (Table 4)

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest	Total Funding
Restore	-	$978,700	-	$504,500	-	$1,483,200
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	-	$1,470,300	-	$754,500	-	$2,224,800
Total	**-**	**$2,449,000**	**-**	**$1,259,000**	**-**	**$3,708,000**

Average Cost per Acre by Resource Type (Table 5)

Type	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat
Restore	$3,370	$3,370	-	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-
Enhance	$3,370	$3,370	-	-

Average Cost per Acre by Ecological Section (Table 6)

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest
Restore	-	$3,374	-	$3,363	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	-	$3,372	-	$3,368	-

Target Lake/Stream/River Feet or Miles

Parcels

Parcel Information

Sign-up Criteria?
No

Explain the process used to identify, prioritize, and select the parcels on your list:
Easements are selected by USFWS biologists who score and rank each grassland habitat easement proposed based on ecological site attributes and landscape juxtaposition using a scoring process that is developed internally with science-based guidance from their Habitat & Population Evaluation Team science staff in Fergus Falls. This ranking process was designed to be relatively simple and evaluate the capability of the proposed easement to provide biological benefits for wetland and grassland dependent wildlife species by considering the habitat on the easement tract was well as its contribution and benefits to other protected lands in the surrounding area. Periodically through out the year, the USFWS Minnesota Wetland Acquisition Office in Fergus Falls uses these rankings to re-prioritize the proposals to assure that the USFWS is working on and purchasing the highest ranking proposals throughout the year. DU and PF will rely on the high level of science-based conservation expertise and rigorous easement selection process of the USFWS to ensure that easements acquired prioritized appropriately and therefore subsequently already prioritized for wetland and grassland habitat restoration and enhancement activities by DU, PF, and MJV.

Restore / Enhance Parcels

Name	County	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection	Description
Bentsen Bay Farm Easement Enhancement	Big Stone	12245217	237	$240,000	Yes	Habitat enhancement on a USFWS easement.
Fowl Feathered Friends USFWS Easement Enhancement	Big Stone	12245229	47	$91,650	Yes	PF habitat enhancement on USFWS easement.
Lewis (East) USFWS Easement Restoration	Big Stone	12145209	17	$55,250	Yes	PF habitat restoration on USFWS easement.
BJ Bjorge S Easement Enhancement	Douglas	12937223	80	$140,000	Yes	Habitat enhancement on a USFWS easement.
Camp Cartona USFWS Easement DU Enhancement	Douglas	12936207	140	$287,500	Yes	DU wetland and grassland enhancement on USFWS easement.
Craig Haaseman Easement Enhancement	Douglas	12939229	30	$150,000	Yes	Habitat enhancement on a USFWS easement.
Dan and Justin Evavold Easement Restoration	Douglas	13040224	65	$125,000	Yes	Habitat restoration on a USFWS easement.
Ed Coons Easement Enhancement	Douglas	12740224	80	$225,000	Yes	Habitat enhancement on a USFWS easement.
Glen Behrens	Douglas	13040212	110	$250,000	Yes	PF wetland and prairie enhancement on USFWS habitat easement.
Jim Backus	Douglas	12836229	20	$150,000	Yes	DU wetland enhancement on USFWS habitat easement.
Joel Kangas Easement Enhancement	Douglas	12840225	6	$25,000	Yes	Habitat enhancement on a USFWS easement.
John Herd et al. Easement Enhancement	Douglas	13038208	50	$250,000	Yes	Habitat enhancement on a USFWS easement.
Keith Wilson Easement Enhancement	Douglas	12938227	40	$250,000	Yes	Habitat enhancement on a USFWS easement.

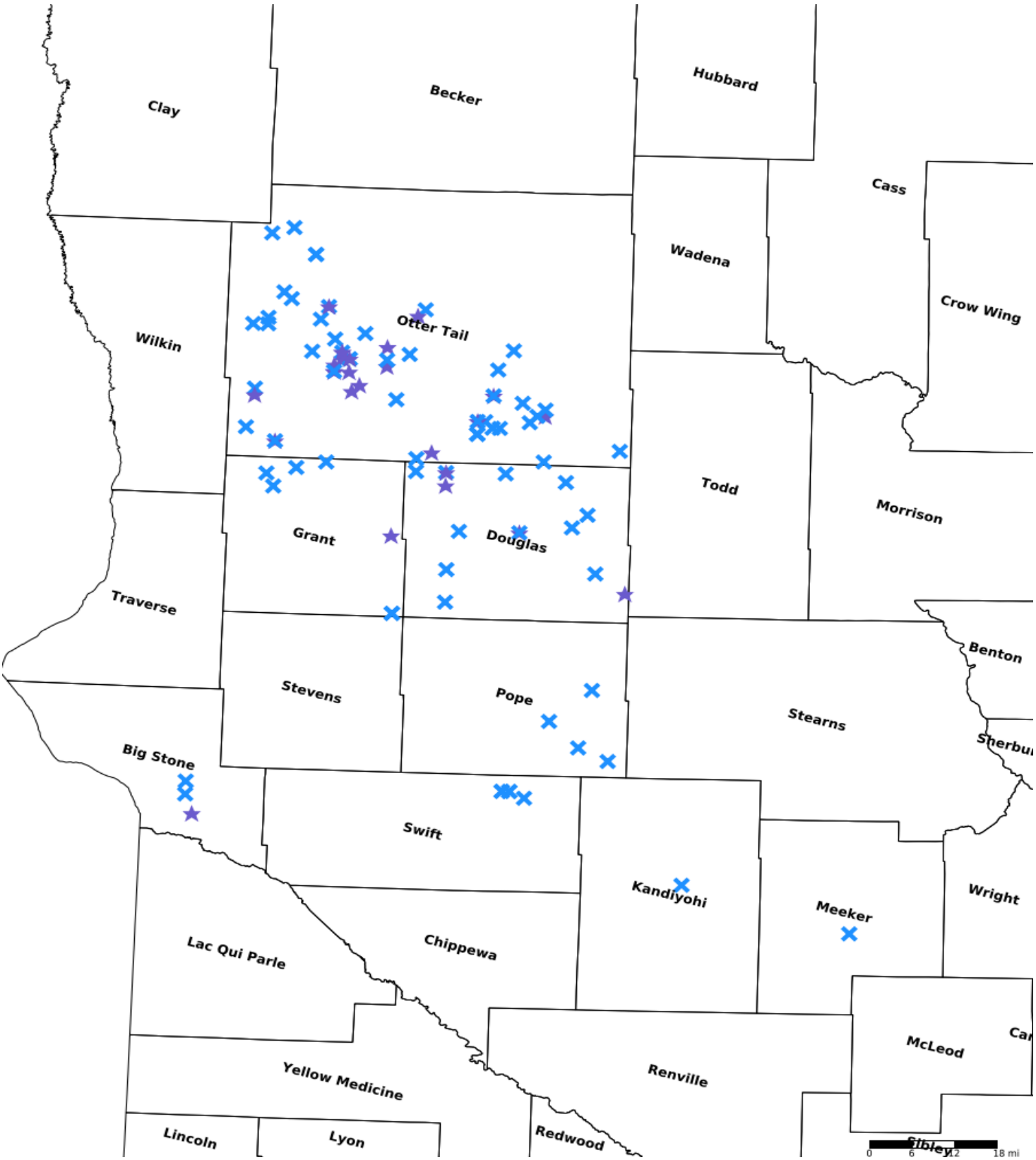
Keith Wilson Phase 2	Douglas	12938227	40	$250,000	Yes	DU wetland restoration on USFWS habitat easement.
Kenny Behrens USFWS Easement DU Restoration	Douglas	13040212	12	$45,000	Yes	DU prairie and wetland restoration on USFWS easement.
Tim Zunker Easement Enhancement	Douglas	13037215	45	$70,000	Yes	Habitat enhancement on a USFWS easement.
Bach's Slough USFWS Easement DU Enhancement	Grant	12741235	135	$287,500	Yes	Large DU wetland enhancement on USFWS easements.
Brown's Point Hunt Club/Todd Nadgewick/Bach's Slough	Grant	12741235	135	$312,500	Yes	DU wetland enhancement on USFWS habitat easement.
City of Herman Easement Restoration	Grant	12736212	185	$462,500	Yes	Habitat restoration on a USFWS easement.
Daryl Frykman USFWS DU Restoration	Grant	12941235	27	$110,000	Yes	DU wetland restoration on USFWS easement.
Rudd by Ash Lake	Grant	13043230	80	$218,750	Yes	DU wetland and prairie enhancement on USFWS habitat easement.
Tom Swift	Grant	13044213	240	$375,000	Yes	DU wetland and prairie enhancement on USFWS habitat easement.
Tom and Bob Welle	Grant	13043210	70	$187,500	Yes	PF wetland and prairie enhancement on USFWS habitat easement.
LFRKD-357X Easement (DU)	Kandiyohi	12034229	10	$100,000	Yes	DU wetland enhancement on USFWS habitat easement.
LFRMK -223X Easement (DU)	Meeker	11931236	29	$100,000	Yes	DU wetland enhancement on USFWS habitat easement.
Abby Volden Easement Enhancement	Otter Tail	13239234	85	$140,000	Yes	Habitat enhancement on a USFWS easement.
Alan Haugrud	Otter Tail	13543229	80	$187,500	Yes	DU wetland and prairie enhancement on USFWS habitat easement.
Ben Miller (Quirino Farms LLC) USFWS Easement PF Enhancement	Otter Tail	13139210	40	$140,000	Yes	PF prairie and wetland enhancement on USFWS easement.
Clambey/Truax Easement Restoration	Otter Tail	13342210	170	$250,000	Yes	Habitat restoration on a USFWS easement.
Cook Waterfowl	Otter Tail	13643225	45	$312,500	Yes	DU wetland restoration and enhancement on USFWS habitat easement.
Cook Waterfowl USFWS Easement DU Enhancement	Otter Tail	13643225	45	$287,500	Yes	DU wetland enhancement on USFWS easement.
Cory Olson	Otter Tail	13238215	55	$156,250	Yes	DU wetland and prairie enhancement on USFWS habitat easement.
Dan Stenoien Easement Enhancement	Otter Tail	13341215	50	$125,000	Yes	Habitat enhancement on a USFWS easement.
Diane Lineburg	Otter Tail	13139201	100	$187,500	Yes	PF wetland and prairie enhancement on USFWS habitat easement.
Doug Bjorkland Easement Enhancement	Otter Tail	13338204	61	$152,500	Yes	Habitat enhancement on a USFWS easement.
Eli Pachel Easement Enhancement	Otter Tail	13241214	17	$100,000	Yes	Habitat enhancement on a USFWS easement.

Gary and Susan Clambey Easement Restoration	Otter Tail	13342210	14	$30,000	Yes	Habitat restoration on a USFWS easement.
Gaylan Rockswold	Otter Tail	13139210	40	$187,500	Yes	DU wetland and prairie enhancement on USFWS habitat easement.
Greg and Danny Melkert USFWS Easement PF Enhancement	Otter Tail	13543233	80	$225,000	Yes	PF prairie and wetland enhancement on USFWS easement.
Harold Busko Jr. Easement Enhancement	Otter Tail	13342228	50	$300,000	Yes	Habitat enhancement on a USFWS easement.
Harry and Lori Krog USFWS Easement PF Enhancement	Otter Tail	13343212	10	$45,000	Yes	PF prairie and wetland enhancement on USFWS easement.
JR Busko Phase 2	Otter Tail	13342228	50	$375,000	Yes	DU wetland restoration on USFWS habitat easement.
Jeff Drechsel	Otter Tail	13442218	40	$187,500	Yes	PF wetland and prairie enhancement on USFWS habitat easement.
Jeremy Schmidgall Easement Enhancement	Otter Tail	13239212	22	$150,000	Yes	Habitat enhancement on a USFWS easement.
Jeremy Schmidgall Phase 2	Otter Tail	13239212	22	$187,500	Yes	DU wetland restoration on USFWS habitat easement.
Jim Burkett (Bluebill) USFWS Easement PF Enhancement	Otter Tail	13143219	100	$250,000	Yes	PF wetland enhancement on USFWS easement.
Jim Burkett Easement Enhancement	Otter Tail	13040208	15	$100,000	Yes	Habitat enhancement on a USFWS easement.
Joe Luetmer USFWS Easement PF Restoration	Otter Tail	13342214	5	$45,000	Yes	PF wetland restoration on USFWS easement.
John Olesen Easement Restoration	Otter Tail	13239234	80	$140,000	Yes	Habitat restoration on a USFWS easement.
Joseph Borgos Easement Restoration	Otter Tail	13242211	24	$60,000	Yes	Habitat restoration on a USFWS easement.
Josh and Shelley LLC	Otter Tail	13140232	120	$312,500	Yes	DU wetland and prairie enhancement on USFWS habitat easement.
Judy Adamec USFWS Easement DU Restoration	Otter Tail	13342226	25	$130,000	Yes	DU wetland restoration on USFWS easement.
Karen Terry USFWS Easement DU Enhancement	Otter Tail	13342210	25	$115,000	Yes	DU prairie restoration and wetland enhancement on USFWS easement.
Kelly Thorson USFWS Easement DU Restoration	Otter Tail	13242201	5	$45,000	Yes	DU wetland restoration on USFWS easement.
Kevin Oehler Easement Enhancement	Otter Tail	13144209	120	$300,000	Yes	Habitat enhancement on a USFWS easement.
Larry Lejuene	Otter Tail	13244210	250	$375,000	Yes	DU wetland and prairie enhancement on USFWS habitat easement.
Lee Skold USFWS Easement DU Enhancement	Otter Tail	13238235	50	$170,000	Yes	DU prairie and wetland enhancement on USFWS easement.
Leigh Barry Easement Restoration - Amor Tract	Otter Tail	13440208	42	$70,000	Yes	Habitat restoration on a USFWS easement.
Lon Berg Easement Restoration	Otter Tail	13341222	140	$350,000	Yes	Habitat restoration on a USFWS easement.
Lysne Valley Farm	Otter Tail	13444224	40	$125,000	Yes	DU wetland and prairie enhancement on USFWS habitat easement.

Mark Jacobs Trust Easement Restoration	Otter Tail	13342228	20	$60,000	Yes	Habitat restoration on a USFWS easement.
Mark Lysne	Otter Tail	13444213	100	$250,000	Yes	DU wetland and prairie enhancement on USFWS habitat easement.
Matt Jacobsen USFWS Easement DU Restoration	Otter Tail	13140227	18	$45,000	Yes	DU wetland restoration on USFWS easement.
Melanie Cole Easement Restoration	Otter Tail	13341203	37	$75,000	Yes	Habitat restoration on a USFWS easement.
Michael and Jasson Mickelson Easement Enhancement	Otter Tail	13239235	170	$450,000	Yes	Habitat enhancement on a USFWS easement.
Michael and Maureen Nelson USFWS Easement DU Enhancement	Otter Tail	13340207	40	$100,000	Yes	DU prairie enhancement on USFWS easement.
Michelle Luers/Keller Family Farm LLLP/Ridgeway	Otter Tail	13244215	28	$187,500	Yes	DU wetland restoration on USFWS habitat easement.
Mike Vaughan (Otter Trail Crossing North) USFWS Easement DU Enhancement	Otter Tail	13237219	170	$450,000	Yes	DU prairie and wetland enhancement on USFWS easement.
Mike Vaughan (Otter Trail Crossing South) USFWS Easement DU Enhancement	Otter Tail	13238225	200	$650,000	Yes	DU prairie and wetland enhancement on USFWS easement.
Nolan Lenzen	Otter Tail	13136223	130	$187,500	Yes	DU wetland and prairie enhancement on USFWS habitat easement.
Paul Jaros Easement Enhancement	Otter Tail	13042205	33	$82,500	Yes	Habitat enhancement on a USFWS easement.
Paul Klausen	Otter Tail	13139210	100	$250,000	Yes	DU wetland and prairie enhancement on USFWS habitat easement.
Ralph Papenheim (Haldorsen Lake)	Otter Tail	13444222	45	$156,250	Yes	PF wetland and prairie enhancement on USFWS habitat easement.
Randy Anderson Easement Enhancement	Otter Tail	13440204	40	$175,000	Yes	Habitat enhancement on a USFWS easement.
Rod Nordstrom	Otter Tail	13342215	4	$50,000	Yes	PF wetland restoration on USFWS habitat easement.
Rod Nordstrom USFWS Easement PF Restoration	Otter Tail	13442205	4	$17,000	Yes	PF wetland restoration on USFWS easement.
Roger Sorben	Otter Tail	13342214	2	$12,500	Yes	PF wetland enhancement on USFWS habitat easement.
Scott Korkowski Easement Enhancement	Otter Tail	13137231	140	$140,000	Yes	Habitat enhancement on a USFWS easement.
Shawn Nelson	Otter Tail	13442205	78	$250,000	Yes	PF wetland and prairie enhancement on USFWS habitat easement.
Sorben Farms Partnership	Otter Tail	13342214	10	$125,000	Yes	PF wetland enhancement on USFWS habitat easement.
Steve Misegades Easement Enhancement - Part 2	Otter Tail	13338219	275	$325,000	Yes	Habitat enhancement on a USFWS easement.
Stuart Pemberton	Otter Tail	13441230	100	$187,500	Yes	DU wetland and prairie enhancement on USFWS habitat easement.
Susan Leitch and Wayne Duenow	Otter Tail	13442233	47	$146,875	Yes	PF wetland and prairie enhancement on USFWS habitat easement.

Tim Hawthorne Easement Restoration	Otter Tail	13237230	55	$100,000	Yes	Habitat restoration on a USFWS easement.
Todd Kvern Easement Restoration	Otter Tail	13342221	18	$60,000	Yes	Habitat restoration on a USFWS easement.
Tom Haugrud (Oscaraade Acres)	Otter Tail	13644212	30	$93,750	Yes	PF prairie enhancement on USFWS habitat easement.
Tom Haugrud Easement Enhancement	Otter Tail	13643204	40	$100,000	Yes	Habitat enhancement on a USFWS easement.
Tom Hodorff USFWS Easement DU Enhancement	Otter Tail	13138206	60	$170,000	Yes	DU prairie and wetland enhancement on USFWS easement.
Wayne Norgren USFWS Easement PF Restoration	Otter Tail	13143219	10	$28,750	Yes	PF wetland restoration on USFWS easement.
BBB Farms USFWS Easement Enhancement	Pope	12437220	60	$117,000	Yes	PF habitat enhancement on USFWS easement.
Carlson Easement Enhancement	Pope	12536229	331	$400,000	Yes	Habitat enhancement on a USFWS easement.
Jon Lewis USFWS Habitat Easement Enhancement	Pope	12336222	30	$58,500	Yes	PF habitat enhancement on USFWS easement.
Sievers USFWS Habitat Easement Enhancement	Pope	12337212	63	$122,850	Yes	PF habitat enhancement on USFWS easement.
Chippewa River Ranch Easement Enhancement - Part 1	Swift	12238223	182	$275,000	Yes	Habitat enhancement on a USFWS easement.
Chippewa River Ranch Easement Enhancement - Part 2	Swift	12238216	31	$50,000	Yes	Habitat enhancement on a USFWS easement.
Kerkeide Easement Enhancement	Swift	12238217	40	$60,000	Yes	Habitat enhancement on a USFWS easement.
Pritchett Easement Enhancement	Swift	12238216	39	$60,000	Yes	Habitat enhancement on a USFWS easement.
Skarsten Easement Enhancement	Swift	12238217	40	$60,000	Yes	Habitat enhancement on a USFWS easement.

Parcel Map


Clay
Becker
Hubbard
Cass
Wadena
Crow Wing
Wilkin
Otter Tail
Todd
Morrison
Grant
Douglas
Traverse
Benton
Stevens
Pope
Stearns
Big Stone
Swift
Kandiyohi
Meeker
Wright
Lac Qui Parle
Chippewa
McLeod
Yellow Medicine
Renville
Lincoln
Lyon
Redwood
Sibley
0 6 12 18 mi
Protect in Easement
Protect in Fee with PILT
Protect in Fee W/O PILT
Restore
Enhance
Other

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

Accelerating the USFWS Habitat Conservation Easement Program

Comparison Report

Program Title: ML 2027 - Accelerating the USFWS Habitat Conservation Easement Program
Organization: Ducks Unlimited
Manager: Logan Shoup

Budget

Requested Amount: $14,499,000
Appropriated Amount: $3,708,000
Percentage: 25.57%

Item	Requested Proposal	Leverage Proposal	Appropriated AP	Leverage AP	Percent of Request	Percent of Leverage
Personnel	$2,778,000	$296,000	$711,000	$58,500	25.59%	19.76%
Contracts	$11,000,000	$280,000	$2,815,000	$70,000	25.59%	25.0%
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	-	-	-	-	-	-
Easement Acquisition	-	$1,000,000	-	$1,000,000	-	100.0%
Easement Stewardship	-	-	-	-	-	-
Travel	$120,000	-	$30,000	-	25.0%	-
Professional Services	$15,000	-	$3,500	-	23.33%	-
Direct Support Services	$296,000	$157,000	$75,500	-	25.51%	0.0%
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	$110,000	-	$28,000	-	25.45%	-
Supplies/Materials	$180,000	-	$45,000	-	25.0%	-
DNR IDP	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grand Total	**$14,499,000**	**$1,733,000**	**$3,708,000**	**$1,128,500**	**25.57%**	**65.12%**

If the project received 70% of the requested funding

Describe how the scaling would affect acres/activities and if not proportionately reduced, why?
This funding request will be scaled proportionately to the funding provided. Acres and Activity Outcomes would be reduced proportionately.

Describe how personnel and DSS expenses would be adjusted and if not proportionately reduced, why?
This funding request will be scaled proportionately to the funding provided. Acres and Activity Outcomes would be reduced proportionately.

If the project received 50% of the requested funding

Describe how the scaling would affect acres/activities and if not proportionately reduced, why?
This funding request will be scaled proportionately to the funding provided. Acres and Activity Outcomes would be reduced proportionately.

Describe how personnel and DSS expenses would be adjusted and if not proportionately reduced, why?
This funding request will be scaled proportionately to the funding provided. Acres and Activity Outcomes would be reduced proportionately.

Output

Acres by Resource Type (Table 1)

Type	Total Proposed	Total in AP	Percentage of Proposed
Restore	1,720	440	25.58%
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	0	-	-
Protect in Easement	0	-	-
Enhance	2,580	660	25.58%

Total Requested Funding by Resource Type (Table 2)

Type	Total Proposed	Total in AP	Percentage of Proposed
Restore	$5,799,600	$1,483,200	25.57%
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-
Enhance	$8,699,400	$2,224,800	25.57%

Acres within each Ecological Section (Table 3)

Type	Total Proposed	Total in AP	Percentage of Proposed
Restore	1,720	440	25.58%
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	0	-	-
Protect in Easement	0	-	-
Enhance	2,580	660	25.58%

Total Requested Funding within each Ecological Section (Table 4)

Type	Total Proposed	Total in AP	Percentage of Proposed
Restore	$5,799,600	$1,483,200	25.57%
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-
Enhance	$8,699,400	$2,224,800	25.57%

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

DNR Shallow Lakes and Wetland Enhancements Phase 19

Laws of Minnesota 2027 Accomplishment Plan

General Information

Date: 10/14/2026

Project Title: DNR Shallow Lakes and Wetland Enhancements Phase 19

Funds Recommended: $3,208,000

Legislative Citation:

Appropriation Language:

Manager Information

Manager's Name: Ricky Lien
Title: Wetland Habitat Team Supervisor
Organization: DNR
Address: 500 Lafayette Road
City: St. Paul, MN 55155-4020
Email: ricky.lien@state.mn.us
Office Number: 515-292-5227
Mobile Number: 651-297-4961
Fax Number: 651-297-4961
Website: https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/

Location Information

County Location(s): Swift, Clearwater, Martin and Cottonwood.

Eco regions in which work will take place:

Northern Forest

Prairie

Forest / Prairie Transition

Activity types:

Enhance

Restore

Priority resources addressed by activity:

Wetlands

Narrative

Abstract

This programmatic proposal aims to deliver shallow lake and wetland habitat enhancement and restoration work on 1777 acres. Three projects involved wetland basins that will be restored through tile breaks, ditch plugs, sediment removal, and/or placement of infrastructure. A fourth projects entails excavation of an outlet channel for Upper Rice Lake in Clearwater County to return the channel to as-built conditions. Valuable staff of the Wetland Habitat Team who were established via previous OHF appropriations will continue to be supported though this funding to allow for wetland and shallow lake work at a level that was not previously possible.

Design and Scope of Work

Minnesota's shallow lakes and wetlands are among the most productive habitats in the state, but an estimated 90% of Minnesota's prairie wetlands and more than 50% of our statewide wetlands have been lost. Wetlands and shallow lakes that remain are often compromised by degraded quality. This proposal will accomplish wetland habitat work throughout Minnesota on public lands and waters, with the large majority of the funding being directed strategically to the prairie region. This program delivers measurable, on-the-ground results - restoring and enhancing high-priority wetlands and shallow lakes that directly increase waterfowl production and improve habitat for a wide range of species of greatest conservation need. With established engineering, construction, and habitat teams already in place, Outdoor Heritage Funds translate immediately into acres restored, habitat quality improved, and systems brought back to ecological function. This is a proven, accountable investment—targeted where it matters most, ready to implement, and designed to produce lasting habitat outcomes across Minnesota. In addition to being critical for waterfowl, wetlands and shallow lakes provide habitat for a wide range of species, groundwater recharge, water purification, flood water storage, shoreline protection, and economic benefits.

Restoration and enhancement projects on state-owned lands, especially WMAs, and public waters were proposed and reviewed by DNR Area and Regional supervisors and Wetland Habitat Team staff. Planned work includes the restoration of numerous wetland basins at Pats Pasture WMA (Cottonwood Co.), Perch Creek WMA (Martin Co.), and the Anderson Unit of Lac qui Parle WMA (Swift Co.). Restoration work will be accomplished by tile breaks, ditch plugs, sediment removal, and/or placement of infrastructure construction. An additional project involves the excavation of an outlet channel for Upper Rice Lake (Clearwater Co.). Excavation of this channel will allow for improved water levels that can support over 1000 acres of wild rice.

Funding will be provided to support staff of the Wetland Habitat Team who were established via previous OHF appropriations.Specifically, the staffing will go to support four specialists within the Shallow Lakes Program, three specialists within the Wetland Management Program, and wetland consultant. Support for these positions allows for wetland and shallow lake habitat work that would otherwise not be possible.

To improve efficiency and meet mutual goals, projects may be done in cooperation with Duck Unlimited or other conservation partners. Parcels may be added, modified, or deleted from the parcel list to accommodate engineering feasibility results, provide resources to new opportunities, or to address the challenges associated with complex shallow lake and wetland projects. All changes shall be within the scope of this proposal and will be fully reported in the Final Report.

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

Approximately 50% of all federally endangered animal are wetland-related. As a measure of the importance of wetlands to Minnesota Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN), the word 'wetland' appears 127 times in Minnesota's State Wildlife Action Plan 2015-2025 (SWAP). Conservation Focus Areas are priority areas for working with partners to identify, design, and implement conservation actions and report on the effectiveness toward achieving the goals and objectives defined in the Wildlife Action Plan. Target Habitat Complexes within Conservation Focus Areas commonly include Prairie Wetland Complexes and other wetland community types.

The protection and management of wetlands and wetland/grassland complexes are noted extensively in the discussion of Conservation Focus Area Target, Conservation Issues and Approaches. Specific management actions mentioned include reed canary grass and invasive cattail control, "natural disturbance management" (i.e. water level management, prescribed fire, woody vegetation removal). Target Habitat Complexes within Conservation Focus Areas commonly include Prairie Wetland Complexes and other wetland community types. As noted in the SWAP, wet meadows and fens typically provide optimal habitat for sedge wrens, yellow rails, Nelson's sharp-tailed sparrows and numerous other SGCN. Wetland Management Options to support SGCN include prevention of wetland degradation, restoration of wetland complexes, and management of invasives species.

For shallow lake habitat, examples of SGCN include lesser scaup, northern pintail, common moorhen, least bitterns, American bitterns, marsh wrens, and Virginia rails. Wetland management actions to benefit SGCN include the restoration of large complexes of shallow lakes and wetlands, with attention to the habitat features required by SGCN, management for a natural water regime in shallow lakes, and management of invasives.

Management of wetlands and shallow lakes as noted above will be accomplished through the work described in this proposal.

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

The Status and Trends of Wetlands in Minnesota: Depressional Wetland Quality Assessment (2007 – 2012), produced by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, noted that the prairie and central regions of the state wetlands are dominated by degraded vegetation communities. Vegetation communities in more than half of these depressional wetlands are in poor condition (56%), with only 17% in good condition, similar to the quality of all wetland types in the central hardwood and former prairie regions. Non-native invasive plants are having the greatest impact. In other words, not only have most wetlands been lost in much of the prairie and forest-transition areas of Minnesota, those that remain are degraded and need management action to produce quality habitat. Note that many of the projects included in this proposal involve existing wetlands whose infrastructure has failed completely and management is no longer possible. The restoration of numerous wetland basins is also included.

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

The Minnesota Duck Recovery Plan goals include boosting the state's breeding duck population. The most productive prairie waterfowl habitat is a mix of wetland and grassland as a habitat complex. A complex could be 4 - 9 square miles and should be comprised of 10% temporary/seasonal wetlands, 10% permanent wetlands, and 40% grasslands, with the remaining 40% available for crops. In addition to mixes of grasslands and healthy wetlands, The Duck Plan also called for accelerated efforts to restore 1,800 shallow lakes, including wild rice lakes.

The Minnesota Prairie Conservation Plan, which is a plan for both uplands and wetlands in the prairie region of

Minnesota, outlines focal areas (Core Areas and Habitat Complexes) where we can build on an existing base of conservation lands and improve the habitat there. The Prairie Wetland Initiative component of this OHF proposal would contribute to these identified Core Areas and Habitat Complexes by working to actively manage and improve small wetlands on public lands, especially on those lands contributing to the Minnesota Comprehensive Prairie Plan. The Status and Trends of Wetlands in Minnesota: Depressional Wetland Quality Assessment (2007 – 2012), produced by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, noted that while most wetlands in northern Minnesota are in good condition, the opposite is true in the central and former prairie regions of the state, where degraded vegetation communities are predominant. Vegetation communities in more than half of these depressional wetlands are in poor condition (56%), with only 17% in good condition, similar to the quality of all wetland types in the central hardwood and former prairie regions. Non-native invasive plants such as invasive monotypic cattails are having the greatest impact.

The work done by this OHF proposal will directly contribute to expanded and healthy wetland complexes and increased shallow lakes work. Work will renovate existing wetland infrastructure and establish new management, especially in the critical prairie region of Minnesota. More specifically, the projects identified by the Wetland Management Program are targeted to key wetland complexes in the prairie region and deliver critical management to the wetlands of those complexes.

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

Long Range Duck Recovery Plan

Managing Minnesota's Shallow Lakes for Waterfowl and Wildlife

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

Prairie

Protect, enhance, and restore migratory habitat for waterfowl and related species, so as to increase migratory and breeding success

Outcomes

Programs in forest-prairie transition region:

Wetland and upland complexes will consist of native prairies, restored prairies, quality grasslands, and restored shallow lakes and wetlands ~ *Intensive wetland management and habitat infrastructure development will provide the wetland base called for in numerous prairie, shallow lake and waterfowl plans. Area wildlife staff, wetland management program staff, and/or shallow lakes staff will monitor completed projects to determine success of implementation and to assess the need for future management and/or development.*

Programs in the northern forest region:

Improved availability and improved condition of habitats that have experienced substantial decline ~ *Intensive wetland management and habitat infrastructure development will provide the wetland base called for in numerous prairie, shallow lake and waterfowl plans. Area wildlife staff, wetland management program staff,*

and/or shallow lakes staff will monitor completed projects to determine success of implementation and to assess the need for future management and/or development.

Programs in prairie region:

Protected, restored, and enhanced shallow lakes and wetlands ~ *Intensive wetland management and habitat infrastructure development will provide the wetland base called for in numerous prairie, shallow lake and waterfowl plans. Area wildlife staff, wetland management program staff, and/or shallow lakes staff will monitor completed projects to determine success of implementation and to assess the need for for future management and/or development.*

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 an acceleration of the Minnesota DNR's Section of Wildlife wetland habitat work to a level not attainable but for the appropriation.

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

Qualified engineers and staff will oversee replacement/renovation of infrastructure to achieve long-lasting results. A typical goal is to have water control structures, dikes and fish barriers last a minimum of 30-40 years. The management of completed infrastructure projects will fall on existing staff of the Department of Natural Resources. Enhancement work implemented by this staff such as invasive species control, supplemental vegetation planting, or water control structure installation, maintenance, or replacement, will be accomplished through annual funding requests to a variety of funding sources including, but not limited to, the Game and Fish Fund, bonding, gifts, the Environmental and Natural Resources Trust Fund, the Outdoor Heritage Fund, and federal sources such as North American Wetlands Conservation Act grants and Pittman-Robertson funds. Wetland enhancement projects such as cattail control, prescribed burns, invasive fish management and the like are implemented to achieve quality, long-lasting habitat benefits, but the benefit lifespan may be variable due to conditions imposed by climate, physical factors, habitat succession, etc. Monitoring by area wildlife staff, wetland management specialists, and shallow lakes specialists will ensure that follow-up management is employed as needed.

Actions to Maintain Project Outcomes

Year	Source of Funds	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3
1 year post-implementation of management action	DNR	Wetland Management Program, Shallow Lakes Program, and Area Wildlife staff evaluate management effectiveness.	-	-
10-12 months post-completion of engineered infrastructure or construction work	DNR	Qualified engineers conduct warranty inspection of project.	-	-

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

The Minnesota DNR has adopted advancing diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) as a key priority in its 2020-22 strategic plan. The plan focuses on increasing the cultural competence of our staff, creating a workforce that is reflective of Minnesota, continuing to strengthen tribal consultation and building partnerships with diverse communities. Shallow lake and wetland habitat projects provide ecosystem services like clean water and carbon

sequestration that support environmental justice. OHF also supports public access and recreational opportunities on these lands. OHF projects and outcomes benefit BIPOC and diverse communities through recreational opportunities that are close-to-home, culturally responsive and accessible to Minnesotans with disabilities. The DNR has diversity, equity and inclusion strategies that benefit all OHF projects:• Multilingual and culturally specific hunting and fishing education programs take place on public lands. • All hiring is equal opportunity, affirmative action, and veteran-friendly. Contracting seeks out Targeted Group, Economically Disadvantaged and Veteran-Owned businesses. • Public engagement seeks out BIPOC voices and involves diverse communities.

Activity Details

Requirements

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

Will restoration and enhancement work follow best management practices including MS 84.973 Pollinator Habitat Program?
Yes

Is the restoration and enhancement activity on permanently protected land per 97A.056, Subd 13(f), tribal lands, and/or public waters per MS 103G.005, Subd. 15 or on lands to be acquired in this program?
Yes

Where does the activity take place?

WMA

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

Timeline

Activity Name	Estimated Completion Date
Survey and engineer projects	June 2030
Wetland Restorations and channel cleanouts	June 2030

Date of Final Report Submission: 10/09/2031

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	$1,781,000	-	-	$1,781,000
Contracts	$656,200	-	-	$656,200
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	-	-	-	-
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	-	-	-	-
Easement Acquisition	-	-	-	-
Easement Stewardship	-	-	-	-
Travel	$266,000	-	-	$266,000
Professional Services	$175,000	-	-	$175,000
Direct Support Services	$196,300	-	-	$196,300
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	-	-	-	-
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	$45,000	-	-	$45,000
Supplies/Materials	$88,500	-	-	$88,500
DNR IDP	-	-	-	-
Grand Total	**$3,208,000**	**-**	**-**	**$3,208,000**

Personnel

Position	Annual FTE	Years Working	Funding Request	Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Wildife Lake Specialists	4.0	2.0	$903,500	-	-	$903,500
State Wetland Project Conultant	1.0	2.0	$283,500	-	-	$283,500
Wetland Management Specialists	3.0	2.0	$594,000	-	-	$594,000

Amount of Request: $3,208,000
Amount of Leverage: -
Leverage as a percent of the Request: 0.0%
DSS + Personnel: $1,977,300
As a % of the total request: 61.64%
Easement Stewardship: -
As a % of the Easement Acquisition: -

How will this program accommodate the reduced appropriation recommendation from the original proposed requested amount?
Salary funding was limited to 8 positions, meaning 2 positions are not able to be funded with OHF. Four projects were identified for funding.

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 reduced funding amount would be addressed by using Program and Regional Wildlife staff to evaluate projects based on need, strategic importance, and efficiency to determine which projects would be funded. Acres and activities may not be proportionally affected due to the variety of project sizes and costs.

Describe how personnel and DSS expenses would be adjusted and if not proportionately reduced, why?
Personnel costs requested in the proposal represent two years of staffing. It's important to note that these staff would work on projects associated with this proposal, plus all open appropriations of DNR and partners. Depending on the amount recommended for funding, funding for staffing will be proportionally higher.

Personnel

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

Contracts

What is included in the contracts line?
The contract line includes funding to hire companies to implement wetland restorations actions including sediment removal, placement of ditchplugs, construction of infrastructure, and implementation of management actions to enhance wetlands.

Professional Services

What is included in the Professional Services line?

Design/Engineering

Other : Other eligible expenses that may show up a Professional services are obtaining SHPO permits or paying for DNR helicopter and pilot costs for aerial spraying.

Surveys

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
In addition to traditional travel costs of mileage, food and lodging, the amount budget in Travel may be used to cover DNR fleet costs associated with equipment used by staff. Such equipment could include MarshMasters, tractors, trailers, heavy equipment, and other equipment needed for wetland enhancement activities.

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?
Direct Support Services is determined by a standard DNR process taking into account the amount of funding and the number of allocations made with that funding.

Other Equipment/Tools

Give examples of the types of Equipment and Tools that will be purchased?
Equipment and tools that may be purchased would be hand and power tools, canoe/kayak/small boat and trailer, small pumps, and other items necessary for wetland management activities.

Federal Funds

Do you anticipate federal funds as a match for this program?
Yes

Are the funds confirmed?
No

What is the approximate date you anticipate receiving confirmation of the federal funds?
The timing and availability of federal funding is unknown, but historically federal funds such as NAWCA, Inflation Reduction Act, Joint Venture funds, Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act, and America the Beautiful may become available for critical habitat work. The Minnesota DNR would look to use these funding sources as appropriate to expand the scale of shallow lake and wetland work.

Output Tables

Acres by Resource Type (Table 1)

Type	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat	Total Acres
Restore	64	-	-	-	64
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	1,713	-	-	-	1,713
Total	**1,777**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**1,777**

Total Requested Funding by Resource Type (Table 2)

Type	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat	Total Funding
Restore	$1,666,700	-	-	-	$1,666,700
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	$1,541,300	-	-	-	$1,541,300
Total	**$3,208,000**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**$3,208,000**

Acres within each Ecological Section (Table 3)

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest	Total Acres
Restore	-	0	-	64	-	64
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	-	0	-	-	1,713	1,713
Total	**-**	**0**	**-**	**64**	**1,713**	**1,777**

Total Requested Funding within each Ecological Section (Table 4)

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest	Total Funding
Restore	-	$191,100	-	$1,380,000	$95,600	$1,666,700
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	-	$286,700	-	$1,003,500	$251,100	$1,541,300
Total	**-**	**$477,800**	**-**	**$2,383,500**	**$346,700**	**$3,208,000**

Average Cost per Acre by Resource Type (Table 5)

Type	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat
Restore	$26,042	-	-	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-
Enhance	$899	-	-	-

Average Cost per Acre by Ecological Section (Table 6)

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest
Restore	-	-	-	$21,562	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	-	-	-	-	$146

Target Lake/Stream/River Feet or Miles

Parcels

Parcel Information

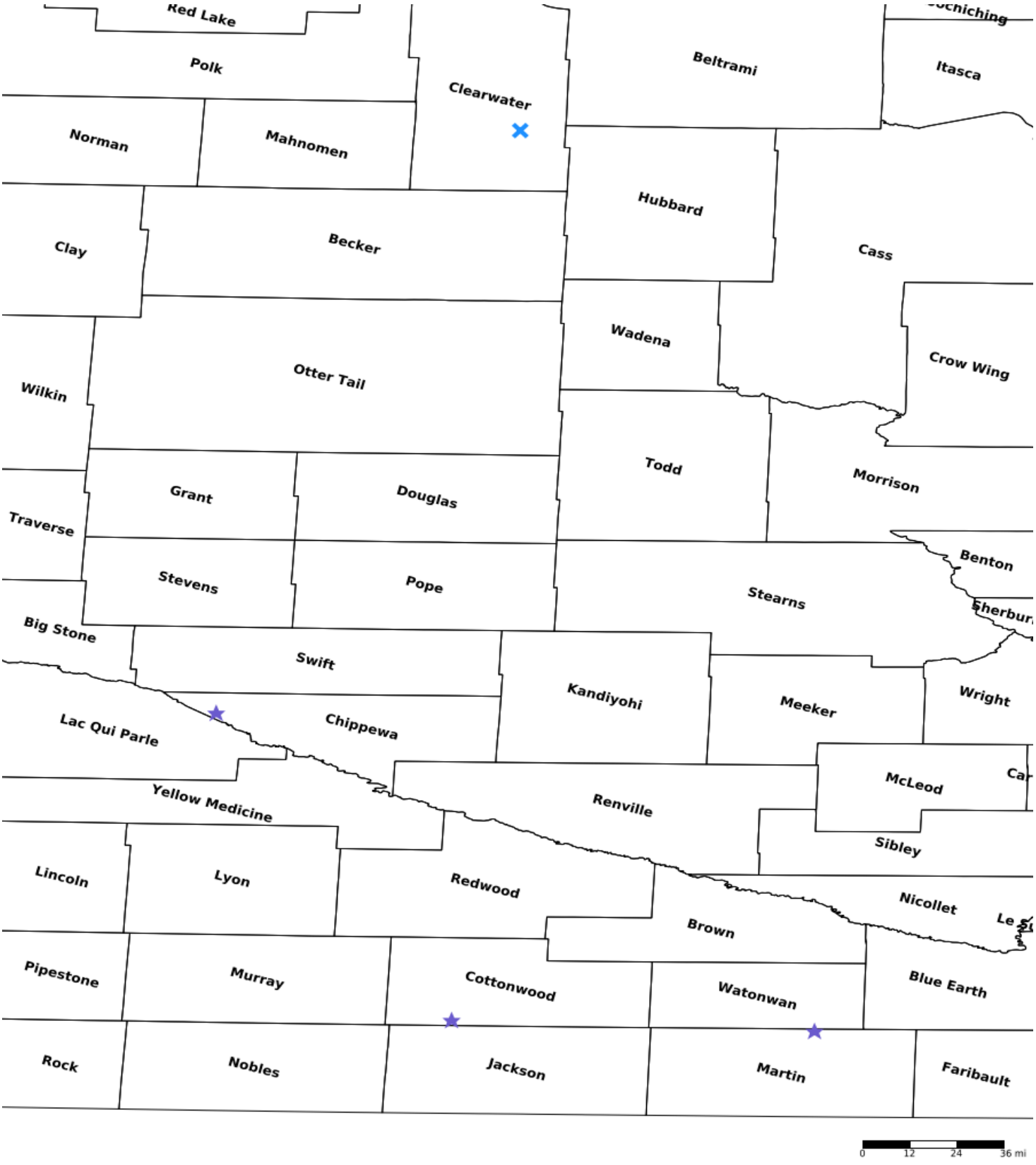
Sign-up Criteria?
No

Explain the process used to identify, prioritize, and select the parcels on your list:
Proposals for individual projects are submitted by DNR Area Wildlife Staff and Wetland Habitat Team members. Projects are reviewed at the regional and central office levels and appropriate projects are selected for inclusion in this OHF proposal. The parcel list may be modified by the program manager as needed and the Final Report will reflect an accurate and complete parcel list. As appropriate, tribal consultation will occur for projects.

Restore / Enhance Parcels

Name	County	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection	Description
Upper Rice Lake Outlet Channel Cleanout	Clearwater	14536207	1,713	$90,000	Yes	Excavation of channel to allow for water level control.
Pats Pasture WMA Wetland Restoration	Cottonwood	10537229	27	$246,520	Yes	Wetland restorations.
Perch Creek WMA Wetland Restoration	Martin	10430206	15	$166,680	Yes	Wetland restorations.
Lac qui Parle WMA Anderson Unit Wetland Restoration	Swift	11942234	22	$254,300	Yes	Wetland restorations.

Parcel Map



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

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

DNR Shallow Lakes and Wetland Enhancements Phase 19

Comparison Report

Program Title: ML 2027 - DNR Shallow Lakes and Wetland Enhancements Phase 19
Organization: DNR
Manager: Ricky Lien

Budget

Requested Amount: $23,483,000
Appropriated Amount: $3,208,000
Percentage: 13.66%

Item	Requested Proposal	Leverage Proposal	Appropriated AP	Leverage AP	Percent of Request	Percent of Leverage
Personnel	$2,991,000	-	$1,781,000	-	59.55%	-
Contracts	$15,360,500	-	$656,200	-	4.27%	-
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	-	-	-	-	-	-
Easement Acquisition	-	-	-	-	-	-
Easement Stewardship	-	-	-	-	-	-
Travel	$368,800	-	$266,000	-	72.13%	-
Professional Services	$2,750,000	-	$175,000	-	6.36%	-
Direct Support Services	$474,000	-	$196,300	-	41.41%	-
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Equipment	$95,000	-	-	-	0.0%	-
Other Equipment/Tools	$65,000	-	$45,000	-	69.23%	-
Supplies/Materials	$1,378,700	-	$88,500	-	6.42%	-
DNR IDP	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grand Total	**$23,483,000**	**-**	**$3,208,000**	**-**	**13.66%**	**-**

If the project received 70% of the requested funding

Describe how the scaling would affect acres/activities and if not proportionately reduced, why?
A reduced funding amount would be addressed by using Program and Regional Wildlife staff to evaluate projects based on need, strategic importance, and efficiency to determine which projects would be funded. Acres and activities may not be proportionally affected due to the variety of project sizes and costs.

Describe how personnel and DSS expenses would be adjusted and if not proportionately reduced, why?
Personnel costs requested in the proposal represent two years of staffing. It's important to note that these staff would work on projects associated with this proposal, plus all open appropriations of DNR and partners. Depending on the amount recommended for funding, funding for staffing will be proportionally higher.

If the project received 50% of the requested funding

Describe how the scaling would affect acres/activities and if not proportionately reduced, why?
A reduced funding amount would be addressed by using Program and Regional Wildlife staff to prioritize projects based on need, strategic importance, and efficiency to determine which projects would be funded. Acres and activities may not be proportionally affected due to the variety of project sizes and costs.

Describe how personnel and DSS expenses would be adjusted and if not proportionately reduced, why?
Personnel costs requested in the proposal represent two years of staffing. It's important to note that these staff would work on projects associated with this proposal, plus all open appropriations of DNR and partners. Depending on the amount recommended for funding, funding for staffing will be proportionally higher.

Output

Acres by Resource Type (Table 1)

Type	Total Proposed	Total in AP	Percentage of Proposed
Restore	811	64	7.89%
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	0	-	-
Protect in Easement	0	-	-
Enhance	12,054	1,713	14.21%

Total Requested Funding by Resource Type (Table 2)

Type	Total Proposed	Total in AP	Percentage of Proposed
Restore	$10,154,300	$1,666,700	16.41%
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-
Enhance	$13,328,700	$1,541,300	11.56%

Acres within each Ecological Section (Table 3)

Type	Total Proposed	Total in AP	Percentage of Proposed
Restore	811	64	7.89%
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	0	-	-
Protect in Easement	0	-	-
Enhance	12,054	1,713	14.21%

Total Requested Funding within each Ecological Section (Table 4)

Type	Total Proposed	Total in AP	Percentage of Proposed
Restore	$10,154,300	$1,666,700	16.41%
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-
Enhance	$13,328,700	$1,541,300	11.56%

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

DNR Statewide control and reduction of invasive Phragmites Phase I

Laws of Minnesota 2027 Accomplishment Plan

General Information

Date: 10/19/2026

Project Title: DNR Statewide control and reduction of invasive Phragmites Phase I

Funds Recommended: $1,026,000

Legislative Citation:

Appropriation Language:

Manager Information

Manager's Name: Michael Verhoeven
Title: Aquatic Invasive Species Management Consultant
Organization: Department of Natural Resources
Address: 500 Lafayette Rd
City: St Paul, MN 55155
Email: michael.verhoeven@state.mn.us
Office Number: 651-259-5974
Mobile Number:
Fax Number:
Website: https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/aquaticplants/phragmites/index.html

Location Information

County Location(s): Wright, Ramsey, Anoka, Chisago, Kandiyohi, Aitkin, Scott, Washington, Hennepin, Le Sueur, Isanti, Olmsted, Mower, Cottonwood, Becker, Wabasha, Otter Tail, Dakota, Nobles, Carlton, Winona, Martin, Murray, Sherburne, Carver and Freeborn.

Eco regions in which work will take place:

Forest / Prairie Transition

Northern Forest

Southeast Forest

Prairie

Metro / Urban

Activity types:

Enhance

Priority resources addressed by activity:

Wetlands

Narrative

Abstract

A coordinated, comprehensive framework to reverse the spread of non-native, invasive Phragmites across Minnesota has eliminated about 1/3 of the patches across the state since 2017 (z.umn.edu/phragmites-story). This request expands the financial investment in reversing the spread by prioritizing on-the-ground control on public lands with Outdoor Heritage Fund (OHF). These funds will work alongside federal, state, and local dollars being used to curb the spread and extirpate patches of invasive Phragmites across Minnesota.

Design and Scope of Work

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR), in collaboration with the University of Minnesota, leads a statewide effort to control non-native, invasive Phragmites at all known sites of establishment across the state (mnphrag.org). Early detection and mapping of invasive Phragmites has enabled a coordinated strategy to slow and reverse its spread statewide. The species is hugely problematic in wetlands in other Midwestern states, outcompeting native plants, increasing greenhouse gas emissions from wetlands, and reducing habitat utility to birds, invertebrates and fish. For nearly a decade, collaborators across the state have helped to detect, control, and monitor invasive Phragmites. This work will expand on previous successes by using OHF dollars to tackle invasive Phragmites work on public lands and waters across the state.

Component 1: OHF funding will be used to fund management of patches of invasive Phragmites (Phragmites australis subsp. australis) on public lands and waters that are not already controlled by other partners and funding sources such as: local (e.g., Community Action Duluth manages all invasive Phragmites in St Louis River Estuary), state (e.g., MN DOT manages on road right-of-ways), or federal funds like the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI, which supports about $30,000-90,000 of control annually).

Component 2: OHF funding will enable work that supports the success of controlling invasive Phragmites, specifically: assessment surveys to select sites for control annually, winter biomass management to improve control effectiveness, and re-seeding and revegetation efforts to restore habitats in locations where invasive Phragmites has been eliminated.

Context: The discovery of invasive, non-native Phragmites at an early stage of establishment in Minnesota spurred a coordinated, comprehensive effort to reverse its spread in the state. Since 2017 this coordinated response has brought partners together from across the state, including University of Minnesota researchers, local government, conservation non-profits, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Tribal Nations, and regional partners (more information at mnphrag.org). Our comprehensive approach is both reactive and preventative: simultaneously eliminating established infestations to promote native habitat recovery while protecting uninvaded habitats from future spread. Funding for annual treatment monitoring, detection of new patches, and coordination with local organizations has been secured annually through the GLRI since 2019. Management efforts are focused on "clearing counties" by targeting management in areas of the state with a limited number of small populations. Annual monitoring shows that since 2017, 29% of the 2,650 verified stands in the state have been eliminated. This

funding request aims to bolster the effort to reverse the spread of invasive Phragmites in Minnesota by investing in on-the-ground control work on public lands and waters.

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

Invasive Phragmites is one of the most studied invasive species in the world. Its impacts on fish and wildlife habitats are well documented (Hazelton et al., 2014). Studies have shown that dense Phragmites stands alter hydrology and decrease wetland plant biodiversity as well as bird, fish and invertebrate habitat use. They have also shown that invaded wetlands have increased greenhouse gas emissions, contributing to cascading effects on fish and wildlife populations through climate change.

Fortunately, research has also shown that invasive Phragmites can be effectively managed with appropriate techniques (Kettenring, 2013), especially when stands are relatively small—as the vast majority of stands in Minnesota currently are. Management at this stage increases the likelihood of habitat recovery and reduces risk of spread into new areas. A single invasive Phragmites seed head is estimated to contain 2,000 seeds. Therefore, it is critical to pursue effective measures now to contain and reverse the spread. Proactive management is well-documented to reduce control costs in the long-term—many states have spent more than this project request to manage Phragmites in single wetlands (Blanke et al., 2019).

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

This funding request is time-sensitive due to the stage of invasive Phragmites spread in Minnesota, the management and cost effectiveness of the control strategy, and the need to sustain current momentum. The scale of invasion by invasive Phragmites has remained manageable due to the coordinated control work that has been underway for the last several years. Leaving stands unmanaged allows them to expand laterally in area through rhizomes and can contribute an incredible number of propagules to the landscape. Funding this work now will harness the momentum, complementary funding, necessary partnerships, and program infrastructure that has been developed in the past decade.

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

This work will primarily focus on protecting existing habitat corridors and complexes and preventing further fragmentation through habitat protection. The funding requested for revegetation work will be prioritized to bolster habitat corridors for relatively large sites where invasive Phragmites has degraded wetlands. By focusing on control at the landscape scale and restoring native vegetation on the heels of the control work (Hazelton et al., 2014), this project will recover habitat connectivity that is lost as invasive Phragmites displaces native vegetation and degrades habitat quality (Minchinton et al., 2006).

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

Minnesota DNR Strategic Conservation Agenda

Minnesota Statewide Conservation & Preservation Plan

Which LSOHC section priorities are addressed in this program?

Forest / Prairie Transition

Protect from long-term or permanent endangerment from invasive species

Metro / Urban

Protect from long-term or permanent endangerment from invasive species

Northern Forest

Restore forest-based wildlife habitat that has experienced substantial decline in area in recent decades

Prairie

Protect from long-term or permanent endangerment from invasive species

Southeast Forest

Protect from long-term or permanent endangerment from invasive species

Outcomes

Programs in forest-prairie transition region:

Improved aquatic habitat vegetation ~ *Across MN we have identified invasive Phragmites-impacted habitat that will be enhanced directly by this proposal. However, a key motivation for this work is that we are eliminating sources of seed production for the species, which in turn is protecting countless additional acres of wetlands from invasion by non-native Phragmites. Progress in control will be evaluated by region using total acres of invasive Phragmites, number of stands, mean size of stands, and the ratio of new to managed and extirpated stands.*

Programs in metropolitan urbanizing region:

Improved aquatic habitat indicators ~ *Across MN we have identified invasive Phragmites-impacted habitat that will be enhanced directly by this proposal. However, a key motivation for this work is that we are eliminating sources of seed production for the species, which in turn is protecting countless additional acres of wetlands from invasion by non-native Phragmites. Progress in control will be evaluated by region using total acres of invasive Phragmites, number of stands, mean size of stands, and the ratio of new to managed and extirpated stands.*

Programs in the northern forest region:

Improved aquatic habitat indicators ~ *Across MN we have identified invasive Phragmites-impacted habitat that will be enhanced directly by this proposal. However, a key motivation for this work is that we are eliminating sources of seed production for the species, which in turn is protecting countless additional acres of wetlands from invasion by non-native Phragmites. Progress in control will be evaluated by region using total acres of invasive Phragmites, number of stands, mean size of stands, and the ratio of new to managed and extirpated stands.*

Programs in prairie region:

Improve aquatic vegetation ~ *Across MN we have identified invasive Phragmites-impacted habitat that will be enhanced directly by this proposal. However, a key motivation for this work is that we are eliminating sources of seed production for the species, which in turn is protecting countless additional acres of wetlands from invasion by non-native Phragmites. Progress in control will be evaluated by region using total acres of invasive Phragmites, number of stands, mean size of stands, and the ratio of new to managed and extirpated stands.*

Programs in southeast forest region:

Rivers, streams, and surrounding vegetation provide corridors of habitat ~ *Across MN we have identified invasive Phragmites-impacted habitat that will be enhanced directly by this proposal. However, a key motivation for this work is that we are eliminating sources of seed production for the species, which in turn is protecting countless additional acres of wetlands from invasion by non-native Phragmites. Progress in control will be evaluated by region using total acres of invasive Phragmites, number of stands, mean size of stands, and the ratio of new to managed and extirpated stands.*

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 funding is not being used to supplant any other funding sources, but will be used to supplement federal Great Lakes Restoration Initiative funding, state Invasive Species and General Fund dollars, and multiple local partner funding sources that control nearly half of all known sites in the state.

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

Statewide, we expect that as new stands continue to be discovered, this funding will bolster recent increases in the proportion of verified stands being eliminated. By the end of the proposed grant period, most known stands in Greater Minnesota should be eliminated. The state will then be in a position to conduct more intensive management to eliminate invasive Phragmites in regions where it is more prevalent (e.g., Metro, Mississippi River corridor below Lake City). Funding needs would thereby be reduced over time. It is critical to contain the spread and sustain the progress we have made to date to protect Minnesota from the vast, monotypic stands that have devastated wetlands in other parts of North America. As the statewide response drives down the extent of invasive Phragmites we expect that local partners will be capable of managing what remains during operational conservation work and maintenance.

Actions to Maintain Project Outcomes

Year	Source of Funds	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3
2027-2032	OHF - LSOHC	Control work to eliminate invasive Phragmites, with increased focus on public lands and waters	Site preparation and revegetation where needed	Monitoring of outcomes at site level to ensure no reinvasion and establishment of native vegetation
2017-2030	Great Lakes Restoration Initiative - USFWS	Outstate to Metro control of invasive Phragmites	Continued coordination with local, state, federal, and tribal organizations	Annual monitoring of effectiveness

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

Protecting and restoring public lands and waters through this work helps ensure those resources continue to be available to all. Managing invasive Phragmites protects native ecosystems, which have cultural importance to Indigenous communities and many other Minnesotans. Our program coordinates with Tribal Nations and collaborates to ensure culturally sensitive management. Proactive invasive species management also reduces long-term costs that often fall upon taxpayers.

Activity Details

Requirements

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

Will restoration and enhancement work follow best management practices including MS 84.973 Pollinator Habitat Program?
Yes

Is the restoration and enhancement activity on permanently protected land per 97A.056, Subd 13(f), tribal lands, and/or public waters per MS 103G.005, Subd. 15 or on lands to be acquired in this program?
Yes

Where does the activity take place?

WMA

WPA

County/Municipal

Public Waters

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

Timeline

Activity Name	Estimated Completion Date
Year 5: Completion of control and revegetation activities (see Year 2)	July 2031 - May 2032
Year 4: Completion of control and revegetation activities (see Year 2)	July 2030 - May 2031
Year 3: Completion of control and revegetation activities (see Year 2)	July 2029 - May 2030
Year 2: Site preparation and revegetation	May 2029
Year 2: Completion of all control activities (see Year 1)	July 2028 - February 2029
Year 1: Winter biomass knockdown	February 2028
Year 1: Control work on extant stands of invasive Phragmites	October 2027
Year 1:Coordination, permissions, and permitting	August 2027
Year 1: Monitoring and assessment of public lands sites and prioritization of sites for control, knockdown, and seeding	July 2027

Date of Final Report Submission: 10/01/2032

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	-	-	-	-
Contracts	$1,010,200	$250,000	Great Lake Restoration Initiative (anticipated)	$1,260,200
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	-	-	-	-
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	-	-	-	-
Easement Acquisition	-	-	-	-
Easement Stewardship	-	-	-	-
Travel	-	-	-	-
Professional Services	-	$82,500	DNR Invasive Species Account & General Fund (secured)	$82,500
Direct Support Services	$15,800	-	-	$15,800
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	-	-	-	-
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	-	-	-	-
Supplies/Materials	-	-	-	-
DNR IDP	-	-	-	-
Grand Total	**$1,026,000**	**$332,500**	**-**	**$1,358,500**

Amount of Request: $1,026,000
Amount of Leverage: $332,500
Leverage as a percent of the Request: 32.41%
DSS + Personnel: $15,800
As a % of the total request: 1.54%
Easement Stewardship: -
As a % of the Easement Acquisition: -

How will this program accommodate the reduced appropriation recommendation from the original proposed requested amount?
We have scaled all contract aspects of the project back to meet the recommendation (Control, survey and monitoring, biomass knockdown, and revegetation) by eliminating metro area acreage. The new contracts value is $1,010,224 before DNR DSS is applied.

Detail leverage sources and confirmation of funds:
The DNR's invasive species program funded by the Invasive Species Account and the General Fund will support $82,500 of DNR Coordination. A Great Lake Restoration Initiative grant has supported a $50,000 contract annually to for coordination with local partners & prioritization of sites for control.

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?
The sites to be managed would be reduced, with a focus on managing the outstate populations to clear counties. If the funding were reduced by 50% we could also decrease the re-vegetation component of the work for some sites where local recolonization may be marginally sufficient.

Describe how personnel and DSS expenses would be adjusted and if not proportionately reduced, why?
At a 30% funding, DSS would be reduced to $8686.10 because part of DSS charges from DNR are on a per unit basis (see DSS description below). The personnel leverage funding would be unchanged because the coordination work does not scale by funding amount.

Contracts

What is included in the contracts line?
The work will be executed primarily via annual contracts for four types of work: control of invasive Phragmites in the fall of each year; assessment surveys and site selection during summer; winter biomass control; and revegetation and reseeding contracts.

Direct Support Services

How did you determine which portions of the Direct Support Services of your shared support services is direct to this program?
DNR applies $0.012 charge per dollar of request for financial support ($16,857 for this project), and fixed communication and planning support rates of $2,086 and $1,543 per internal units of funding ($3,629 for 1 allotment for this project).

Federal Funds

Do you anticipate federal funds as a match for this program?
Yes

Are the funds confirmed?
No

What is the approximate date you anticipate receiving confirmation of the federal funds?
October, annually.

Output Tables

Acres by Resource Type (Table 1)

Type	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat	Total Acres
Restore	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	47	-	-	-	47
Total	**47**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**47**

Total Requested Funding by Resource Type (Table 2)

Type	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat	Total Funding
Restore	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	$1,026,000	-	-	-	$1,026,000
Total	**$1,026,000**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**$1,026,000**

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	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	13	1	1	18	14	47
Total	**13**	**1**	**1**	**18**	**14**	**47**

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	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	$313,900	$14,700	$29,600	$392,600	$275,200	$1,026,000
Total	**$313,900**	**$14,700**	**$29,600**	**$392,600**	**$275,200**	**$1,026,000**

Average Cost per Acre by Resource Type (Table 5)

Type	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat
Restore	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-
Enhance	$21,829	-	-	-

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	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	$24,146	$14,700	$29,600	$21,811	$19,657

Target Lake/Stream/River Feet or Miles

12.1 acres of Public Waters

Parcels

Parcel Information

Sign-up Criteria?
No

Explain the process used to identify, prioritize, and select the parcels on your list:
Invasive Phragmites is reported to the state using EDDMapS.org. Reports are verified by experts at the DNR and UMN, and sites are visited by DNR surveyors or a local partner. Sites are logged and tracked by the MNPhrag team (MNPhrag.org) and are ranked for priority for control work annually. For this project, we have selected from all stands in Minnesota those that are on public lands or waters and are not managed by another partner. See full site list in attachments, proposed parcel list uses 2026 management data for proposed 2027 control proxy. Acreage is rounded up to 1 if less than 1 and to nearest whole integer otherwise. PIDs listed as 999 did not have a PID available in the MN Geospatial commons.

Restore / Enhance Parcels

Name	County	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection	Description
27001-01-0-004200	Aitkin	04727202	1	$1,520	Yes	CR 22/390th St NB
27001-01-0-021600	Aitkin	04727214	1	$22,083	Yes	CR 1/410th Ave
27001-01-0-046700	Aitkin	04727223	1	$2,561	Yes	CR 1/410th Ave SB
999	Aitkin	04727211	1	$2,561	Yes	CR 1/410th Ave SB
999	Aitkin	04727214	1	$1,373	Yes	CR 1/410th Ave SB
999	Aitkin	04727212	1	$463	Yes	Osprey Ave EB
999	Aitkin	04727211	1	$304	Yes	CR 1/410th Ave NB
999	Aitkin	04727212	1	$967	Yes	CR 1/410th Ave NB
999	Aitkin	04727212	1	$552	Yes	CR 1/410th Ave NB
999	Aitkin	04727211	1	$453	Yes	CR 1/410th Ave SB
999	Aitkin	04727214	1	$397	Yes	CR 1/410th Ave SB
999	Aitkin	04727213	3	$74,400	Yes	CR 1/410th Ave NB
999	Aitkin	04727212	1	$2,854	Yes	CR 1/410th Ave NB
999	Aitkin	04727212	1	$3,345	Yes	CR 1/410th Ave NB
999	Aitkin	04727211	1	$2,444	Yes	CR 22/390th St NB
999	Aitkin	04727212	1	$3,385	Yes	CR 1/410th Ave NB
999	Aitkin	04727214	1	$1,145	Yes	CR 1/410th Ave SB
999	Aitkin	04727211	1	$9,911	Yes	CR 1/CR 22 at Osprey Ave
999	Aitkin	04727211	1	$278	Yes	CR 1/410th Ave SB
999	Aitkin	04727211	1	$3,634	Yes	CR 1/410th Ave SB
999	Aitkin	04727211	1	$1,822	Yes	CR 1/410th Ave SB
999	Aitkin	04727211	1	$922	Yes	CR 1/410th Ave SB
999	Aitkin	04727211	1	$7,994	Yes	CR 1/410th Ave SB
999	Aitkin	04727211	1	$3,262	Yes	CR 1/410th Ave SB
999	Aitkin	04727211	1	$557	Yes	CR 1/410th Ave SB
999	Aitkin	04727211	1	$461	Yes	CR 1/410th Ave SB
999	Aitkin	04727211	1	$397	Yes	CR 1/410th Ave SB
999	Aitkin	04727214	1	$88	Yes	CR 1/410th Ave SB
999	Aitkin	04727212	1	$4,692	Yes	CR 1/410th Ave NB
999	Aitkin	04727211	1	$894	Yes	CR 1/410th Ave SB
999	Aitkin	04727212	1	$968	Yes	CR 1/410th Ave NB
27003-093325230003	Anoka	03325209	1	$50	Yes	CR 24/Norris Lake Rd EB
27003-123123220071	Anoka	03123212	1	$8,698	Yes	Stormwater wetland complex
27003-143123410057	Anoka	03123214	1	$365	Yes	112th Ave NE
27003-143123430069	Anoka	03123214	1	$3,749	Yes	109th Ave NW WB

27003-343123340017	Anoka	03123234	1	$456	Yes	Coral Sea St NE & Dunkirk Ct NE
999	Anoka	03222224	1	$9,397	Yes	W Freeway Drive
999	Anoka	03423231	1	$463	Yes	University Ave Extended NB
999	Anoka	03325221	1	$12	Yes	Viking Blvd NW at Nowthen Blvd NW WB
999	Anoka	03225226	1	$12	Yes	Sunfish Lake Blvd at Sunwood Dr
27005-	Becker	13842208	1	$810	Yes	Eilertson Lake
27005-	Becker	13842208	1	$304	Yes	Eilertson Lake
27005-	Becker	13842208	1	$354	Yes	Eilertson Lake
27005-	Becker	13842208	1	$2,843	Yes	Eilertson Lake
27005-	Becker	13842217	1	$253	Yes	Eilertson Lake
27005-	Becker	13842217	1	$4,562	Yes	Eilertson Lake
27005-	Becker	13842208	1	$1,521	Yes	Eilertson Lake
27005-	Becker	13842208	1	$3,040	Yes	Eilertson Lake
27005-	Becker	13842208	1	$607	Yes	Eilertson Lake
27005-	Becker	13842208	1	$75	Yes	Eilertson Lake
27005-	Becker	13842208	1	$75	Yes	Eilertson Lake
27005-020040000	Becker	13942207	1	$50	Yes	Boyer Lake
27005-020040002	Becker	13942207	1	$253	Yes	Boyer Lake shoreline
27005-020041000	Becker	13942207	1	$5,272	Yes	Boyer Lake
27005-020041000	Becker	13942207	1	$101	Yes	Boyer Lake
27005-020041000	Becker	13942207	1	$16	Yes	Boyer Lake
27005-020043000	Becker	13942207	1	$202	Yes	Boyer Lake
27005-020043000	Becker	13942207	1	$659	Yes	Boyer Lake
27005-020047000	Becker	13942207	3	$57,417	Yes	Boyer Lake island
27005-020047000	Becker	13942207	1	$152	Yes	Boyer Lake
27005-027005500	Becker	13942207	1	$3,396	Yes	Boyer Lake
27005-077030000	Becker	14043236	1	$38	Yes	WPA, Boyer Lake
27005-170172002	Becker	13842217	1	$101	Yes	Eilertson Lake
27005-170176000	Becker	13842217	1	$75	Yes	Eilertson Lake
27005-170176000	Becker	13842217	1	$126	Yes	Eilertson Lake
27005-180050000	Becker	13943207	1	$114	Yes	Talac Lake
27005-180072001	Becker	13943212	1	$50	Yes	Boyer Lake shoreline
27005-180072001	Becker	13943212	1	$2,585	Yes	Boyer Lake shoreline
27005-180102000	Becker	13943217	1	$2,857	Yes	Talac Lake
27005-187009000	Becker	13943214	1	$32	Yes	WPA, Haugrud
27005-WATER	Becker	13942207	1	$2,686	Yes	Boyer Lake
27005-WATER	Becker	13942207	1	$1,368	Yes	Boyer Lake
27005-WATER	Becker	13942207	1	$4,005	Yes	Boyer Lake
27005-WATER	Becker	13942207	1	$50	Yes	Boyer Lake
27005-WATER	Becker	13942207	1	$50	Yes	Boyer Lake
27005-WATER	Becker	13942207	1	$50	Yes	Boyer Lake
27017-06-230-0680	Carlton	04917214	1	$11,041	Yes	City Cloquet
27019-250070500	Carver	11623207	1	$253	Yes	Lake St Joe
27025-020041801	Chisago	03420206	1	$101	Yes	Sunrise River
27025-020080700	Chisago	03420229	1	$20,316	Yes	SE Reed Bed
27025-020178013	Chisago	03420207	1	$1,520	Yes	Sunrise River Corridor
27025-050016200	Chisago	03421212	1	$5,520	Yes	Peterson Slough E shore
27025-090030500	Chisago	03520228	1	$6,867	Yes	Lakeshore S of 375th St
27025-HIGGINS-LAKE	Chisago	03321231	1	$1,855	Yes	Higgins Lake
999	Cottonwood	10636213	1	$20,316	Yes	WMA, Little Swan
27037-190210070020	Dakota	11517221	1	$456	Yes	Mississippi River Natl Recr Area
27037-200281081011	Dakota	02822228	1	$5	Yes	Seidl's Lake Park

27037-203650031140	Dakota	02722202	1	$143	Yes	Heritage Village Park
27037-240380025011	Dakota	02823213	1	$20,316	Yes	Near Pickerel Lake
999	Dakota	11518214	1	$1,041	Yes	Spring Lake - Mississippi River
999	Freeborn	10322227	1	$60	Yes	CR 14/700th Ave NB
27053-0411922420011	Hennepin	11922204	1	$602	Yes	Maple Grove Pkwy SB
27053-0502924330021	Hennepin	02924205	1	$709	Yes	Crystal Lake, Robbinsdale
27053-0502924330021	Hennepin	02924205	1	$267	Yes	Crystal Lake
27053-0502924330021	Hennepin	02924205	1	$950	Yes	Lakeview Terrace Park
27053-0502924330021	Hennepin	02924205	1	$76	Yes	Crystal Lake
27053-0611822120099	Hennepin	11822206	1	$176	Yes	Harvest Park
27053-0702723240002	Hennepin	02724212	1	$405	Yes	NWR, MV Bass Ponds
27053-0702723240002	Hennepin	02724212	1	$101	Yes	NWR, MV Bass Ponds
27053-0702723240002	Hennepin	02724212	1	$405	Yes	NWR, MV Bass Ponds
27053-0702723240002	Hennepin	02724212	1	$1	Yes	NWR, MV Bass Ponds
27053-0711822130003	Hennepin	11822207	1	$1,260	Yes	Stormwater pond W of Peony Ln N
27053-0711822130003	Hennepin	11822207	1	$1,239	Yes	Wayzata High School
27053-0711822130003	Hennepin	11822207	1	$775	Yes	Stormwater pond W of Peony Ln N
27053-0711822130003	Hennepin	11822207	1	$2,139	Yes	Wayzata High School Rd
27053-0711822230008	Hennepin	11822207	1	$925	Yes	Stormwater pond NW of Wayzata HS Rd
27053-0711822230008	Hennepin	11822207	1	$214	Yes	Stormwater pond NW of Wayzata HS Rd
27053-0711822240002	Hennepin	11822207	1	$839	Yes	Wayzata High School
27053-0912022140055	Hennepin	12022209	1	$278	Yes	146th Ave N
27053-0912022140055	Hennepin	12022209	1	$16	Yes	146th Ave N
27053-0912022140055	Hennepin	12022209	1	$117	Yes	146th Ave N
27053-0912022140055	Hennepin	12022209	1	$732	Yes	146th Ave N
27053-0912022140055	Hennepin	12022209	1	$405	Yes	146th Ave N
27053-1011821340106	Hennepin	11821210	1	$202	Yes	Nature View Circle at 46th 1/2 Ave N
27053-1411722240010	Hennepin	11722214	1	$20,316	Yes	Big Willow Community Preserve
27053-1811721430031	Hennepin	11721218	1	$2,021	Yes	Minnehaha Creek shoreline
27053-2011822120006	Hennepin	11822220	1	$4,884	Yes	Maple Creek Park
27053-2011922140001	Hennepin	11922220	1	$2,889	Yes	Reg Trl S of Weaver Lake Rd
27053-2211922140070	Hennepin	11922222	1	$15	Yes	Arbor Lakes, West
27053-2211922140070	Hennepin	11922222	1	$1,013	Yes	Arbor Lakes, West
27053-2211922140070	Hennepin	11922222	1	$1,236	Yes	Arbor Lakes, West
27053-2211922140070	Hennepin	11922222	1	$551	Yes	Arbor Lakes, West
27053-2211922140070	Hennepin	11922222	1	$15	Yes	Arbor Lakes, West
27053-2211922410008	Hennepin	11922222	1	$55	Yes	Arbor Lakes, West
27053-2211922410008	Hennepin	11922222	1	$5	Yes	Arbor Lakes, West
27053-2211922410008	Hennepin	11922222	1	$15	Yes	Arbor Lakes, West
27053-2211922410009	Hennepin	11922222	1	$158	Yes	Arbor Lakes, West
27053-2212023230041	Hennepin	12023222	1	$8,428	Yes	CR 49/129th Ave N
27053-2212023420029	Hennepin	12023222	1	$2,384	Yes	Stormwater pond S of CR 49/129th Ave
27053-2212023430019	Hennepin	12023222	1	$1,861	Yes	Wetland E of Rachael Dr
27053-2212023430019	Hennepin	12023222	1	$20,316	Yes	Wetland S of Rachael Dr
27053-2212023430040	Hennepin	12023227	1	$1,768	Yes	Marie Place & Waterside Ct
27053-2311922320033	Hennepin	11922223	1	$5,800	Yes	Arbor Lakes, North
27053-2311922320033	Hennepin	11922223	1	$202	Yes	Arbor Lakes, North

27053-2311922320033	Hennepin	11922223	1	$1,561	Yes	Arbor Lakes, North
27053-2311922320033	Hennepin	11922223	1	$1,417	Yes	Arbor Lakes, North
27053-2311922320033	Hennepin	11922223	1	$4,245	Yes	Arbor Lakes North
27053-2311922320033	Hennepin	11922223	1	$202	Yes	Arbor Lakes, North
27053-2311922320033	Hennepin	11922223	1	$5,467	Yes	Arbor Lakes, North
27053-2311922340003	Hennepin	11922223	2	$41,958	Yes	Arbor Lakes
27053-2311922340003	Hennepin	11922223	1	$50	Yes	Arbor Lakes
27053-2311922340003	Hennepin	11922223	1	$152	Yes	Arbor Lakes
27053-2311922340003	Hennepin	11922223	1	$390	Yes	Arbor Lakes
27053-2311922340003	Hennepin	11922223	1	$2,788	Yes	Arbor Lakes
27053-2311922340003	Hennepin	11922223	1	$0	Yes	Arbor Lakes
27053-2602924440085	Hennepin	02924226	1	$1,673	Yes	Franklin Ave & Cedar Ave, S Mpls
27053-2711824110001	Hennepin	11824227	1	$2	Yes	Wetland W of Hwy 90
27053-2711824110002	Hennepin	11824227	1	$6,892	Yes	Wetland W of Hwy 90
27053-2711922320006	Hennepin	11922227	1	$2,208	Yes	Timber Crest Drive
27053-2711923440027	Hennepin	11923227	1	$3,295	Yes	E of Old Settlers Rd
27053-2811723130008	Hennepin	11723228	1	$506	Yes	Old Orchard Park Marina
27053-3002824240004	Hennepin	02824230	1	$20,316	Yes	North Lake Cornelia
27053-3011922240008	Hennepin	11922230	1	$91	Yes	E Hwy 101
27053-3011922320004	Hennepin	11922230	1	$4,867	Yes	Rush Creek Commons
27053-3011922340010	Hennepin	11922230	1	$889	Yes	Stormwater pond E of Vagabond Ln N
27053-3011922410125	Hennepin	11922230	1	$321	Yes	Maple Grove Pkwy SB at 72nd Ave N
27053-3212023440011	Hennepin	12023232	1	$1,118	Yes	Hassan Meadow Park
27053-3212023440011	Hennepin	12023232	1	$5,323	Yes	Wetland N of Cty 117/109th Ave
27053-3212023440011	Hennepin	12023232	1	$2,534	Yes	Hassan Meadow Park
27053-3311823340009	Hennepin	11823233	1	$1,581	Yes	Watertown Rd at Old Crystal Bay Rd
27053-3311922330014	Hennepin	11922233	1	$10,952	Yes	S of Elm Rd
27053-3411922140002	Hennepin	11922234	1	$2,534	Yes	Wetland S of Upsher Smith
27053-3612022310100	Hennepin	12022236	1	$4,055	Yes	Champlin Green Space
999	Hennepin	02924205	1	$12	Yes	Crystal Lake
999	Hennepin	12023228	1	$101	Yes	Tucker Rd adj to Henry Lake
999	Hennepin	02924205	1	$50	Yes	Crystal Lake; Private property adj to Lakeview Terrace Park
999	Hennepin	11723204	1	$845	Yes	Watertown Rd at Old Crystal Bay Rd
999	Hennepin	02924205	1	$25	Yes	Crystal Lake
999	Hennepin	02824224	1	$405	Yes	N of Mother Lake
999	Hennepin	02924205	1	$9	Yes	Crystal Lake, Hollingsworth Park
999	Hennepin	02924205	1	$18	Yes	Crystal Lake, Hollingsworth Park
999	Hennepin	02724213	1	$2	Yes	NWR, Old Cedar Ave Bridge
999	Hennepin	11824208	1	$5	Yes	Lake Haughey shoreline SE
999	Hennepin	02924205	1	$76	Yes	Crystal Lake N shore
999	Hennepin	02924205	1	$0	Yes	Crystal Lake S shore
999	Hennepin	02924206	1	$709	Yes	Crystal Lake
27059-01-002-0800	Isanti	03423211	1	$2	Yes	CR 9/269th Ave NE WB
27059-01-002-0800	Isanti	03423211	1	$2	Yes	CR 9/269th Ave NE EB
27059-01-003-0300	Isanti	03423210	1	$2	Yes	CR 9/269th Ave NE WB
27059-01-003-0803	Isanti	03423203	1	$5	Yes	269th Ave NE, WB

27059-01-003-1300	Isanti	03423210	1	$245	Yes	269th Ave NE, WB
27059-01-004-0102	Isanti	03423204	1	$152	Yes	CR 9/269th Ave NE WB
27059-01-010-0503	Isanti	03423210	1	$101	Yes	269th Ave NE, WB
27059-01-010-0503	Isanti	03423210	1	$10	Yes	CR 9/269th Ave NE EB
27059-01-010-0600	Isanti	03423210	1	$101	Yes	269th Ave NE, EB
27059-01-010-1701	Isanti	03423210	1	$25	Yes	269th Ave NE, EB
27059-01-010-1701	Isanti	03423210	1	$50	Yes	CR 9/269th Ave NE EB
27059-01-010-1701	Isanti	03423210	1	$12	Yes	269th Ave NE, EB
27059-01-010-1701	Isanti	03423210	1	$2	Yes	CR 9/269th Ave NE WB
27059-01-011-0500	Isanti	03423211	1	$12	Yes	269th Ave NE, EB
27059-01-011-0500	Isanti	03423211	1	$2	Yes	CR 9/269th Ave NE EB
27059-05-027-1702	Isanti	03523234	1	$101	Yes	CR 55/285th Ave ROW WB
27059-05-027-1702	Isanti	03523234	1	$506	Yes	CR 55 ROW WB
27059-05-027-1702	Isanti	03523234	1	$152	Yes	CR 55 ROW WB
27059-05-027-1702	Isanti	03523234	1	$25	Yes	CR 55/285th Ave ROW WB
27059-06-021-0901	Isanti	03724221	1	$101	Yes	CR 3/389th Ave NW
27059-08-002-0100	Isanti	03422202	1	$101	Yes	Horseshoe Lake
27059-08-002-1100	Isanti	03422202	1	$405	Yes	Horseshoe Lake
27059-09-005-0501	Isanti	03525205	1	$5	Yes	Rum River shoreline
27059-09-021-0300	Isanti	03525221	1	$76	Yes	CR 5 NW WB
999	Isanti	03422207	1	$253	Yes	CR 9/269th Ave NE EB
999	Isanti	03423211	1	$50	Yes	269th Ave NE, EB
999	Isanti	03523210	1	$212	Yes	CR Hwy 45 (Xylite St)
999	Isanti	03523234	1	$982	Yes	285th Ave NE/CR 55 WB
999	Isanti	03422202	1	$101	Yes	Horseshoe Lake
999	Isanti	03423204	1	$7	Yes	CR 9/269th Ave NE EB
999	Isanti	03423210	1	$12	Yes	269th Ave NE, WB
999	Isanti	03523234	1	$152	Yes	CR 55 ROW WB
999	Kandiyohi	11935210	1	$1,031	Yes	Foot Lake, N shoreline
999	Kandiyohi	11935210	1	$3,999	Yes	Foot Lake, SE shoreline
999	Kandiyohi	11935210	1	$14,530	Yes	Foot Lake, E shoreline
999	Kandiyohi	12136222	1	$3,176	Yes	WPA, Henjum Lake
999	Kandiyohi	12136222	1	$7,154	Yes	WPA, Henjum Lake
999	Kandiyohi	11935211	1	$4,486	Yes	City Land E of Bus 71/23
999	Kandiyohi	11935210	1	$4,416	Yes	CR 24 WB
999	Kandiyohi	12133215	1	$202	Yes	160th St NE - Cty ROW
999	Kandiyohi	11935210	1	$1,607	Yes	Foot Lake, NE Shore
999	Kandiyohi	12136222	1	$4,551	Yes	WPA, Henjum Lake
999	Kandiyohi	12136222	1	$935	Yes	WPA, Henjum Lake
999	Kandiyohi	12136221	1	$163	Yes	WPA, Henjum Lake
999	Kandiyohi	11935210	1	$788	Yes	Foot Lake, N shoreline
999	Kandiyohi	11935210	1	$4,435	Yes	Foot Lake, N shoreline
999	Kandiyohi	11935210	1	$3,310	Yes	Foot Lake, N shoreline
999	Kandiyohi	11935210	1	$1,102	Yes	Foot Lake, N shoreline
999	Kandiyohi	11935210	1	$1,698	Yes	Foot Lake, N shoreline
999	Kandiyohi	11935210	1	$317	Yes	Foot Lake, N shoreline
999	Le Sueur	11026223	1	$422	Yes	Lake Emily
999	Le Sueur	11026223	1	$1,080	Yes	Lake Emily
999	Le Sueur	11026226	1	$1,380	Yes	Lake Emily
999	Le Sueur	11026226	1	$4	Yes	Lake Emily
999	Le Sueur	11026223	1	$6	Yes	Lake Emily
999	Le Sueur	11026223	1	$54	Yes	Lake Emily
999	Le Sueur	11026226	1	$81	Yes	Lake Emily
999	Le Sueur	11026226	1	$125	Yes	Lake Emily
999	Le Sueur	11026226	1	$201	Yes	Lake Emily
999	Le Sueur	11026226	1	$239	Yes	Lake Emily
999	Le Sueur	11026223	1	$365	Yes	Lake Emily

999	Le Sueur	11026223	1	$40	Yes	Lake Emily
999	Le Sueur	11026226	1	$6	Yes	Lake Emily
999	Le Sueur	11026226	1	$5,741	Yes	Lake Emily
999	Le Sueur	11026226	1	$25	Yes	Lake Emily Boat Landing
999	Le Sueur	11026226	1	$110	Yes	Lake Emily Boat Landing
999	Le Sueur	11026226	1	$4,549	Yes	Lake Emily
999	Le Sueur	11026226	1	$50	Yes	Lake Emily
999	Le Sueur	11026226	1	$101	Yes	Lake Emily
999	Le Sueur	11026226	1	$16	Yes	Lake Emily
999	Le Sueur	11026226	1	$218	Yes	Lake Emily
999	Le Sueur	11026226	1	$76	Yes	Lake Emily
999	Le Sueur	11026226	1	$1,013	Yes	Lake Emily, Ludwig Island
999	Le Sueur	11024226	1	$9,445	Yes	CR 128/440th St EB
999	Le Sueur	11223203	1	$811	Yes	15th St SE
999	Le Sueur	11026226	1	$203	Yes	Lake Emily
999	Le Sueur	11223235	1	$1,773	Yes	WMA, Sanborn Lake
999	Le Sueur	11026223	1	$60	Yes	Lake Emily
999	Le Sueur	11026223	1	$125	Yes	Lake Emily
999	Le Sueur	11026223	1	$359	Yes	Lake Emily
999	Le Sueur	11026223	1	$684	Yes	Lake Emily
999	Le Sueur	11223235	1	$2,047	Yes	WMA, Sanborn Lake
999	Le Sueur	11026226	1	$2	Yes	Lake Emily
999	Le Sueur	11026226	1	$2	Yes	Lake Emily
999	Le Sueur	11026226	1	$3	Yes	Lake Emily
999	Le Sueur	11026226	1	$107	Yes	Lake Emily
999	Le Sueur	11026226	1	$177	Yes	Lake Emily
999	Le Sueur	11026226	1	$12	Yes	Lake Emily
999	Le Sueur	11026226	1	$17	Yes	Lake Emily
999	Le Sueur	11026226	1	$12	Yes	Lake Emily
999	Le Sueur	11026226	1	$30	Yes	Lake Emily
999	Le Sueur	11026226	1	$38	Yes	Lake Emily
999	Le Sueur	11026226	1	$27	Yes	Lake Emily
999	Le Sueur	11026226	1	$682	Yes	Lake Emily
999	Le Sueur	11026223	1	$174	Yes	Lake Emily
999	Le Sueur	11026223	1	$81	Yes	Lake Emily
999	Le Sueur	11026223	1	$5	Yes	Lake Emily
999	Le Sueur	11026223	1	$141	Yes	Lake Emily
999	Le Sueur	11026223	1	$235	Yes	Lake Emily
999	Le Sueur	11026226	1	$12	Yes	Lake Emily
999	Le Sueur	11026226	1	$1,749	Yes	Lake Emily
999	Le Sueur	11026223	1	$114	Yes	Lake Emily
999	Le Sueur	11026226	1	$25	Yes	Lake Emily
999	Le Sueur	11026223	1	$223	Yes	Lake Emily
999	Le Sueur	11026223	1	$7	Yes	Lake Emily
999	Le Sueur	11026226	1	$30	Yes	Lake Emily
999	Le Sueur	11026223	1	$52	Yes	Lake Emily
999	Martin	10231233	1	$1,267	Yes	Pierce Lake, SE shoreline
27099-34-009-0149	Mower	10318235	1	$703	Yes	W of 11th Dr NE at 16th Ave NE
27099-34-009-0149	Mower	10318235	1	$2,230	Yes	W of 11th Dr NE at 16th Ave NE
27101-10-031-0021	Murray	10541231	1	$22,083	Yes	WMA, Cleanwater
999	Nobles	10441217	1	$2,208	Yes	WMA, Swessinger
999	Nobles	10441217	1	$2,208	Yes	WMA, Swessinger
999	Nobles	10441217	1	$1,656	Yes	WMA, Swessinger
999	Nobles	10441217	1	$2,208	Yes	WMA, Swessinger
999	Nobles	10441217	1	$2,208	Yes	WMA, Swessinger

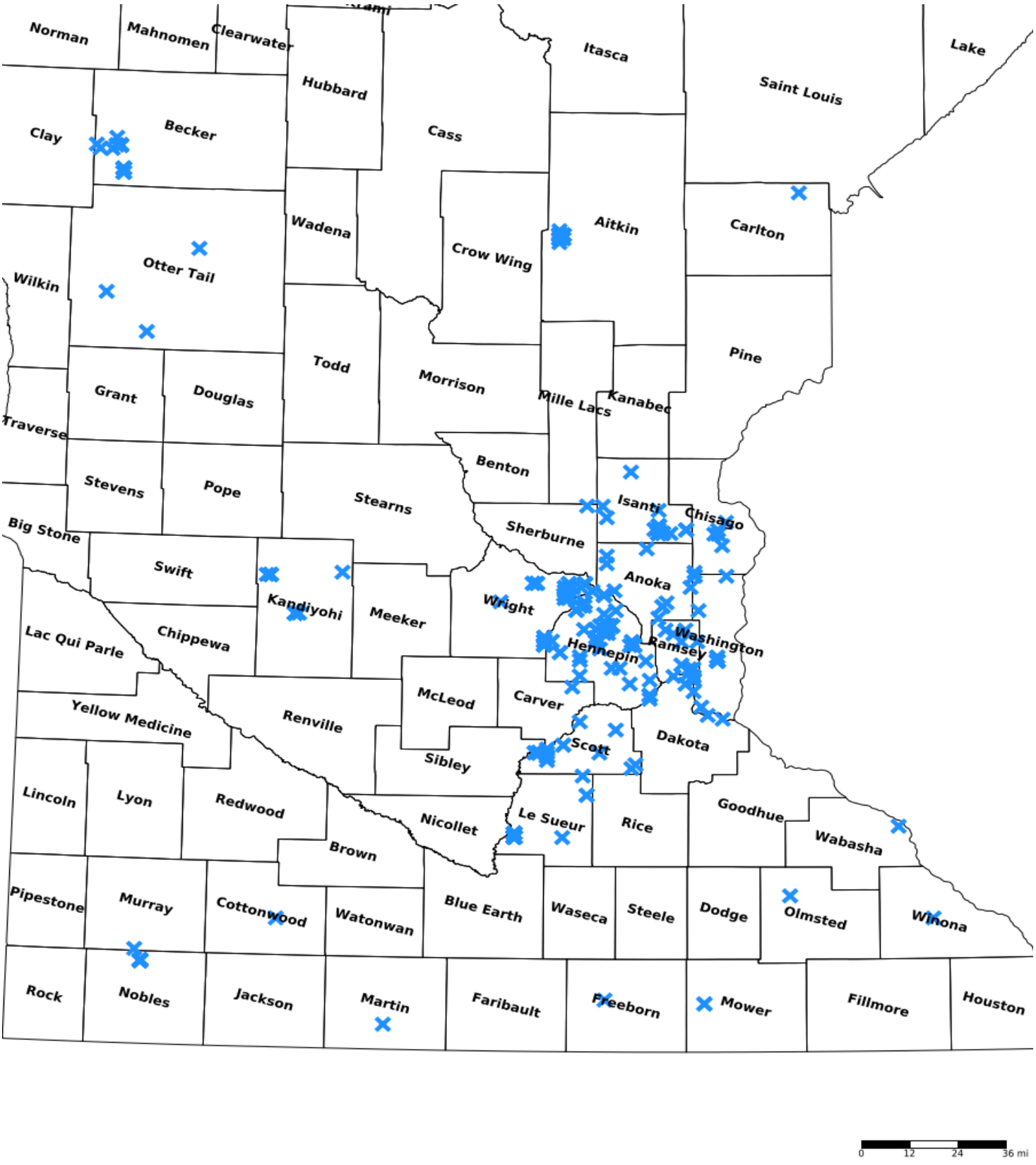
999	Nobles	10441217	1	$728	Yes	WMA, Swessinger
999	Nobles	10441217	1	$728	Yes	WMA, Swessinger
999	Nobles	10441217	1	$1,656	Yes	WMA, Swessinger
999	Nobles	10441217	1	$1,656	Yes	WMA, Swessinger
999	Nobles	10441217	1	$2,208	Yes	WMA, Swessinger
999	Nobles	10441217	1	$2,208	Yes	WMA, Swessinger
999	Nobles	10441217	1	$2,208	Yes	WMA, Swessinger
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999	Nobles	10441217	1	$2,208	Yes	WMA, Swessinger
999	Nobles	10441217	1	$4,416	Yes	WMA, Swessinger
999	Nobles	10441217	1	$4,416	Yes	WMA, Swessinger
999	Nobles	10441217	1	$4,416	Yes	WMA, Swessinger
999	Nobles	10441217	1	$6,625	Yes	WMA, Swessinger
999	Nobles	10441217	1	$836	Yes	WMA, Swessinger
999	Nobles	10441217	1	$126	Yes	WMA, Swessinger
999	Nobles	10441217	1	$2,208	Yes	WMA, Swessinger
999	Nobles	10441217	1	$2,208	Yes	WMA, Swessinger
999	Nobles	10441217	1	$728	Yes	WMA, Swessinger
999	Nobles	10441217	1	$2,208	Yes	WMA, Swessinger
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999	Nobles	10441217	1	$2,208	Yes	WMA, Swessinger
999	Nobles	10441217	1	$728	Yes	WMA, Swessinger
999	Nobles	10441217	1	$728	Yes	WMA, Swessinger
999	Nobles	10441217	1	$728	Yes	WMA, Swessinger
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999	Nobles	10441217	1	$2,208	Yes	WMA, Swessinger
999	Nobles	10441217	1	$2,208	Yes	WMA, Swessinger
999	Nobles	10441217	1	$2,208	Yes	WMA, Swessinger
27109-740821074623	Olmsted	10714208	1	$1,825	Yes	Summit Point Rd NW
27111-26000230139000	Otter Tail	13343222	1	$101	Yes	CR 27 NB/Unnamed Lake
27111-53000210128000	Otter Tail	13539221	1	$5,520	Yes	WMA, Head Lake
27111-JOHNSON	Otter Tail	13141208	1	$3,562	Yes	Johnson Lake
27123-022822430001	Ramsey	02822202	1	$203	Yes	Battle Creek West
27123-102822130006	Ramsey	02822210	1	$3,992	Yes	Pig's Eye Regional Park
27123-102822210002	Ramsey	02822203	1	$5,069	Yes	Pig's Eye Regional Park
27123-142822230002	Ramsey	02822214	1	$202	Yes	Pig's Eye Lake
27123-142822310004	Ramsey	02822214	1	$682	Yes	Pig's Eye Lake
27123-142822340005	Ramsey	02822223	1	$22,083	Yes	Pig's Eye Lake
27123-142822340005	Ramsey	02822223	1	$31,579	Yes	Pig's Eye Regional Park
27123-142822340005	Ramsey	02822223	1	$17,600	Yes	Pig's Eye Regional Park
27123-153023110004	Ramsey	03023215	1	$50	Yes	Arden Hills Field Maint Facility, stormwater pond
27123-163022120005	Ramsey	03022216	1	$69	Yes	Wetland I-35E SB
27123-232822420015	Ramsey	02822223	1	$9,877	Yes	Across wetland E of Red Rock Rd - Gerdau
27123-243023430056	Ramsey	03023224	1	$2,253	Yes	Peanut Wetland
27123-322922120115	Ramsey	02922232	1	$164	Yes	Swede Hollow Park-St Paul

27123-323022430136	Ramsey	03022232	1	$152	Yes	Stormwater Pond N of I-35E/694
27123-363022130071	Ramsey	03022236	1	$191	Yes	Heiner's Pond
27139-020005000	Scott	11325202	1	$114	Yes	CR 6/Union Trail WB
27139-020005000	Scott	11325202	1	$2,854	Yes	RR ROW/Wetland interface
27139-020005010	Scott	11325203	1	$267	Yes	CR 6/Union Trail WB
27139-029020130	Scott	11325202	1	$905	Yes	Union Trail
27139-029030040	Scott	11325203	1	$516	Yes	Union Trail
27139-089230091	Scott	11321223	1	$76	Yes	260th St E WB, Elko/New Market
27139-200012800	Scott	11324206	1	$21	Yes	Minnesota River Backwater
27139-201270010	Scott	11325202	1	$3,687	Yes	MN River Floodplain
27139-201270010	Scott	11325202	1	$3,903	Yes	Wetland
27139-201270010	Scott	11325202	1	$4,610	Yes	Wetland
27139-201270020	Scott	11325202	1	$3,513	Yes	RR ROW
27139-201270020	Scott	11325202	1	$7,803	Yes	Wetland
27139-201270020	Scott	11325202	1	$795	Yes	Wetland
27139-201270020	Scott	11325202	1	$229	Yes	Wetland
27139-209310050	Scott	11424231	1	$760	Yes	Hwy 25
27139-250230100	Scott	11422201	1	$1,333	Yes	S edge of wetland
999	Scott	11324207	1	$10	Yes	CR 5/Hickory Rd NB
999	Scott	11523228	1	$769	Yes	147th St WB
999	Scott	11322205	1	$305	Yes	Hwy 13 NB
999	Scott	11321227	1	$101	Yes	Natchez Ave SB, New Market
999	Scott	11324218	1	$101	Yes	Hwy 5 - Hickory Blvd
999	Scott	11324207	1	$327	Yes	Maybe
999	Scott	11324207	1	$5	Yes	CR 5/Hickory Rd NB
999	Scott	11424226	1	$759	Yes	I-169 SB
999	Scott	11424226	1	$912	Yes	I-169 SB
999	Scott	11325203	1	$101	Yes	CR 6/Union Trail, Belle Plaine
27141-90-00003-2200	Sherburne	03526203	1	$185	Yes	Princeton Golf Course
999	Wabasha	11010211	1	$202	Yes	N of North CR 24
27163-0603221220009	Washington	03221206	1	$901	Yes	Higgins Lake
27163-2003121130007	Washington	03121220	1	$1,774	Yes	Geneva Ave, Hugo
27163-2602921110003	Washington	02921226	1	$480	Yes	Lake Elmo
27163-3002721210001	Washington	02721230	1	$76	Yes	Joseph LaBathe's Settlers Island
27171-203000194400	Washington	12026219	1	$15	Yes	Wetland behind residential
999	Washington	02921223	1	$898	Yes	Lake Elmo
999	Washington	02921226	1	$566	Yes	Lake Elmo
999	Washington	02921226	1	$507	Yes	Lake Elmo
999	Washington	02921226	1	$212	Yes	Lake Elmo
999	Washington	02921226	1	$70	Yes	Lake Elmo
999	Washington	02921226	1	$50	Yes	Lake Elmo
999	Washington	02921226	1	$21	Yes	Lake Elmo
999	Washington	02921226	1	$177	Yes	Lake Elmo
999	Washington	02921226	1	$4,272	Yes	Lake Elmo
999	Washington	03221206	1	$2,546	Yes	Higgins Lake
999	Washington	02921226	1	$3,013	Yes	Lake Elmo
999	Washington	03221206	1	$2,062	Yes	Higgins Lake
999	Washington	02921226	1	$1,609	Yes	Lake Elmo
999	Washington	02921226	1	$136	Yes	Lake Elmo

999	Washington	02921223	1	$32	Yes	Lake Elmo
999	Washington	02921226	1	$32	Yes	Lake Elmo
999	Washington	03220204	1	$456	Yes	Meadowbrook Ave, Forest Lake
27169-160000840	Winona	10608208	1	$354	Yes	Garvin Brook
27171-	Wright	11825213	1	$203	Yes	Delano Cemstone
27171-	Wright	11825213	1	$50	Yes	Wetland S of Johnson Dr
27171-	Wright	12024211	1	$709	Yes	CR 119/45th St at Birch Ave
27171-	Wright	12024211	1	$288	Yes	CR 119/45th St N of Birch Ave
27171-	Wright	12024211	1	$50	Yes	St Michael CR 119/Birch Ave
27171-101022010040	Wright	12024201	1	$4,008	Yes	Wetland in SE corner of 52nd St NE & Barthel Industrial Dr
27171-101102000030	Wright	12124236	1	$12,196	Yes	Stormwater Pond
27171-101104001150	Wright	12124235	1	$2,297	Yes	Stormwater pond S of CR 37/65th St NE
27171-101111000010	Wright	12024202	1	$1,622	Yes	Kyler Ave
27171-101146000010	Wright	12124236	1	$1,569	Yes	70th St NE
27171-101148000010	Wright	12124235	1	$6,837	Yes	S of 64th St NE/W of Winter Park
27171-101500364317	Wright	12124236	1	$25	Yes	Albertville Memorial Park
27171-101500364317	Wright	12124236	1	$1,642	Yes	Stormwater Pond
27171-107039005225	Wright	11825212	1	$900	Yes	Wetland behind residences at 14th St & Elm Ave
27171-107067000010	Wright	11825212	1	$2	Yes	Delano Wetland
27171-107123001010	Wright	11825212	1	$11,041	Yes	Delano Wetland
27171-107123001010	Wright	11825212	1	$811	Yes	Delano Stormwater Retention Pond
27171-107123001010	Wright	11825212	1	$608	Yes	Delano Stormwater Retention Pond
27171-107500013102	Wright	11825201	1	$209	Yes	Delano Dog Park
27171-107500013301	Wright	11825201	1	$141	Yes	Delano Compost Site
27171-107500131204	Wright	11825213	1	$1,774	Yes	Delano Cemstone
27171-107500131204	Wright	11825213	1	$1,267	Yes	Delano Cemstone
27171-107500131204	Wright	11825213	1	$608	Yes	Delano Cemstone
27171-107500131204	Wright	11825213	1	$456	Yes	Delano Cemstone
27171-107500131204	Wright	11825213	1	$70	Yes	Delano Cemstone
27171-114080000020	Wright	12024211	1	$304	Yes	St Michael 3rd St NW
27171-114080000020	Wright	12024211	1	$456	Yes	St Michael 3rd St NW
27171-114315001030	Wright	12024212	1	$971	Yes	Wetland behind Grt River Reg Library
27171-114500131202	Wright	12024213	1	$10	Yes	Stream restoration
27171-114500142111	Wright	12024214	1	$1,155	Yes	Stormwater pond W of Kahl Ave
27171-118276000010	Wright	12123231	1	$1,680	Yes	70th St NE at Maciver Ave
27171-118297000030	Wright	12123227	1	$20	Yes	Lefebvre Park
27171-118297000030	Wright	12123227	1	$32	Yes	Lefebvre Park
27171-118297000030	Wright	12123227	1	$15	Yes	Lefebvre Park
27171-118297000040	Wright	12123227	1	$10	Yes	Palmgren Ave NE
27171-118318000010	Wright	12124225	1	$119	Yes	Stormwater Pond
27171-118318000010	Wright	12124225	1	$600	Yes	Stormwater Pond
27171-118318000010	Wright	12124225	1	$380	Yes	Stormwater Pond
27171-118340000020	Wright	12023201	1	$201	Yes	Wetland East of Rathbun Ave NE

27171-118354000050	Wright	12123227	1	$405	Yes	Quaday Ave NE
27171-118354000050	Wright	12123227	1	$38	Yes	Quaday Ave NE
27171-118500332100	Wright	12123233	1	$1,714	Yes	70th St NE
27171-213100272200	Wright	12125227	1	$25	Yes	Slough Lake
27171-213100272200	Wright	12125227	1	$12	Yes	Slough Lake
27171-213100272300	Wright	12125227	1	$50	Yes	Slough Lake
27171-213100281100	Wright	12125228	1	$760	Yes	Slough Lake
27171-213100281100	Wright	12125228	1	$88	Yes	Slough Lake
999	Wright	12125228	1	$88	Yes	Slough Lake

Parcel Map


Norman
Mahnomen
Clearwater
Hubbard
Itasca
Lake
Saint Louis
Clay
Becker
Cass
Wadena
Aitkin
Carlton
Crow Wing
Otter Tail
Wilkin
Pine
Todd
Morrison
Mille Lacs
Kanabec
Grant
Douglas
Traverse
Benton
Stevens
Pope
Stearns
Isanti
Chisago
Big Stone
Sherburne
Swift
Anoka
Kandiyohi
Meeker
Wright
Lac Qui Parle
Chippewa
Washington
Hennepin
Ramsey
McLeod
Carver
Yellow Medicine
Renville
Dakota
Scott
Sibley
Lincoln
Lyon
Redwood
Nicollet
Le Sueur
Rice
Goodhue
Wabasha
Brown
Pipestone
Murray
Cottonwood
Watonwan
Blue Earth
Waseca
Steele
Dodge
Olmsted
Winona
Rock
Nobles
Jackson
Martin
Faribault
Freeborn
Mower
Fillmore
Houston
0
12
24
36 mi
Protect in Easement
Protect in Fee with PILT
Protect in Fee W/O PILT
Restore
Enhance
Other

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

DNR Statewide control and reduction of invasive Phragmites Phase I

Comparison Report

Program Title: ML 2027 - DNR Statewide control and reduction of invasive Phragmites Phase I
Organization: Department of Natural Resources
Manager: Michael Verhoeven

Budget

Requested Amount: $1,422,500
Appropriated Amount: $1,026,000
Percentage: 72.13%

Item	Requested Proposal	Leverage Proposal	Appropriated AP	Leverage AP	Percent of Request	Percent of Leverage
Personnel	-	$82,500	-	-	-	0.0%
Contracts	$1,402,000	-	$1,010,200	$250,000	72.05%	-
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	-	-	-	-	-	-
Easement Acquisition	-	-	-	-	-	-
Easement Stewardship	-	-	-	-	-	-
Travel	-	-	-	-	-	-
Professional Services	-	$250,000	-	$82,500	-	33.0%
Direct Support Services	$20,500	-	$15,800	-	77.07%	-
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	-	-	-	-	-	-
Supplies/Materials	-	-	-	-	-	-
DNR IDP	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grand Total	**$1,422,500**	**$332,500**	**$1,026,000**	**$332,500**	**72.13%**	**100.0%**

If the project received 70% of the requested funding

Describe how the scaling would affect acres/activities and if not proportionately reduced, why?
The sites to be managed would be reduced, with a focus on managing the outstate populations to clear counties. If the funding were reduced by 50% we could also decrease the re-vegetation component of the work for some sites where local recolonization may be marginally sufficient.

Describe how personnel and DSS expenses would be adjusted and if not proportionately reduced, why?
At a 50% funding, DSS would be reduced to $12,057.50 because part of DSS charges from DNR are on a per unit basis (see DSS description below). The personnel leverage funding would be unchanged because the coordination work does not scale by funding amount.

If the project received 50% of the requested funding

Describe how the scaling would affect acres/activities and if not proportionately reduced, why?
The sites to be managed would be reduced, with a focus on managing the outstate populations to clear counties. If the funding were reduced by 30% we could also eliminate reseeding costs and seek other funding for that component.

Describe how personnel and DSS expenses would be adjusted and if not proportionately reduced, why?
At a 30% funding, DSS would be reduced to $8686.10 because part of DSS charges from DNR are on a per unit basis (see DSS description below). The personnel leverage funding would be unchanged because the coordination work does not scale by funding amount.

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	0	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	0	-	-
Protect in Easement	0	-	-
Enhance	67	47	70.15%

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	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-
Enhance	$1,422,500	$1,026,000	72.13%

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	0	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	0	-	-
Protect in Easement	0	-	-
Enhance	67	47	70.15%

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	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-
Enhance	$1,422,500	$1,026,000	72.13%

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

Living Shallow Lakes and Wetlands Enhancement & Restoration Initiative

Laws of Minnesota 2027 Accomplishment Plan

General Information

Date: 10/07/2026

Project Title: Living Shallow Lakes and Wetlands Enhancement & Restoration Initiative

Funds Recommended: $4,800,000

Legislative Citation:

Appropriation Language:

Manager Information

Manager's Name: John Lindstrom
Title: Manager of Conservation Programs - Minnesota
Organization: Ducks Unlimited
Address: c/o U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Litchfield WMD Office 22274 615th Avenue
City: Litchfield, MN 55355
Email: jlindstrom@ducks.org
Office Number:
Mobile Number: 3202128018
Fax Number:
Website: www.ducks.org

Location Information

County Location(s): Lac qui Parle, Kandiyohi, Jackson, Grant, Douglas, Cottonwood, Clay, Big Stone, Becker, Otter Tail, Stearns, Swift, Hennepin, Sherburne, Martin, Meeker, Stevens, Pope, Lincoln, Faribault, Blue Earth, Murray, Redwood, Renville, Lyon, Nobles, Todd, Sibley, Freeborn, Nicollet, Watonwan, Rice, Yellow Medicine, Le Sueur, Wright, Traverse, Polk, Scott, Carver, Washington, Mahnomen, Chippewa and Marshall.

Eco regions in which work will take place:

Forest / Prairie Transition

Prairie

Metro / Urban

Northern Forest

Activity types:

Restore

Enhance

Priority resources addressed by activity:

Wetlands

Prairie

Narrative

Abstract

This request for Ducks Unlimited's Living Lakes program will enhance or restore 1,025 acres of wetlands and adjacent prairie grasslands for the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Minnesota DNR, and other public land partners and private lands under permanent easement. DU biologists and engineers will design wetland restorations to restore natural hydrology and water control structures for active management of shallow lakes and larger wetlands to enhance their ecology for wildlife and people across Minnesota. While DU staff will design restoration and enhancement projects, DU will hire private contractors to conduct restoration and enhancement work.

Design and Scope of Work

This Phase 13 of Ducks Unlimited's ongoing shallow lake enhancement and wetland restoration conservation program will enhance or restore at least 1,025 acres of shallow lakes, wetlands, and prairie grasslands, primarily in the Prairie Pothole Region of Minnesota. DU biologists work with U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and Minnesota DNR field staff to restore and enhance wetlands on public land and under easement and DU engineers design water level control structures to enhance degraded shallow lakes and wetlands for DNR and other partners. Water control structures are used for temporary water level draw-downs to rejuvenate shallow lake ecology and productivity for wildlife. Small wetland enhancement and restoration work is completed using natural infrastructure and by removing sediment, tile, and trees from wetlands. Adjacent grasslands may be enhanced with tree removal to benefit upland nesting waterfowl. Restoration work is done by private sector firms hired by DU.

Shallow lake enhancement and wetland restoration are top priority actions in all major conservation plans for Minnesota. Our work addresses the habitat goals identified in North American Waterfowl Management Plan, Minnesota's Prairie Conservation Plan, and Minnesota's Duck Recovery Plan which calls for the active management of 1,800 shallow lakes and restoring 64,000 wetlands to Minnesota's landscape. This work is time-sensitive because complex shallow lake enhancement projects take several years to design and implement, and because wetland restorations are critically needed for breeding waterfowl.

Healthy and abundant wetlands are required to sustain breeding and migrating waterfowl. Minnesota has lost approximately 90% of our prairie wetlands and 99% of native prairie grasslands. This has had a profound negative impact on breeding ducks and other prairie wetland wildlife here. Our remaining shallow lakes and wetlands are often those that were too deep to drain years ago and now function as the core of Minnesota's remaining waterfowl habitat complexes. Unfortunately, these remaining wetland basins now receive the excessive nutrient-laden water runoff from an intensively drained and interconnected landscape through which invasive fish such as carp have improved access. As a result, many of our remaining wetlands and shallow lakes are turbid and degraded due to drainage they receive and high, stabilized water levels in which nutrients collect and invasive fish proliferate. This results in stagnated aquatic wetland ecology and productivity and wetland basins with few aquatic plants and

invertebrates for birds to eat. This is especially detrimental to diving ducks and other wetland-dependent species that rely exclusively on aquatic plant and invertebrate foods within wetlands and shallow lakes. These factors have caused a significant decline in both Minnesota's once diverse waterfowl population and rich waterfowling traditions.

This funding request will support DU staff biologists and engineers who survey, design, and manage construction of shallow lake and wetland enhancement and restoration projects to improve public water shallow lakes and restore wetlands and grasslands. Funding will also support ongoing wetland technical assistance to assess, survey, and design future enhancement and wetland projects for implementation under future OHF appropriations for this program.

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

This proposal enhances shallow lakes and restores non-forested prairie wetlands, which are identified as critical habitats for many "Species of Greatest Conservation Need" listed in Minnesota's "Tomorrow's Habitat for the Wild & Rare: An Action Plan for Minnesota Wildlife." Specific species listed in the Action Plan as requiring shallow lakes (page 273) include lesser scaup, northern pintail, common moorhen, least bittern, American bittern, marsh wren, and Virginia rail, along with being "important for many other species". Specific species listed in the Action Plan as requiring emergent marshes (page 267) include least bittern, American bittern, marsh wren, and Virginia rail, and Forster's terns are listed as requiring large deep-water marshes.

In addition to these specific wildlife species listed as SGCN examples in the Action Plan, shallow lakes and prairie wetlands will provide habitat of significant value for other species listed in Appendix B of the Action Plan too. Enhanced shallow lakes will provide habitat of significant value for other SGCN including: western grebe, black tern, northern harrier, trumpeter swan, common loon, bald eagle, Franklin's gull, whimbrel, black-crowned night heron, American white pelican, horned grebe, red-necked grebe, eared grebe, and common tern. Restored prairie wetlands will provide habitat of significant value for other SGCN including: black tern, northern harrier, trumpeter swan, rusty blackbird and black-crowned night heron.

Frequently, our small wetland restoration and enhancement work is prioritized based on the USFWS "Thunderstorm Map" that estimates the density of breeding waterfowl across the prairie part of the state. During spring migration, waterfowl frequently return to areas near where they hatched looking to nest themselves. We target those areas that are already most attractive to breeding waterfowl, and maximize the attractiveness of small wetland basins on existing WPAs and WMAs, including removing invasive trees. This helps improve these existing complexes for wetland dependent wildlife and only makes them more attractive to waterfowl looking to nest, and improve their chance to successfully nest. These wetlands are also used by waterfowl migrating through the area in the fall too.

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

Most prairie wetlands have already been drained and most shallow lakes degraded in southern Minnesota. Functioning wetland basins are the most important habitat variable for breeding ducks and the most limiting factor for ducks in the prairie region of Minnesota. Similarly, healthy and productive shallow lakes are the limiting habitat type for diving ducks and most other migrating waterfowl species as they pass through Minnesota in fall and spring. To improve wetland conditions for both breeding and migrating waterfowl in Minnesota, it is imperative that we restore wetlands and enhance shallow lakes, especially in the Prairie Pothole Region of SW Minnesota. Some of these larger shallow lake and wetland projects can take over a decade to come together. Given

the importance of both small ponds and larger lakes and wetlands to waterfowl throughout their annual cycle, it is crucial that this work continue to be delivered effectively in high-priority areas.

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

Ducks Unlimited uses science-based targeting to evaluate shallow lake and prairie wetland restorations, especially small wetland restorations that help improve prairie-wetland complexes for breeding ducks. Models such as the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) "Thunderstorm Maps" and "Restorable Wetlands Inventory" help determine landscape importance for breeding waterfowl. We consider biological diversity and significance according to the Minnesota DNR County Biological Survey (MCBS). Where possible, we like to work in large complexes of high habitat value. Several examples include:

Lake Katrina is a 485-acre shallow lake in Hennepin County and is identified as having high biodiversity significance according to MCBS. Baker Park Reserve surrounds Lake Katrina and also has sites of high biodiversity significance. Ducks Unlimited is working on a new water-control structure here that will enhance the habitat quality of the lake for wetland dependent wildlife by allowing temporary water level drawdowns.

Several federal Waterfowl Production Areas (WPA) in west-central Minnesota are located in landscapes with outstanding biodiversity significance in large complexes of fee-title and protected private lands under permanent easement and term conservation options like CRP too. Key parts of these landscapes currently support 40-60 breeding duck pairs per square mile, with the potential to support over 100 breeding duck pairs per square mile once wetlands are restored or enhanced. Small wetland work, including tree removal, in these landscapes can improve the attractiveness of these areas to wetland dependent wildlife and upland nesting birds, such as many species of waterfowl.

Ducks Unlimited is currently working on several different wetland enhancement projects at Big Stone National Wildlife Refuge in Lac qui Parle County. The refuge is home to several sites of outstanding, high, and moderate levels of biodiversity significance. The landscape is currently able to support 10-25 breeding duck pairs per square mile. These enhanced wetlands and shallow lakes will provide additional habitat for birds throughout their annual cycle.

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

Long Range Duck Recovery Plan

North American Waterfowl Management Plan

Which LSOHC section priorities are addressed in this program?

Forest / Prairie Transition

Protect, enhance, and restore migratory habitat for waterfowl and related species, so as to increase migratory and breeding success

Metro / Urban

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

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

Prairie

Protect, enhance, and restore migratory habitat for waterfowl and related species, so as to increase migratory and breeding success

Outcomes

Programs in forest-prairie transition region:

Wetland and upland complexes will consist of native prairies, restored prairies, quality grasslands, and restored shallow lakes and wetlands ~ *This program will restore and enhance wetlands and grasslands on federal Waterfowl Production Areas and USFWS Habitat easements, and similar wetlands for MNDNR, each of which will be selected strategically by USFWS and MNDNR to benefit existing wetland complexes and migratory birds for both breeding and migration habitat, and which will be monitored by USFWS and MNDNR.*

Programs in metropolitan urbanizing region:

Game lakes are significant contributors of waterfowl, due to efforts to protect uplands adjacent to game lakes ~ *DU will enhance and restore shallow lakes and wetlands on the Three Rivers Park District, Sherburne NWR, and Minnesota Valley NWR and federal Waterfowl Production Areas perpetually protected, managed, monitored, and evaluated annually by highly-trained U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service wildlife biologists. Park and service staff will guide the enhancement and restoration work by DU, and will evaluate wetland habitat outcomes annually to guide future management actions.*

Programs in the northern forest region:

Other ~ *Wetland and shallow lakes restored or enhanced by DU will be assessed by Minnesota DNR or USFWS to document improvements in water clarity, abundance of aquatic plants, and overall improvements in the aquatic ecology of each basin. Minnesota DNR and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service field staff also conduct periodic counts of waterfowl and other wildlife using these basins in both spring and fall, along with hunters, and thus wildlife and human use is also monitored on a more informative opportunistic basis.*

Programs in prairie region:

Protected, restored, and enhanced shallow lakes and wetlands ~ *Wetland and shallow lakes restored or enhanced by DU will be assessed by Minnesota DNR or USFWS to document improvements in water clarity, abundance of aquatic plants, and overall improvements in the aquatic ecology of each basin. Minnesota DNR and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service field staff also conduct periodic counts of waterfowl and other wildlife using these basins in both spring and fall, along with hunters, and thus wildlife and human use is also monitored on a more informative opportunistic basis.*

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 funding requested, if approved, will supplement traditional funding for Ducks Unlimited's Living Lakes Initiative, and will not supplant or substitute for traditional funding previously used for this purpose by Ducks Unlimited.

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

Shallow lake enhancement water control structures and prairie wetland restorations are implemented for agency conservation partners on land under their state, federal, or municipal long-term control and management responsibility. Thus, all projects constructed will be sustained and maintained by conservation partners like the Minnesota DNR and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, which are the two primary wildlife habitat management agencies in Minnesota. Upland areas that are enhanced or restored under this program will be managed with intermittent fire to maintain the benefits of our work.

Actions to Maintain Project Outcomes

Year	Source of Funds	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3
2033	DNR Game & Fish Account, OHF for DNR Shallow Lakes and Small Wetlands Program and DNR Roving Crews	DNR Area Wildlife and Program Staff will assess shallow lake and wetland conditions following initial water level draw-downs or restoration, and document for management consideration	Every 3-8 years, depending on wetland conditions, water control structures will be used to actively manage and enhance shallow lakes and wetlands via temporary water level draw-down to remove fish, stimulate aquatic plants, and rejuvenate their overall aquatic ecology, which includes stimulating aquatic invertebrate production. Some basins may need pumping via DNR pump purchased by DU via previous 2012 OHF grant.	DNR assess ecological conditions again following subsequent temporary water level draw-downs and refilling management treatments, and communicate results and questions or concerns to DU.

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

Ducks Unlimited conserves wetlands for waterfowl and people alike. Our habitat projects restore natural infrastructure, which helps to alleviate society's climate impacts and provide clean water for diverse communities, who are disproportionately impacted by the effects of wetland loss and climate change.

Wetlands recharge groundwater in aquifers that provide clean, dependable water supplies while removing pollutants and reducing downstream flooding. Community resiliency is enhanced by the function of wetlands and adjacent grassland habitats that clean water and help absorb impacts from severe weather events. Public waters also provide opportunities for fishing, hunting, canoeing, kayaking, birding, and outdoor education for diverse and low to moderate income communities that may not otherwise have access to natural open spaces. Frequently our work occurs in outstate Minnesota where there are more moderate and low income households, providing access to natural areas where they might not otherwise have access. Indigenous communities may benefit from DU wetland enhancements and restorations that create suitable conditions for wild rice to proliferate. Wetlands deliver a return on investment that supports the health, resiliency, and well-being of diverse communities.

Restoring wetlands in the Mississippi River watershed benefits the diverse communities who draw their water from the river such as Minneapolis, St. Paul, and St. Cloud. Minneapolis alone draws 21 billion gallons of water a

year from the Mississippi River to produce 57 million gallons of drinking water each day.

DU works with Three Rivers Park District and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service's Minnesota Valley and Sherburne National Wildlife Refuges to enhance shallow lakes and other wetlands near diverse communities. The Refuges and Park District both connect the vibrant cultures of the Twin Cities metro with the diversity of wildlife and habitat in the metro area. They enhance urban habitat while offering community programs, environmental education, and access to nature on the edge of the city as well as hunting, fishing and hiking in wilder areas across the metro.

Activity Details

Requirements

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

Will restoration and enhancement work follow best management practices including MS 84.973 Pollinator Habitat Program?
Yes

Is the restoration and enhancement activity on permanently protected land per 97A.056, Subd 13(f), tribal lands, and/or public waters per MS 103G.005, Subd. 15 or on lands to be acquired in this program?
Yes

Where does the activity take place?

WMA

WPA

Permanently Protected Conservation Easements

Public Waters

Refuge Lands

County/Municipal

AMA

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

Timeline

Activity Name	Estimated Completion Date
Complete remaining small wetland projects and larger shallow lake enhancement water control structure installations	June 2032
Complete some small wetland restorations and some larger shallow lake enhancements	June 2028
Recon projects with DNR, FWS, and other partners and begin engineering survey and design of wetland restorations and shallow lake enhancements	June 2027

Date of Final Report Submission: 10/01/2032

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	$902,000	$193,000	DU Private, federal NAWCA, and USFWS IRA	$1,095,000
Contracts	$3,638,200	$205,000	DU Private & federal NAWCA grants	$3,843,200
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	-	-	-	-
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	-	-	-	-
Easement Acquisition	-	$500,000	Federal USFWS Migratory Bird Con. Fund	$500,000
Easement Stewardship	-	-	-	-
Travel	$41,000	$4,100	DU Private & federal NAWCA grants	$45,100
Professional Services	$20,500	-	-	$20,500
Direct Support Services	$72,200	-	-	$72,200
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	-	-	-	-
Capital Equipment	$40,000	-	-	$40,000
Other Equipment/Tools	$4,100	-	-	$4,100
Supplies/Materials	$82,000	$8,200	DU Private & federal NAWCA grants	$90,200
DNR IDP	-	-	-	-
Grand Total	**$4,800,000**	**$910,300**	**-**	**$5,710,300**

Personnel

Position	Annual FTE	Years Working	Funding Request	Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Professional Engineers, Surveyors, Construction Managers, and Biologists to Design and Implement Projects	3.0	3.0	$840,500	$193,000	DU Private, federal NAWCA, and USFWS IRA	$1,033,500
Manager - Grant Administration & Program Coordination	0.25	2.0	$61,500	-	-	$61,500

Capital Equipment

Item	Funding Request	Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
New ATV/UTVs for survey and construction management.	$40,000	-	-	$40,000

Amount of Request: $4,800,000
Amount of Leverage: $910,300
Leverage as a percent of the Request: 18.96%
DSS + Personnel: $974,200
As a % of the total request: 20.3%
Easement Stewardship: -
As a % of the Easement Acquisition: -

How will this program accommodate the reduced appropriation recommendation from the original proposed requested amount?
All acres/activities/budget items were generally scaled proportionately to our 41% recommendation level. The only exception is Capital Equipment which was left at the full proposal level to allow us to purchase two machines from this appropriation.

Detail leverage sources and confirmation of funds:
DU will leverage OHF grant funds with additional private support from individuals, foundations, and corporations and from federal NAWCA grants. Federal leverage will also come from USFWS ($500,000 MBCF easement acquisition funds and $100,000 from IRA).

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?
If reduced to 50% of the request, our acres/activities and budget would be scaled proportionately.

Describe how personnel and DSS expenses would be adjusted and if not proportionately reduced, why?
If reduced to 30% of the request, our personnel and DSS would be scaled proportionately.

Personnel

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

Contracts

What is included in the contracts line?
The contracts line is for shallow lake enhancement and wetland restoration work contracted to private sector construction firms specializing in earth moving and water control structure installation involving steel weirs, concrete culverts, etc.

Professional Services

What is included in the Professional Services line?

Other : County Ditch Petitions and Outlet Fees, Soil Suitability Investigations

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
None - DU travel costs consist of in-state mileage, food, and lodging only. Travel is primarily mileage and lodging for engineering field staff and biologists during project survey and construction management. DU has not typically invoiced for food or meals in the past, and likely won't do so in the future.

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?
Minnesota DNR grants staff previously reviewed and approved DU accounting methodology for Direct Support Services, which are calculated and included in DU staff costs. DU Direct Support Services constitute approximately 8% of DU overall staff costs on average among all billable DU conservation staff categories. DU breaks out and invoices for Direct Support Service expenses approved by DNR for reimbursement separately from Personnel expenses.

Other Equipment/Tools

Give examples of the types of Equipment and Tools that will be purchased?
GPS survey equipment for performing engineering wetland restoration survey work and engineering surveys of shallow lake and large wetland enhancement projects, including survey equipment lease charges instead of actual outright equipment purchases to avoid buying equipment that becomes obsolete due to upgrades and advancements. Other equipment may include laptop and/or tablet computers, printers and other office equipment for biologists or engineers may be needed, along with hand tools and other field equipment as needs arise.

Federal Funds

Do you anticipate federal funds as a match for this program?
Yes

Are the funds confirmed?
Yes

Is Confirmation Document attached?
Yes, on file

Cash : $500,000

Output Tables

Acres by Resource Type (Table 1)

Type	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat	Total Acres
Restore	80	45	-	-	125
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	570	330	-	-	900
Total	**650**	**375**	**-**	**-**	**1,025**

Total Requested Funding by Resource Type (Table 2)

Type	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat	Total Funding
Restore	$463,000	$41,000	-	-	$504,000
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	$4,173,000	$123,000	-	-	$4,296,000
Total	**$4,636,000**	**$164,000**	**-**	**-**	**$4,800,000**

Acres within each Ecological Section (Table 3)

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest	Total Acres
Restore	-	20	-	100	5	125
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	40	80	-	760	20	900
Total	**40**	**100**	**-**	**860**	**25**	**1,025**

Total Requested Funding within each Ecological Section (Table 4)

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest	Total Funding
Restore	-	$162,000	-	$328,000	$14,000	$504,000
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	$205,000	$480,000	-	$3,595,000	$16,000	$4,296,000
Total	**$205,000**	**$642,000**	**-**	**$3,923,000**	**$30,000**	**$4,800,000**

Average Cost per Acre by Resource Type (Table 5)

Type	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat
Restore	$5,787	$911	-	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-
Enhance	$7,321	$372	-	-

Average Cost per Acre by Ecological Section (Table 6)

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest
Restore	-	$8,100	-	$3,280	$2,800
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	$5,125	$6,000	-	$4,730	$800

Target Lake/Stream/River Feet or Miles

Parcels

Parcel Information

Sign-up Criteria?
No

Explain the process used to identify, prioritize, and select the parcels on your list:
Ducks Unlimited prioritizes prairie shallow lake enhancement and wetland restoration and enhancement opportunities that are located in landscapes most heavily used by migrating and breeding waterfowl, and which our DNR and USFWS agency partners have identified and prioritize for optimal waterfowl habitat. Due to the overall shortage of prairie wetlands for breeding ducks, and relatively few shallow lakes in optimal condition for migrating ducks in Minnesota, DU relies on our DNR and USFWS agency partner biologists with land management responsibility to determine shallow lake and wetland project opportunities on public land or under easement. From there, DU prioritizes wetland restorations within landscapes of higher predicted breeding duck use, and prioritizes enhancement of shallow lakes where management success is most probable due to basin depth, landscape and hydrology conditions, and the likelihood that invasive fish can be minimized. For our WPA work, it is largely prioritized by the USFWS "Thunderstorm Map," that predicts breeding waterfowl densities, with this program focusing on the WPAs in the best predicted breeding habitats of the prairie and transition parts of the state.

Restore / Enhance Parcels

Name	County	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection	Description
Haverkamp WPA	Becker	14141205	10	$100,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Lindsey Lake WPA	Becker	14242233	20	$200,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Severson Lake WPA	Becker	13843202	20	$200,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Spring Marshes WPA	Becker	14042209	5	$50,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Stinking Lake WPA	Becker	14043231	50	$500,000	Yes	Enhance shallow lake for USFWS
Tamarac NWR - Beaver Valley Enhancement	Becker	14039220	10	$75,000	Yes	Enhance shallow lake for USFWS
Tamarac NWR - Buffalo Headwaters	Becker	14040212	80	$250,000	Yes	Enhance shallow lake for DNR
Tamarac NWR - Mudd Lake Enhancement	Becker	14039231	130	$300,000	Yes	Enhance shallow lake for USFWS
Tamarac NWR - Pine Lake Enhancement	Becker	14039229	500	$500,000	Yes	Enhance shallow lake for USFWS
Barry Lake WPA	Big Stone	12447204	3	$20,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Bentson Lake WPA	Big Stone	12245207	4	$35,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Hillman WPA	Big Stone	12145215	1	$10,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Jorgenson WPA	Big Stone	12245203	33	$50,000	Yes	Enhance wetlands and prairie for FWS
Kufrin WPA	Big Stone	12245221	10	$100,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
Lac Qui Parle WMA - Perry Tract Enhancement	Big Stone	12044215	3	$20,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for DNR

Olson WPA	Big Stone	12244201	15	$100,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
Otrey Lake WMA	Big Stone	12245222	55	$200,000	Yes	Engineer and install water control structure for DNR
Prairie WPA	Big Stone	12246236	2	$15,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Rothi WPA	Big Stone	12145202	3	$25,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Swenson Lake	Big Stone	12246203	314	$500,000	Yes	Engineer and install water control structure for DNR
Twin Lakes WPA	Big Stone	12246225	1	$10,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
Eagle Lake	Blue Earth	10825207	617	$1,000,000	Yes	Engineer and install pump and water control structure for DNR
Ida Lake Enhancement	Blue Earth	10528212	160	$750,000	Yes	Enhance shallow lake for DNR
Lost Marsh WMA	Blue Earth	10625235	230	$300,000	Yes	Enhance shallow lake for DNR
MN Valley NWR - Chaska Lake Enhancement	Carver	11523208	80	$500,000	Yes	Engineer and install new water control structure for USFWS.
Franko WMA Enhancement	Chippewa	11738214	42	$150,000	Yes	Engineer and install water control structure for DNR
Bjornson WPA	Clay	13845209	5	$50,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Eide WPA	Clay	14144221	10	$100,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Korell WPA	Clay	14144215	30	$200,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Moe WPA	Clay	14144232	10	$10,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Clear Lake WPA	Cottonwood	10538235	5	$50,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Cottonwood Lake WPA	Cottonwood	10535219	2	$20,000	Yes	Restore small wetlands for USFWS
Harder Lake WPA	Cottonwood	10636216	1	$5,000	Yes	Engineer and restore small wetlands for USFWS
Rat Lake Enhancement	Cottonwood	10635220	130	$200,000	Yes	Enhance shallow lake for MNDNR
Watonwan River WPA	Cottonwood	10636211	85	$150,000	Yes	Enhance wetlands for USFWS
Wolf Lake WPA - Small wetland restorations	Cottonwood	10535231	5	$20,000	Yes	Restore small wetlands for USFWS
Ernest Olson WPA	Douglas	13040223	2	$115,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Hegg Lake WMA	Douglas	12740227	73	$300,000	Yes	Engineer and install water control structure for DNR
Hudson WPA - Small Wetlands	Douglas	12737229	3	$145,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
J.I. case WPA - Small Wetlands	Douglas	12840225	2	$125,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
Kensington WPA	Douglas	12740233	5	$50,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Klug WPA - Small Wetlands	Douglas	12840221	1	$105,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
Petersen WPA	Douglas	12836229	3	$145,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.

Rachel WPA	Douglas	12837211	5	$55,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Runestone WPA	Douglas	12740214	5	$50,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Stowe Lake WPA	Douglas	12939218	447	$150,000	Yes	Enhance wetlands and prairie for FWS
Urness WMA	Douglas	12840210	37	$200,000	Yes	Engineer and install water control structure for DNR
Maple River WPA	Faribault	10426210	50	$500,000	Yes	Enhance wetland management with new water level control structures.
Minnesota Lake	Faribault	10425206	1,860	$500,000	Yes	Enhance shallow lake for DNR
Bhagyam WPA	Freeborn	10121230	15	$20,000	Yes	Enhance wetlands for USFWS
Twin Lakes WPA	Freeborn	10122202	5	$50,000	Yes	Restore small wetlands for USFWS
Two Island WPA	Freeborn	10322224	4	$20,000	Yes	Engineer and restore small wetlands for USFWS
Bailey Slough WPA	Grant	12843206	8	$30,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Evavold WPA	Grant	13041204	2	$20,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Frikken WPA	Grant	13042203	5	$50,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Green WPA	Grant	12843207	6	$35,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Pomme de Terre WPA	Grant	13042235	4	$175,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Stony Brook WPA - Shallow Lake Enhancement	Grant	13043205	118	$300,000	Yes	Engineer and install water control structure for USFWS
Lake Katrina Enhancement	Hennepin	11823230	485	$500,000	Yes	Engineer and install new water control structure for Three Rivers Park District.
Three Rivers Park District - Goose Lake Enhancement	Hennepin	12022235	74	$250,000	Yes	Enhance shallow lake for 3RPD
Three Rivers Park District - Mud Lake Enhancement	Hennepin	11922202	140	$500,000	Yes	Enhance shallow lake for 3RPD
Boot Lake	Jackson	10335231	155	$500,000	Yes	Engineer and install new water control structures for MNDNR
Christiania WPA - Small Wetlands	Jackson	10435209	6	$100,000	Yes	Restore small wetlands for USFWS
Iowa Lake Enhancement	Jackson	10138231	242	$400,000	Yes	Engineer and install water control structure for DNR
Little Sioux WPA	Jackson	10136230	10	$100,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Minnesota WPA	Jackson	10137232	30	$300,000	Yes	Enhance wetlands for USFWS
Sioux Forks WPA	Jackson	10136218	10	$100,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Timber Lake WPA	Jackson	10437224	21	$40,000	Yes	Enhance wetlands for USFWS
Big Kandiyohi Lake WPA	Kandiyohi	11734203	40	$400,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.

Brenner Lake WPA	Kandiyohi	12236206	10	$100,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Burbank WPA	Kandiyohi	12234210	5	$50,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
Carlson Lake WPA	Kandiyohi	12034204	10	$100,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Century WPA - Small Wetlands	Kandiyohi	12136211	10	$100,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
Ella Lake WPA	Kandiyohi	11933221	30	$200,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
Evenson WPA	Kandiyohi	12035216	15	$75,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
Hanson WPA	Kandiyohi	11836214	8	$80,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Johnson WPA - Small Wetlands	Kandiyohi	11834230	5	$20,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
Larson Easement Restoration	Kandiyohi	12034229	10	$50,000	Yes	Restore small wetlands for USFWS
New London WPA	Kandiyohi	12134204	5	$50,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Pennock WPA	Kandiyohi	12036234	26	$50,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
Randall WPA - Small wetlands	Kandiyohi	12236209	5	$50,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
Sunburg WPA Small Wetlands	Kandiyohi	12236219	15	$75,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
Swanson WPA Small Wetlands	Kandiyohi	12034222	10	$50,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
Uncle Matt's WPA	Kandiyohi	12033232	10	$100,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Weber WPA - Small wetlands	Kandiyohi	12035221	20	$200,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
Yarmon WPA	Kandiyohi	11834223	263	$400,000	Yes	Engineer and install new water control structure for USFWS
Big Stone NWR - Pool 3/5 Enhancement	Lac qui Parle	12045208	130	$500,000	Yes	Enhance shallow lake for FWS
Big Stone NWR Pool 4/4A	Lac qui Parle	12145232	275	$1,500,000	Yes	Engineer and install water control structures for USFWS
Colbert WPA	Lac qui Parle	11744232	10	$30,000	Yes	Enhance wetlands and prairie for FWS
Goodman WPA	Lac qui Parle	11745229	5	$20,000	Yes	Enhance wetlands and prairie for FWS
Sweetwater WMA	Lac qui Parle	11746236	69	$200,000	Yes	Engineer and install water control structure for DNR
Wild Wings WMA	Lac qui Parle	11643223	73	$250,000	Yes	Engineer and install water control structure for DNR
Sanborn Lake WMA - Dietz Lake Enhancement	Le Sueur	11223235	73	$300,000	Yes	Engineer and install water control structure for DNR
Agribank WPA	Lincoln	11146205	25	$150,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
Anderson Lake Enhancement	Lincoln	11145206	275	$400,000	Yes	Enhance shallow lake for DNR
Fox WPA	Lincoln	11045222	20	$100,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
Knofczynski WPA	Lincoln	11245227	10	$50,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS

Kontz WPA	Lincoln	11345206	20	$100,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
Northern Tallgrass Prairie NWR - Gislason Lake Unit Small Wetlands	Lincoln	11144201	15	$70,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
Prairie Dell WMA Enhancement	Lincoln	11345216	5	$50,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for DNR
Rook WPA	Lincoln	11345227	17	$75,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
Weber WPA	Lincoln	11045222	11	$50,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
Arends WPA	Lyon	11343218	5	$20,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
Bendix I WPA	Lyon	10941220	5	$35,000	Yes	Enhance wetlands and prairie for FWS
Bendix II WPA	Lyon	10941221	5	$15,000	Yes	Enhance wetlands and prairie for FWS
Black Rush Lake WPA	Lyon	11042216	30	$125,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
Lyons WMA - Brown Marsh Enhancement	Lyon	11042228	70	$300,000	Yes	Enhance shallow lake with water control structure for MNDNR
Peterson WPA	Lyon	10942230	5	$20,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
Sherman WPA	Lyon	10941218	10	$25,000	Yes	Enhance wetlands and prairie for FWS
Church Lake Restoration	Mahnomen	14641232	206	$500,000	Yes	Engineer and install water control structure for DNR
Jason Barker WPA East	Mahnomen	14542224	3	$20,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
Agassiz NWR - Madsen Pool	Marshall	15642215	100	$50,000	Yes	Enhance wetland management with new water level control structures.
Agassiz NWR - Mud Lake Main Agassiz Pool	Marshall	15641220	5,000	$1,000,000	Yes	Enhance wetland management with berms.
Agassiz NWR - Pool 8	Marshall	15642203	100	$50,000	Yes	Enhance wetland management with new water level control structures.
Clam Lake	Martin	10332215	72	$200,000	Yes	Engineer and install water control structure for MNDNR
Duck Lake Restoration	Martin	10333211	100	$300,000	Yes	Restore shallow lake for USFWS
Four Corners WMA - Small Wetlands	Martin	10332231	10	$50,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
Holmes Lake Restoration	Martin	10232235	100	$750,000	Yes	Engineer and install water control structure for USFWS
Rooney Run WMA - Round Lake Enhancement	Martin	10332221	45	$200,000	Yes	Engineer and install water level control structure for MNDNR
Rooney Run WMA - Small Wetlands	Martin	10332210	5	$30,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for DNR
Seymour WMA Small Wetlands	Martin	10332220	5	$30,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS

Clear Lake WPA	Meeker	12130210	10	$75,000	Yes	Engineer and install new water control structure for USFWS.
Harvey WPA	Meeker	12031231	40	$400,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Lake Harden WPA Small Wetlands	Meeker	11831236	10	$75,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
Litchfield WPA	Meeker	11931236	20	$200,000	Yes	Restore wetlands for USFWS.
Meeker Easement 107X	Meeker	11930204	25	$250,000	Yes	Enhance wetland for USFWS with new water control structure.
Meeker Easement 162X	Meeker	12029213	5	$50,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Meeker Easement 205X, 204X, 126X	Meeker	12029225	35	$150,000	Yes	Restore small wetlands for USFWS
Peifer WPA Shallow Lake Enhancement	Meeker	11930204	81	$200,000	Yes	Engineer and install water control structure for USFWS
Rodewald WMA - Wetland Restoration	Meeker	11832220	25	$300,000	Yes	Engineer and install new water control structure for MNDNR.
Rosendale WPA	Meeker	11832216	20	$100,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
Seifert Easement Restoration	Meeker	11931236	20	$100,000	Yes	Restore small wetlands for USFWS
Tyrone Flats WPA	Meeker	12131213	5	$50,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Buffalo Lake WMA Wetland Restoration	Murray	10739207	10	$50,000	Yes	Restore small wetlands for MNDNR.
Devils Run WPA	Murray	10639206	28	$200,000	Yes	Engineer and install new water control structure for USFWS
Haberman WMA Restoration	Murray	10539217	100	$150,000	Yes	Restore small wetlands and grassland for DNR
Kramer FWS Easement Restoration	Murray	10839229	30	$300,000	Yes	Restore small wetlands for USFWS
Lowville WMA Enhancement	Murray	10742212	45	$100,000	Yes	Enhance shallow lake for MNDNR
Shetek WMA - Robbins Slough Enhancement	Murray	10840222	245	$350,000	Yes	Engineer and install water control structure for MNDNR
Shetek WMA - Round Lake Enhancement	Murray	10840221	171	$200,000	Yes	Engineer and install new water control structure for MNDNR.
Slaughter Slough WPA	Murray	10740211	20	$125,000	Yes	Engineer and restore small wetlands for USFWS
Swan Lake WMA - Small Wetlands	Nicollet	10928206	10	$150,000	Yes	Enhance and restore small wetlands for DNR
Bloom WPA	Nobles	10441220	4	$20,000	Yes	Engineer and restore small wetlands for USFWS
Graham Lake WPA	Nobles	10439220	14	$70,000	Yes	Engineer and restore small wetlands for USFWS
Lake Bella WPA	Nobles	10140227	1	$5,000	Yes	Engineer and restore small wetlands for USFWS
Worthington WPA	Nobles	10240224	2	$20,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.

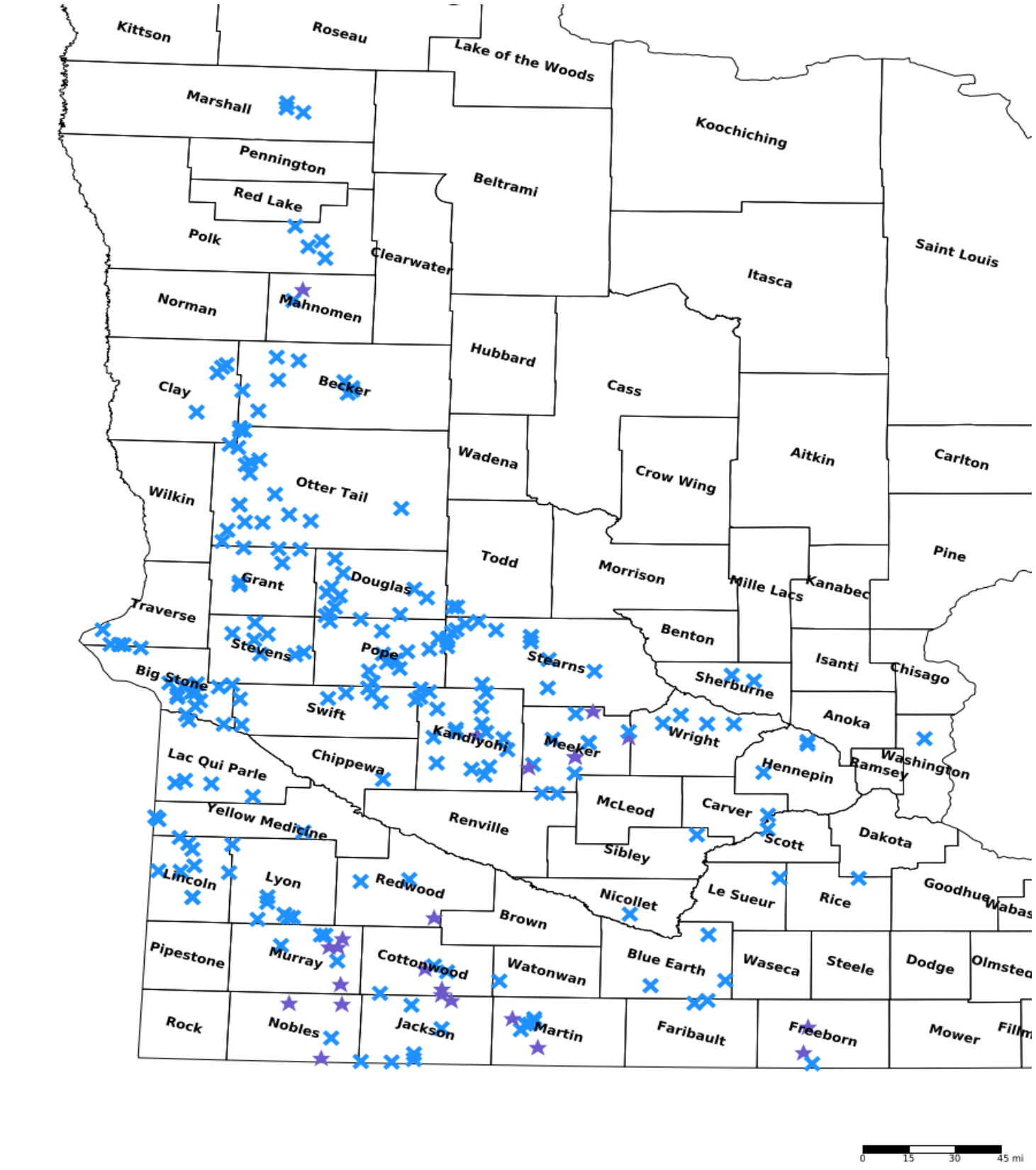
Backstrom WPA - Small Wetlands	Otter Tail	13543208	3	$40,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
Duenow WPA	Otter Tail	13442233	3	$20,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
Erhard's Grove WPA - Small Wetlands	Otter Tail	13543228	2	$140,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
Fitzgerald WPA	Otter Tail	13743208	2	$40,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Gardner WPA	Otter Tail	13644203	1	$15,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Grady Mann WPA	Otter Tail	13144228	3	$140,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Haiby WPA	Otter Tail	13644212	5	$50,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Headquarters WPA - Small Wetlands	Otter Tail	13242201	1	$5,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
Hi View WMA	Otter Tail	13243224	56	$500,000	Yes	Enhance shallow lake for DNR
Jorgenson WPA	Otter Tail	13144203	6	$15,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Kunz WPA	Otter Tail	13243220	95	$50,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
Mortenson WPA Small Wetlands	Otter Tail	13241214	5	$50,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
Nelson WPA	Otter Tail	13743206	1	$30,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Pelican Valley WPA	Otter Tail	13543204	3	$20,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Rokes WPA	Otter Tail	13337220	5	$50,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Simpson WPA	Otter Tail	13643235	5	$50,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Tomhave WPA	Otter Tail	13343219	43	$25,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
Tweeton WPA	Otter Tail	13743207	1	$35,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Wildung WPA	Otter Tail	13343219	83	$45,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
Clarke WPA	Polk	14941207	5	$50,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Hill River WPA	Polk	14841201	5	$50,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Lepier WPA	Polk	14740206	10	$100,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Mcintosh WPA	Polk	14841216	1	$10,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Ann Lake WPA	Pope	12638227	4	$135,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Glenwood WPA	Pope	12537234	15	$100,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
Grove Lake WPA	Pope	12536228	10	$100,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
Jorgenson WPA	Pope	12639202	10	$10,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Kolstad Lake WPA	Pope	12338206	15	$50,000	Yes	Enhance wetlands and prairie for FWS
Krantz Lake WPA	Pope	12536202	15	$70,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS

Mattson WPA	Pope	12640210	7	$50,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Ouren WPA	Pope	12437232	5	$160,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Rolling Forks WPA	Pope	12338229	10	$50,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
Stenerson Lake WPA	Pope	12438203	13	$15,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Stenson Lake WPA	Pope	12438223	4	$115,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Wall WPA	Pope	12437218	9	$90,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Coal Mine Creek WMA Restoration	Redwood	10936214	150	$750,000	Yes	Restore small wetlands and grassland for DNR
Daubs Lake Enhancement	Redwood	11137211	175	$250,000	Yes	Engineer and install water control structure for DNR
Westline WMA	Redwood	11139213	200	$200,000	Yes	Engineer and install water level control structure for MNDNR
Boon Lake Enhancement	Renville	11631205	858	$500,000	Yes	Engineer and install a water control structure and permanent pump for MNDNR
Brookfield WPA	Renville	11632202	5	$50,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
St. Olaf - Big Pond Enhancement	Rice	11220235	10	$100,000	Yes	Engineer and install water control structure for FWS
MN Valley NWR - Louisville Swamp Enhancement	Scott	11423205	75	$500,000	Yes	Engineer and install new water control structure for USFWS.
Sherburne NWR - East Bergerson Enhancement	Sherburne	03427203	20	$100,000	Yes	Enhance large wetland for USFWS
Sherburne NWR - West Carpenter Pool Enhancement	Sherburne	03528226	70	$300,000	Yes	Engineer and install new water control structure for USFWS.
Washington Lake Enhancement	Sibley	11426215	600	$500,000	Yes	Engineer and install new water control structure for MNDNR.
Ashley WPA	Stearns	12635229	20	$200,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Collegeville WPA	Stearns	12430234	3	$30,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Crow River WMA Enhancement	Stearns	12334228	77	$300,000	Yes	Engineer and install water control structure for DNR
McCormick Lake WPA Small Wetlands	Stearns	12634224	5	$25,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
Padua WPA	Stearns	12535206	10	$10,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Pope WPA	Stearns	12535207	5	$50,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Prairie Storm WPA	Stearns	12535219	5	$50,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Roscoe WPA Small Wetlands	Stearns	12332236	20	$150,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
St Martin WPA Small Wetlands	Stearns	12432212	20	$100,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
Stearns Easement 181x	Stearns	12632232	37	$500,000	Yes	Enhance large wetland for USFWS

USFWS Easement - 181X	Stearns	12632232	38	$200,000	Yes	Engineer and install water control structure for FWS
Uhlenkolts Lake WPA	Stearns	12532208	2	$20,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Whitney WPA	Stearns	12635211	20	$200,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Wiener WPA	Stearns	12635221	10	$50,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
Zehrer WPA	Stearns	12634205	2	$20,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Edwards WPA - Small Wetlands	Stevens	12441208	1	$40,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
Fish Lake WPA	Stevens	12544201	8	$20,000	Yes	Enhance wetlands and prairie for FWS
Fults WPA	Stevens	12542205	10	$25,000	Yes	Enhance wetlands and prairie for FWS
Geise WPA	Stevens	12643214	32	$50,000	Yes	Enhance wetlands and prairie for FWS
Long Lake WPA	Stevens	12441203	3	$15,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Pepperton WPA	Stevens	12543214	1	$10,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
Schultz WPA	Stevens	12443212	30	$200,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
Artichoke Lake WPA	Swift	12244209	15	$70,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
Brady WPA	Swift	12237225	5	$30,000	Yes	Enhance wetlands and prairie for FWS
Fahl WPA	Swift	12238206	19	$45,000	Yes	Enhance wetlands and prairie for FWS
Johnson Lake Enhancement	Swift	12239217	179	$500,000	Yes	Enhance shallow lake with water control structure for MNDNR
Lac Qui Parle WMA - Williamson Unit Enhancement	Swift	12043217	12	$100,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for DNR
Loose WPA	Swift	12243232	5	$30,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
Lynch Lake WPA	Swift	12240227	5	$30,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
Svor WPA	Swift	12238217	5	$85,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Welsh WPA	Swift	12238234	50	$200,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
Aurzada Prairie WMA	Todd	12735208	5	$50,000	Yes	Engineer and install water control structure for DNR
West Union WMA	Todd	12735209	30	$250,000	Yes	Engineer and install water control structure for DNR
Diekmann WPA - Small Wetlands	Traverse	12548235	2	$75,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
Gibson WPA - Small Wetlands	Traverse	12548233	1	$165,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
Jenk WPA - Small Wetlands	Traverse	12548235	1	$175,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
Murphy WPA	Traverse	12548236	1	$180,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Pederson WPA	Traverse	12548206	3	$30,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.

Keystone Woods WMA - Wetland Enhancement	Washington	03120218	125	$750,000	Yes	Wetland enhancement for DNR on Keystone Woods WMA after purchase by TPL.
Sulem WMA	Watonwan	10533205	226	$500,000	Yes	Engineer and install water level control structure for MNDNR
Angus Lake WPA	Wright	12126236	22	$220,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Annandale WPA	Wright	12127232	5	$100,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Corinna WPA	Wright	12127213	5	$100,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Pelican Lake WPA - Small wetlands	Wright	12125236	15	$200,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS.
Dakota WPA	Yellow Medicine	11446205	20	$200,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
Kontz WPA	Yellow Medicine	11546231	10	$100,000	Yes	Enhance small wetlands for USFWS
Spellman WMA - Miedd Lake	Yellow Medicine	11441223	50	$100,000	Yes	Engineer and install water control structure for MN DNR

Parcel Map



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

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

Living Shallow Lakes and Wetlands Enhancement & Restoration Initiative

Comparison Report

Program Title: ML 2027 - Living Shallow Lakes and Wetlands Enhancement & Restoration Initiative
Organization: Ducks Unlimited
Manager: John Lindstrom

Budget

Requested Amount: $11,776,000
Appropriated Amount: $4,800,000
Percentage: 40.76%

Item	Requested Proposal	Leverage Proposal	Appropriated AP	Leverage AP	Percent of Request	Percent of Leverage
Personnel	$2,200,000	$470,000	$902,000	$193,000	41.0%	41.06%
Contracts	$9,000,000	$500,000	$3,638,200	$205,000	40.42%	41.0%
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	-	-	-	-	-	-
Easement Acquisition	-	$500,000	-	$500,000	-	100.0%
Easement Stewardship	-	-	-	-	-	-
Travel	$100,000	$10,000	$41,000	$4,100	41.0%	41.0%
Professional Services	$50,000	-	$20,500	-	41.0%	-
Direct Support Services	$176,000	-	$72,200	-	41.02%	-
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Equipment	$40,000	-	$40,000	-	100.0%	-
Other Equipment/Tools	$10,000	-	$4,100	-	41.0%	-
Supplies/Materials	$200,000	$20,000	$82,000	$8,200	41.0%	41.0%
DNR IDP	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grand Total	**$11,776,000**	**$1,500,000**	**$4,800,000**	**$910,300**	**40.76%**	**60.69%**

If the project received 70% of the requested funding

Describe how the scaling would affect acres/activities and if not proportionately reduced, why?
If reduced to 50% of the request, our acres/activities and budget would be scaled proportionately.

Describe how personnel and DSS expenses would be adjusted and if not proportionately reduced, why?
If reduced to 50% of the request, our personnel and DSS would be scaled proportionately.

If the project received 50% of the requested funding

Describe how the scaling would affect acres/activities and if not proportionately reduced, why?
If reduced to 30% of the request, our acres/activities and budget would be scaled proportionately.

Describe how personnel and DSS expenses would be adjusted and if not proportionately reduced, why?
If reduced to 30% of the request, our personnel and DSS would be scaled proportionately.

Output

Acres by Resource Type (Table 1)

Type	Total Proposed	Total in AP	Percentage of Proposed
Restore	300	125	41.67%
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	0	-	-
Protect in Easement	0	-	-
Enhance	2,200	900	40.91%

Total Requested Funding by Resource Type (Table 2)

Type	Total Proposed	Total in AP	Percentage of Proposed
Restore	$1,236,000	$504,000	40.78%
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-
Enhance	$10,540,000	$4,296,000	40.76%

Acres within each Ecological Section (Table 3)

Type	Total Proposed	Total in AP	Percentage of Proposed
Restore	300	125	41.67%
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	0	-	-
Protect in Easement	0	-	-
Enhance	2,200	900	40.91%

Total Requested Funding within each Ecological Section (Table 4)

Type	Total Proposed	Total in AP	Percentage of Proposed
Restore	$1,236,000	$504,000	40.78%
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-
Enhance	$10,540,000	$4,296,000	40.76%

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

Mud River Enhancement Phase II

Laws of Minnesota 2027 Accomplishment Plan

General Information

Date: 10/16/2026

Project Title: Mud River Enhancement Phase II

Funds Recommended: $3,200,000

Legislative Citation:

Appropriation Language:

Manager Information

Manager's Name: Tammy Audette
Title: Administrator
Organization: Red Lake Watershed District
Address: 1000 Pennington Avenue South
City: Thief River Falls, MN 56701
Email: tammy.audette@redlakewatershed.org
Office Number: 2186815800
Mobile Number: 2186815800
Fax Number: 2186815839
Website: redlakewatershed.org

Location Information

County Location(s): Marshall.

Eco regions in which work will take place:

Forest / Prairie Transition

Activity types:

Enhance

Restore

Priority resources addressed by activity:

Wetlands

Narrative

Abstract

The Mud River drains thousands of acres of agricultural lands before flowing into the Agassiz National Wildlife Refuge (NWR). ML 2026 successfully began Phase I of this project. ML 2027-Phase II is intended to acquire full funding and complete 100% of the goals of the project, and provide 372 additional acres of riparian habitat. Both Phases I and II will bring riparian benefits back to a 6-mile segment of the original channel by restoring natural function.

Design and Scope of Work

Altered hydrology, flashiness, and incoming sediment from the Mud River watershed has multiple, harmful effects on the NWR. These include wetland bounce, attributed to runoff events during the nesting season which have negative effects on many waterfowl species, loss of meandered riparian habitat for species associated with this habitat type, deterioration of habitat quality as sediment accumulates in wetlands that then become infested with invasive cattail, increased flood impacts as sediment displaces storage volume within the NWR pools, rapid increases in and periodic spikes in turbidity levels in the Thief River when releases of water transfer sediment out of the NWR.

The project was developed using the Flood Damage Reduction Project Work Team approach. This team included Federal, State and Local units of government and both upstream and downstream stakeholders. Alternatives were developed, discussed and consensus reached on the preferred alternative. Project engineering focused on enhancing a six (6) mile segment of an abandoned natural stream. This project will direct at least 80% of the Mud River flow to the enhanced channel, returning it to a functioning state with natural meanders, base flow, low flow channel connected with the floodplain, and a design based on fluvial geomorphic principals. Habitat improvements will include restoring a diverse plant community along the floodplain gradient from emergent wetland vegetation up to forested margins.

The proposed Project consists of a diversion structure at the upstream end, a sinuous excavated two stage channel with low flow channel that conveys a 1 to 2 year design flow and a floodplain bench where needed to convey the 10-year flow. Also included is placement of spoil piles to add topographic variability and provide for increased vegetative diversity. The existing ditches will remain in place with the new channel providing increased flow capacity as compared to existing conditions. The recommended option allows the 10-year event to spread out across the floodplain as compared to being confined to the straightened ditch system. By allowing the flow to spread out there is a decrease in downstream peak flow from 675 cubic feet per second (cfs) to 575 cfs (15% reduction).

For ML 2027 the Project Work Team has considered additional design elements after further analysis, the need to include a large box culvert at the downstream end of the project, which is reflected in the overall cost of the project. In this Phase II request we are also accounting for inflation, resulting in a higher anticipated cost.

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

Ditching in the early 1900's straightened the historic flow patterns of this watershed and separated a historic channel from its water source. The result was wetland destruction, increased flow into the water conveyance systems and increased erosion and transportation of sediment downstream.

This project will provide a water feature within the wildlife refuge that meets the purpose for which the refuge was established and, continues to maintain the function of the water conveyance for the watershed and improving wildlife habitat on both a local, state, and national level. By returning natural stream geomorphology to a segment of the Mud River, fish and wildlife species will benefit from the restoration of base flow and by returning a natural sinuous wetland and stream type to the wildlife refuge. The alteration of riparian wetland systems that occurred over 100-years ago, were constructed to facilitate efficient removal of water from the landscape. Straight, linear conveyance systems were, and still remain, an efficient method of draining wetland habitat, effecting many fish and wildlife species. This project is supported by the Thief River One Watershed One Plan and complements other best management practices being implemented in the watershed to improve fish and wildlife habitat, improve water quality and reduce effects of flooding. By restoring meandering wetland characteristics to the landscape, resident populations of reptiles, amphibians and mammals will utilize the newly provided habitat. A wide representation of migratory birds, from wading and shore birds to passerine species up to waterfowl will make use of the diversity of habitat types this project will provide. With North American bird populations having experienced a 30% decrease since 1970, habitat enhancement projects, such as the Mud River Enhancement Project will help address this loss.

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

Private land acquisition has been one of the most challenging tasks in the development of conservation projects. With appropriate funding, this project is ready for final design and implementation as it is located within the Elm Lake WMA and Agassiz NWR, eliminating the need for land acquisition. This project can be a showcase example of the positive impact that wetland and stream restoration can have on building climate resiliency into habitat management. The current RLWD Board of Managers and the MN DNR WMA, and NWR Managers are supportive of the project, and they will bring important community support required to accomplish and maintain the project goals.

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

By nature, streams and rivers are the original corridors providing travel pathways that connect various habitat types and provide population and species migration on a spatial scale. These interchange/exchanges of wildlife and habitat are what historically sustained strong, healthy populations of plants and animals in Minnesota. The linear habitat that replaced our natural stream and river corridors in the early 1900's due to ditching forever disrupted and fragmented this historic natural system. This project will restore a six-mile segment of the historic Mud River corridor, providing meandered habitat that eliminates the long sight lines of traditional man-made ditches that adds to disturbance and predation.

Meandering waterways provide the intimate and secretive setting that is critical to wildlife during the breeding and nesting seasons. This project will restore a natural corridor and the function of how wildlife historically utilized it.

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

North American Waterfowl Management Plan

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Strategic Habitat Conservation Model

Which LSOHC section priorities are addressed in this program?

Forest / Prairie Transition

Protect, restore, and enhance habitat for waterfowl, upland birds, and species of greatest conservation need

Outcomes

Programs in forest-prairie transition region:

Increased waterfowl and upland bird migratory and breeding success ~ *Meandering waterways provide the intimate and secretive setting that is critical to wildlife during the breeding and nesting seasons. This project will restore a natural corridor and the function of how wildlife historically utilized it. By restoring 6 miles of riparian habitat several species of birds and mammals will once again be able to use this historic corridor. Water quality and quantity monitoring will be conducted to determine project benefits. Wildlife and vegetation response will be monitored by both the USWFS and the MnDNR.*

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.

The Mud River Enhancement Project has not requested funding from sources other than LSOHC. This request does not supplant nor substitute funds from other previous local, state, or federal funding sources.

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

This project is located entirely on State WMA and Federal Refuge lands. The MnDNR and USFWS will maintain these habitats to provide for the purposes for which these lands were acquired.

Actions to Maintain Project Outcomes

Year	Source of Funds	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3
2030+	FWS Agassiz Refuge	Species Monitoring	Reporting	-
2030+	RLWD	Annual Water Quality Monitoring	Reporting	-
2029+	FWS Agassiz Refuge	Annual Inspection	Vegetation monitoring	Reporting - Repairs

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

The Project will provide: Free public access hunting near a population center (cities of Thief River Falls, Grygla, Gatzke, Middle River) No-cost access to wildlife viewing. Outreach to tribal authorities on natural resource benefits is on-going.
Project Partners plan additional education outreach on the cultural significance and history of the area.

Activity Details

Requirements

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

Will restoration and enhancement work follow best management practices including MS 84.973 Pollinator Habitat Program?
Yes

Is the restoration and enhancement activity on permanently protected land per 97A.056, Subd 13(f), tribal lands, and/or public waters per MS 103G.005, Subd. 15 or on lands to be acquired in this program?
Yes

Where does the activity take place?

Refuge Lands

WMA

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

Timeline

Activity Name	Estimated Completion Date
Construction	July 1, 2029
Planning, design and permitting	July 1, 2027

Date of Final Report Submission: 10/01/2030

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	-	$155,000	RLWD, MnDNR, USFWS	$155,000
Contracts	$3,000,000	$500,000	RLWD	$3,500,000
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	-	-	-	-
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	-	-	-	-
Easement Acquisition	-	-	-	-
Easement Stewardship	-	-	-	-
Travel	-	-	-	-
Professional Services	$200,000	-	-	$200,000
Direct Support Services	-	-	-	-
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	-	-	-	-
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	-	-	-	-
Supplies/Materials	-	-	-	-
DNR IDP	-	-	-	-
Grand Total	**$3,200,000**	**$655,000**	**-**	**$3,855,000**

Personnel

Position	Annual FTE	Years Working	Funding Request	Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Technician	0.2	3.0	-	$50,000	RLWD	$50,000
Refuge Manager	0.1	3.0	-	$40,000	USFWS	$40,000
Wildlife Manager	0.1	3.0	-	$35,000	MnDNR	$35,000
Administrator	0.1	3.0	-	$30,000	RLWD	$30,000

Amount of Request: $3,200,000
Amount of Leverage: $655,000
Leverage as a percent of the Request: 20.47%
DSS + Personnel: -
As a % of the total request: 0.0%
Easement Stewardship: -
As a % of the Easement Acquisition: -

How will this program accommodate the reduced appropriation recommendation from the original proposed requested amount?
The Mud River Enhancement Project received full funding for Phases II.

Detail leverage sources and confirmation of funds:
RLWD Board has committed themselves to this project. USFWS and MnDNR are committed to in-kind staff time and resources.

Does this project have the ability to be scalable?
No

Contracts

What is included in the contracts line?
Construction of the project.

Professional Services

What is included in the Professional Services line?

Design/Engineering

Federal Funds

Do you anticipate federal funds as a match for this program?
Yes

Are the funds confirmed?
Yes

Is Confirmation Document attached?
Yes, on file

In Kind : $40,000

Output Tables

Acres by Resource Type (Table 1)

Type	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat	Total Acres
Restore	22	-	-	-	22
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	350	-	-	-	350
Total	**372**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**372**

Total Requested Funding by Resource Type (Table 2)

Type	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat	Total Funding
Restore	$2,500,000	-	-	-	$2,500,000
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	$700,000	-	-	-	$700,000
Total	**$3,200,000**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**$3,200,000**

Acres within each Ecological Section (Table 3)

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest	Total Acres
Restore	-	22	-	-	-	22
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	-	350	-	-	-	350
Total	**-**	**372**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**372**

Total Requested Funding within each Ecological Section (Table 4)

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest	Total Funding
Restore	-	$2,500,000	-	-	-	$2,500,000
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	-	$700,000	-	-	-	$700,000
Total	**-**	**$3,200,000**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**$3,200,000**

Average Cost per Acre by Resource Type (Table 5)

Type	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat
Restore	$113,636	-	-	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-
Enhance	$2,000	-	-	-

Average Cost per Acre by Ecological Section (Table 6)

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest
Restore	-	$113,636	-	-	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	-	$2,000	-	-	-

Target Lake/Stream/River Feet or Miles

6 miles

Parcels

Parcel Information

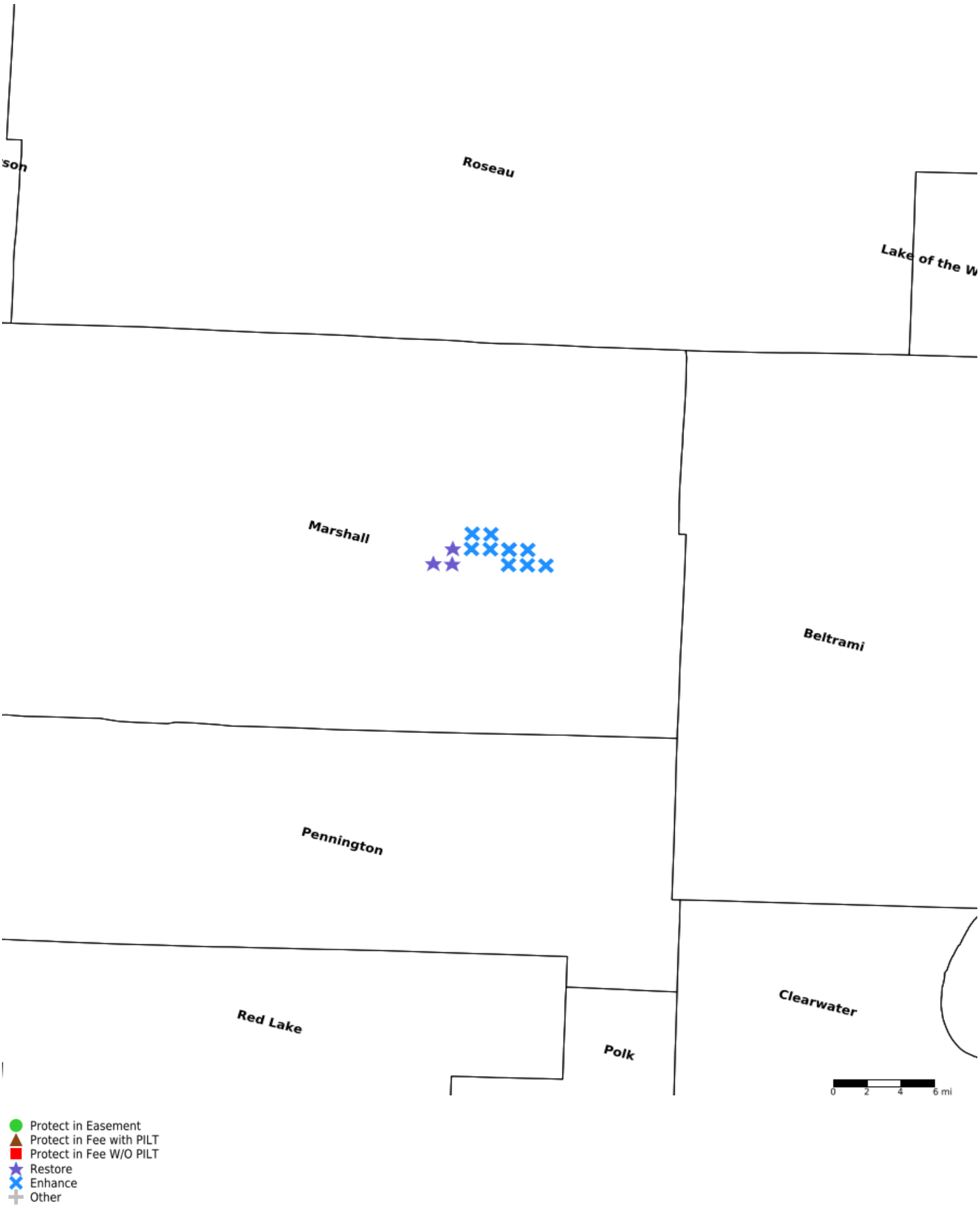
Sign-up Criteria?
No

Explain the process used to identify, prioritize, and select the parcels on your list:
Project site is currently owned by federal and state agencies.

Restore / Enhance Parcels

Name	County	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection	Description
14-4017-001	Marshall	1564005	480	-	Yes	AGASSIZ NATL WILDLIFE REFUGE
14-4018-001	Marshall	1564006	599	-	Yes	AGASSIZ NATL WILDLIFE REFUGE
14-4018-002	Marshall	1564007	636	-	Yes	AGASSIZ NATL WILDLIFE REFUGE
14-4018-003	Marshall	1564008	640	-	Yes	AGASSIZ NATL WILDLIFE REFUGE
14-4018-007	Marshall	1564009	320	-	Yes	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
14-6018-004	Marshall	1564009	320	-	Yes	DNR REAL ESTATE MANAGEMENT
14-6018-005	Marshall	1564010	240	-	Yes	DNR REAL ESTATE MANAGEMENT
14-6039-001	Marshall	1564014	160	-	Yes	DNR REAL ESTATE MANAGEMENT
14-6042-002	Marshall	1564015	560	-	Yes	DNR REAL ESTATE MANAGEMENT
14-6042-003	Marshall	1564016	640	-	Yes	DNR REAL ESTATE MANAGEMENT
60-0001-00	Marshall	1564112	640	-	Yes	MUD LAKE NATL WILDLIFE REFUGE
60-0001-00	Marshall	1564114	640	-	Yes	MUD LAKE NATL WILDLIFE REFUGE
60-0001-00	Marshall	1564113	640	-	Yes	MUD LAKE NATL WILDLIFE REFUGE

Parcel Map


son
Roseau
Lake of the W
Marshall
Beltrami
Pennington
Red Lake
Polk
Clearwater
0
2
4
6 mi
Protect in Easement
Protect in Fee with PILT
Protect in Fee W/O PILT
Restore
Enhance
Other

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

Mud River Enhancement Phase II

Comparison Report

Program Title: ML 2027 - Mud River Enhancement Phase II
Organization: Red Lake Watershed District
Manager: Tammy Audette

Budget

Requested Amount: $3,200,000
Appropriated Amount: $3,200,000
Percentage: 100.0%

Item	Requested Proposal	Leverage Proposal	Appropriated AP	Leverage AP	Percent of Request	Percent of Leverage
Personnel	-	$155,000	-	$155,000	-	100.0%
Contracts	$3,000,000	$500,000	$3,000,000	$500,000	100.0%	100.0%
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	-	-	-	-	-	-
Easement Acquisition	-	-	-	-	-	-
Easement Stewardship	-	-	-	-	-	-
Travel	-	-	-	-	-	-
Professional Services	$200,000	-	$200,000	-	100.0%	-
Direct Support Services	-	-	-	-	-	-
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	-	-	-	-	-	-
Supplies/Materials	-	-	-	-	-	-
DNR IDP	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grand Total	**$3,200,000**	**$655,000**	**$3,200,000**	**$655,000**	**100.0%**	**100.0%**

If the project received 70% of the requested funding

Describe how the scaling would affect acres/activities and if not proportionately reduced, why?
The Phase 1 request was funded in ML 2026 at 57%. Full funding would allow completion of the project under this Phase II application.

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

If the project received 50% of the requested funding

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

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

Output

Acres by Resource Type (Table 1)

Type	Total Proposed	Total in AP	Percentage of Proposed
Restore	22	22	100.0%
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	0	-	-
Protect in Easement	0	-	-
Enhance	350	350	100.0%

Total Requested Funding by Resource Type (Table 2)

Type	Total Proposed	Total in AP	Percentage of Proposed
Restore	$2,500,000	$2,500,000	100.0%
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-
Enhance	$700,000	$700,000	100.0%

Acres within each Ecological Section (Table 3)

Type	Total Proposed	Total in AP	Percentage of Proposed
Restore	22	22	100.0%
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	0	-	-
Protect in Easement	0	-	-
Enhance	350	350	100.0%

Total Requested Funding within each Ecological Section (Table 4)

Type	Total Proposed	Total in AP	Percentage of Proposed
Restore	$2,500,000	$2,500,000	100.0%
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-
Enhance	$700,000	$700,000	100.0%

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

Otter and Campbell Lakes Habitat Enhancement and Restoration Phase 1

Laws of Minnesota 2027 Accomplishment Plan

General Information

Date: 10/09/2026

Project Title: Otter and Campbell Lakes Habitat Enhancement and Restoration Phase 1

Funds Recommended: $1,283,000

Legislative Citation:

Appropriation Language:

Manager Information

Manager's Name: Michael Stifter
Title: Public Works Director
Organization: City of Hutchinson
Address: 111 Hassan St SE
City: Hutchinson, MN 55350
Email: mstifter@hutchinsonmn.gov
Office Number: 320-234-4212
Mobile Number: 320-583-4826
Fax Number:
Website: https://hutchinsonmn.gov/

Location Information

County Location(s): McLeod.

Eco regions in which work will take place:

Prairie

Activity types:

Restore

Other : Leverage and Scalable

Priority resources addressed by activity:

Wetlands

Narrative

Abstract

The City of Hutchinson is advancing Phase 1 of a long-term restoration effort for Otter and Campbell Lakes to address sediment accumulation, reduced vegetation, and simplified habitat conditions that remain despite upstream watershed improvements. This phase will remove sediment, construct in-lake habitat features, and establish native vegetation within the South Arm of Otter Lake to improve ecological function. Expected outcomes include enhanced fish and wildlife habitat, improved water clarity, strengthened recreational opportunities, and support for regional ecological priorities. This work forms the foundation for future phases that will extend restoration throughout the connected lake system.

Design and Scope of Work

This project addresses degraded aquatic habitat in Otter and Campbell Lakes, noted by the DNR as Lakes of Biological Significance, caused by long-term sediment accumulation that smothers vegetation and simplifies the lake structure. These impairments have reduced spawning habitat, nursery areas, and food resources for fish, waterfowl, and other wildlife, while contributing to poor water quality through internal nutrient loading. Despite ongoing upstream improvements, in-lake conditions remain a primary limiting factor to ecosystem recovery. This project targets artificially shallow lake habitats critical to fish and migratory birds by restoring water depth, habitat structure, and vegetation.

Phase 1 focuses on the portion of Otter Lake, on/around South Grade Rd, and will be implemented from 2027 to 2030. The scope includes final design, permitting, sediment removal and management, habitat installation, and vegetation establishment. Site assessments—bathymetry, sediment analysis, and ecological surveys—will refine priority treatment areas to maximize habitat benefit and long-term sustainability.

Targeted sediment removal will address internal nutrient loading and restore depth in degraded areas. Sediment will be hydraulically dredged and transported to nearby publicly owned staging areas, reducing costs and avoiding extensive easement acquisition. Following dredging, habitat features such as boulder clusters and anchored woody structure will be installed to increase habitat complexity and support multiple life stages of aquatic species.

Native aquatic vegetation will be established within the littoral zone through planting, seeding, and transplanting. This work will restore shallow water and wetland habitat by stabilizing sediments, improving water clarity, and providing food, cover, and spawning substrate. Together, these actions directly restore and enhance habitat for fish, wildlife, and Species in Greatest Conservation Need.

Project priorities were established through watershed studies, an Environmental Assessment Worksheet, and coordination with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MnDNR) and McLeod Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD). These efforts identified in-lake habitat degradation as a key barrier to ecological recovery. The phased approach targets the most accessible areas first that leverage other city infrastructure projects, aligning construction disturbance along a targeted corridor for less disturbance to the public over time, while positioning for future work in Campbell Lake and the main basin. Proximity to other shallow-water systems and waterfowl production areas increases the project's regional habitat value while adding regional habitat diversity by being one of the larger flow-through lake systems, being situated on the South Fork Crow River.

The project is urgent due to ongoing sediment accumulation and habitat decline. Costs increase and ecological

resilience is reduced if delayed. Implementation aligns with completed planning, established partnerships, and planned city infrastructure improvements that support efficient sediment management. The City of Hutchinson will lead the project alongside partners at the MnDNR, McLeod SWCD, and engineering consultants. Stakeholders include local landowners, lake users, the school district, and the municipal airport, which will provide publicly owned sediment staging areas. Continued coordination and outreach will ensure strong local support.

This effort will restore aquatic/wetland habitat, improve water quality, enhance fish/wildlife populations for Species of Greatest Conservation Need, and support long-term ecosystem function.

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

The Otter and Campbell Lakes Habitat Enhancement and Restoration Project addresses long standing ecological degradation documented in the Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) for the 650-acre impoundment system. The EAW identifies extensive sediment accumulation resulting from decades of upstream agricultural and urban runoff. This sediment loading has reduced lake depth, buried natural substrates, and impaired overall ecological function. Associated impacts include the loss of littoral habitat, diminished water clarity, and limited aquatic vegetation—factors that collectively reduce the quality and availability of spawning areas, nursery habitat, and foraging resources for fish, waterfowl, and other wildlife. Restoration, sediment management, and habitat improvement actions are therefore identified as essential to reversing these trends and restoring the system's ecological integrity.

The project directly responds to these documented impairments through targeted sediment removal, structural habitat installation, and establishment of native aquatic vegetation. The EAW documents how sediment accumulation has degraded substrate and reduced habitat complexity; the planned sediment management activities will restore appropriate depths and conditions suitable for aquatic vegetation growth and fish spawning. Structural habitat elements—including rock reefs, woody debris, and constructed spawning substrate—will increase habitat heterogeneity and support diverse aquatic communities that have been diminished by historical sedimentation and hydrologic modification. Establishing native aquatic vegetation will further stabilize sediments, improve water clarity, enhance nutrient cycling, and create high value shallow water habitat for waterfowl, amphibians, invertebrates, and juvenile fish.

The project also supports broader conservation goals by improving habitat conditions within a shallow lake system hydrologically connected to the South Fork Crow River. While the EAW does not identify federally listed threatened or endangered species within the immediate project area, observations of Species in Greatest Conservation Need are common in these lakes and the lakes are noted as DNR Lakes of Biological Significance. Restoring water quality, vegetation, and habitat complexity enhances the resilience and suitability of the system for these species. Coordination with MnDNR and application of Natural Heritage review procedures will ensure avoidance of impacts to sensitive resources and will support ecological gains, increased biodiversity, and long-term system maintenance.

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

Critical timing elements center on coordination with existing planning, partnerships, and construction windows. The project leverages completed environmental review and prior watershed studies, allowing it to advance efficiently without significant additional study. It is also timed to align with planned city infrastructure improvements, particularly roadway upgrades that enable cost-effective sediment transport and reduce construction impacts.

Seasonal constraints are also critical, as in-lake work must occur within regulatory windows to protect fish spawning, and vegetation establishment must align with growing seasons for success.

A key near-term opportunity is the availability of publicly owned land from the local school district for sediment drying and staging. If these parcels are developed, the project would lose a unique, large-scale, cost-effective disposal option, potentially delaying implementation and increasing costs. Delaying the project also risks continued sediment accumulation and further habitat degradation.

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

The project expands habitat corridors and reduces fragmentation by restoring continuous littoral and aquatic habitat within Otter and Campbell Lakes and strengthening their ecological connection to the South Fork Crow River. The historic dam at the outlet of Otter and Campbell Lakes was replaced with a rock arch rapids ca. 2008, restoring longitudinal connectivity and removing physical barriers. However, for species moving upstream, Otter and Campbell lakes continues to be an ecological desert and limiting factor for longitudinal migration along the river corridor.

Existing conditions have fragmented shallow-water habitat due to sediment accumulation and reduced vegetation, limiting movement of fish and wildlife and isolating critical spawning and nursery areas. Through sediment management, installation of structural habitat, and reestablishment of native aquatic vegetation, the project reconnects nearshore and open-water habitats and creates continuous, high-quality littoral zones. These improvements, combined with upstream stream restoration and sediment forebay implementation, establish a more connected aquatic system that supports movement of fish, enhances waterfowl habitat, and integrates the lakes into a broader, resilient habitat complex within the Prairie region.

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

Minnesota Statewide Conservation & Preservation Plan

Other : South Fork Crow River One Watershed One Plan (1W1P)

Which LSOHC section priorities are addressed in this program?

Prairie

Protect, restore, and enhance shallow lakes

Outcomes

Programs in prairie region:

Protected, restored, and enhanced shallow lakes and wetlands ~ *This project will evaluate 140 acres of shallow lake and wetland and restore within the budgeted amount. Sediment removal and vegetation establishment are expected to increase aquatic plant coverage and improve water clarity, creating conditions that support higher use by ducks and other wetland-dependent wildlife.*

As habitat conditions improve, biological response can be reflected in increased waterfowl counts and recreational angler counts. Fish habitat improvements may also lead to better angling success, which can be observed through

local use and feedback. Over time, maintaining clearer water and stable vegetation communities should increase counts conducted through local recreational and biological survey.

Per MS 97A.056, Subd. 24, Please explain whether the request is supplanting or is a substitution for any previous funding that was not from a legacy fund and was used for the same purpose.

These funds would be used for a specific phase of the overall project. No other funds have been obtained, nor pursued for this particular phase of the project.

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

After Outdoor Heritage Funds are expended, the City of Hutchinson will sustain project outcomes through continued watershed management and local funding commitments. A key component is the implementation of an upstream sediment forebay designed to capture incoming sediment and reduce future sediment loading to Otter and Campbell Lakes. This feature will protect the longevity of in-lake habitat improvements by maintaining water depth and reducing internal nutrient cycling.

The City will be responsible for ongoing inspection, maintenance, and periodic sediment removal from the forebay to ensure it retains its sediment capture capacity and continues to function as designed. Long-term maintenance and monitoring activities will be funded through the City's budget planning process and supported by existing stormwater utility funds. This dedicated funding mechanism ensures that critical infrastructure supporting water quality and habitat improvements remains effective over time.

Actions to Maintain Project Outcomes

Year	Source of Funds	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3
2030	City of Hutchinson	Maintenance/Restoration activities of Forebay	-	-
2028	City of Hutchinson	Inspection of Forebay	Maintenance activities	-

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

The ecological deficiency Otter and Campbell Lakes prevents these public resources from reaching their full potential. There are health and accessibility concerns, that combined with limited ecological function, restrict the usage of these lakes for the public, including the local underserved communities in previously MPCA-identified Environmental Justice Areas of Concern (EJAC). The EJAC community previously defined in Hutchinson included areas where at least 40% of the population is living 185% below the federal poverty level. While this designation has been removed in the last year, the status of the community has not shifted notably with regards to median income; much of the low-income population exists and is underserved.

These improvements will create recreational opportunities for Otter and Campbell Lakes and the surrounding park space. Fishing piers accessible from the parks will better integrate these community amenities into a seamless waterfront experience through additional funding requests. The improvements will also provide greater access and consideration for low- and medium-income populatoins in the region. Lower-income individuals have limited access to the diverse recreational opportunities lakes offer relative to those with access to boats or waterfront property. This project seeks to ensure that all Hutchinson residents who want to enjoy these lakes have opportunity for interaction with high quality ecological resources.

Activity Details

Requirements

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

Will restoration and enhancement work follow best management practices including MS 84.973 Pollinator Habitat Program?
Yes

Is the restoration and enhancement activity on permanently protected land per 97A.056, Subd 13(f), tribal lands, and/or public waters per MS 103G.005, Subd. 15 or on lands to be acquired in this program?
Yes

Where does the activity take place?

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

Timeline

Activity Name	Estimated Completion Date
As-builts	September - October 2029
Punch List	July 2029
Drying and Sediment Disposal	October 2028 - June 2029
In-Lake Sediment Removal (Phase 1)	October 2028 - March 2029
Site Preparation	October - November 2028
Mobilization	October - November 2028
Pre-Construction Meeting	October 2028
Secure Permits	October 2028
Select Contractor	October 2028
Advertisement for Bid	September 2028
Approval of Final Plans and Specifications	September 2028
Approval of Draft Plans	May 2028
Permitting Review	October 2027 - October 2028
Pre-Design Review	September 2027
Natural Resources Delineation	August - September 2027
Geotechnical and Bathymetric Investigation	August - September 2027
Survey	August - September 2027
Easement Negotiations	July - December 2027
Selection of Consultant	July 2027

Date of Final Report Submission: 10/01/2030

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	-	-	-	-
Contracts	$1,000,000	-	-	$1,000,000
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	-	-	-	-
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	-	-	-	-
Easement Acquisition	-	-	-	-
Easement Stewardship	-	-	-	-
Travel	-	-	-	-
Professional Services	$283,000	$128,300	City of Hutchinson Funds - 10% Match	$411,300
Direct Support Services	-	-	-	-
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	-	-	-	-
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	-	-	-	-
Supplies/Materials	-	-	-	-
DNR IDP	-	-	-	-
Grand Total	**$1,283,000**	**$128,300**	**-**	**$1,411,300**

Amount of Request: $1,283,000
Amount of Leverage: $128,300
Leverage as a percent of the Request: 10.0%
DSS + Personnel: -
As a % of the total request: 0.0%
Easement Stewardship: -
As a % of the Easement Acquisition: -

How will this program accommodate the reduced appropriation recommendation from the original proposed requested amount?
It is anticipated that the targeted area for sedimentation removal will be reduced. A majority of the funding may be used for fixed upfront costs (design, permitting, and mobilization), limiting the amount that will be available for actual sedimentation removal activities.

Detail leverage sources and confirmation of funds:
The City remains committed to the 10% match, utilizing already budgeted City funds in support of the project.

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?
At 50% funding, Phase 1 could still complete targeted sediment removal and limited habitat installation in

priority areas. This would improve localized water quality and fish habitat, demonstrating ecological benefits and building momentum, but would reduce overall habitat acreage restored or potentially limit proposed impacted acreage to enhancement only.

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

Contracts

What is included in the contracts line?

Professional Services

What is included in the Professional Services line?

Design/Engineering

Other : Temporary easement acquisition

Surveys

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	10	-	-	130	140
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	-	-	-	-	-
Total	**10**	**-**	**-**	**130**	**140**

Total Requested Funding by Resource Type (Table 2)

Type	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat	Total Funding
Restore	-	-	-	$1,283,000	$1,283,000
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	-	-	-	-	-
Total	**-**	**-**	**-**	**$1,283,000**	**$1,283,000**

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	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	**-**	**-**	**-**	**140**	**-**	**140**

Total Requested Funding within each Ecological Section (Table 4)

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest	Total Funding
Restore	-	-	-	$1,283,000	-	$1,283,000
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	**-**	**-**	**-**	**$1,283,000**	**-**	**$1,283,000**

Average Cost per Acre by Resource Type (Table 5)

Type	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat
Restore	-	-	-	$9,869
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-
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	-	-	-	$9,164	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	-	-	-	-	-

Target Lake/Stream/River Feet or Miles

Parcels

Parcel Information

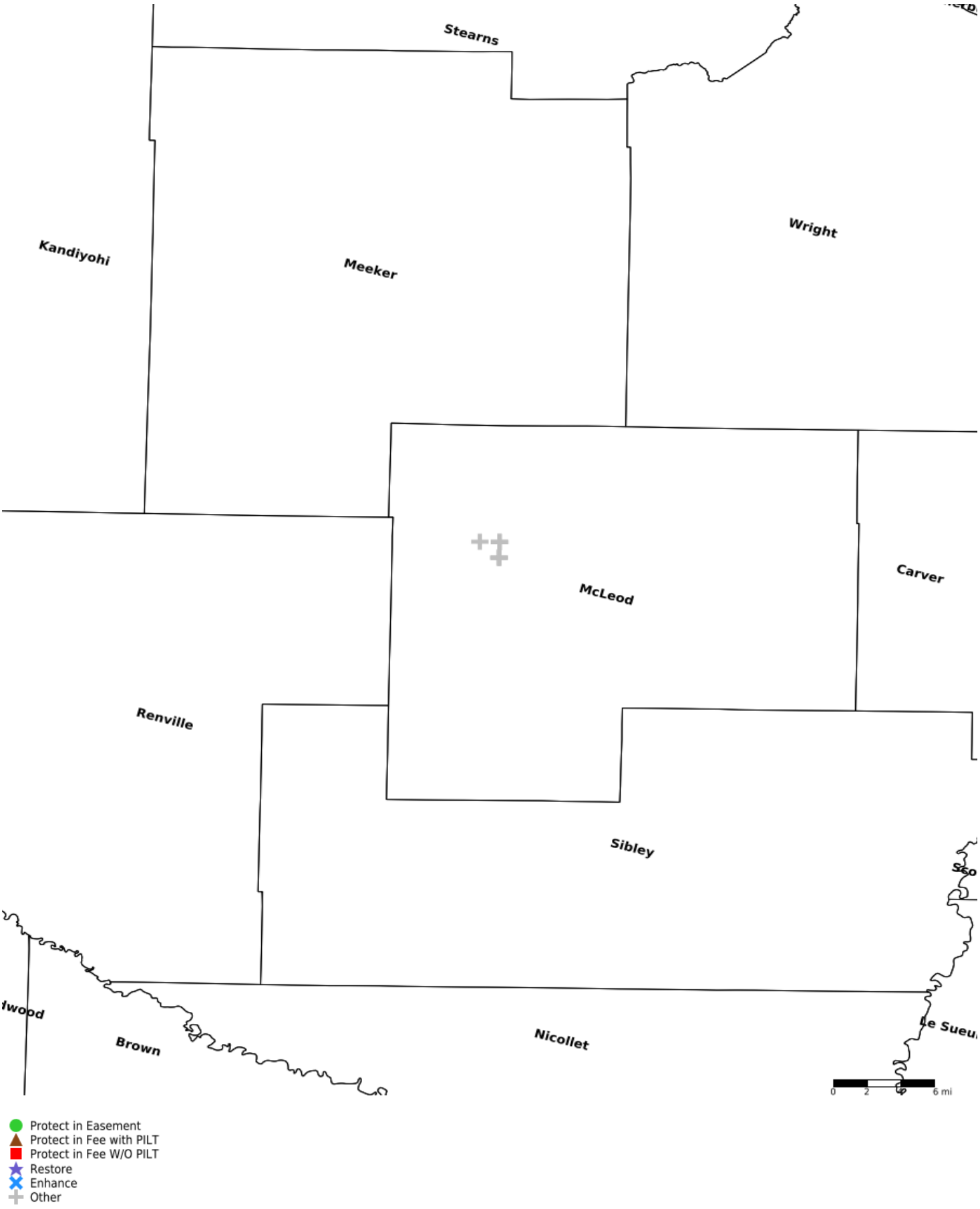
Sign-up Criteria?
No

Explain the process used to identify, prioritize, and select the parcels on your list:
All restoration is occuring within public waters. All other parcels were identified as publicly owned and are only for staging and disposal of removed sediment material. There were identified and prioritized to expedite the project timeline and minimize costs to remove sediment from the lakes, making this projecty more economically efficient.

Other Parcels

Name	County	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection
City Parcel 1	McLeod	1163012	71	$0	No
City Parcel 2	McLeod	1163012	19	$0	No
City Parcel 3	McLeod	1163012	4	$0	No
City Parcel 4	McLeod	1163012	5	$0	No
City Parcel 5	McLeod	1163013	161	$0	No
City Parcel 6	McLeod	1163013	12	$0	No
City Parcel 7	McLeod	1163013	9	$0	No
ISD 423 Parcel 1	McLeod	1163012	9	$25,000	No
ISD 423 Parcel 2	McLeod	1163011	71	$100,000	No

Parcel Map


Stearns
Kandiyohi
Meeker
Wright
McLeod
Carver
Renville
Sibley
Nicollet
Brown
0
2
6 mi
Protect in Easement
Protect in Fee with PILT
Protect in Fee W/O PILT
Restore
Enhance
Other

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

Otter and Campbell Lakes Habitat Enhancement and Restoration Phase 1

Comparison Report

Program Title: ML 2027 - Otter and Campbell Lakes Habitat Enhancement and Restoration Phase 1
Organization: City of Hutchinson
Manager: Michael Stifter

Budget

Requested Amount: $3,000,000
Appropriated Amount: $1,283,000
Percentage: 42.77%

Item	Requested Proposal	Leverage Proposal	Appropriated AP	Leverage AP	Percent of Request	Percent of Leverage
Personnel	-	-	-	-	-	-
Contracts	$2,575,000	$300,000	$1,000,000	-	38.83%	0.0%
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	-	-	-	-	-	-
Easement Acquisition	-	-	-	-	-	-
Easement Stewardship	-	-	-	-	-	-
Travel	-	-	-	-	-	-
Professional Services	$425,000	-	$283,000	$128,300	66.59%	-
Direct Support Services	-	-	-	-	-	-
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	-	-	-	-	-	-
Supplies/Materials	-	-	-	-	-	-
DNR IDP	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grand Total	**$3,000,000**	**$300,000**	**$1,283,000**	**$128,300**	**42.77%**	**42.77%**

If the project received 70% of the requested funding

Describe how the scaling would affect acres/activities and if not proportionately reduced, why?
At 50% funding, Phase 1 could still complete targeted sediment removal and limited habitat installation in priority areas. This would improve localized water quality and fish habitat, demonstrating ecological benefits and building momentum, but would reduce overall habitat acreage restored or potentially limit proposed impacted acreage to enhancement only.

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

If the project received 50% of the requested funding

Describe how the scaling would affect acres/activities and if not proportionately reduced, why?
At 30% funding, the project would not be successful because fixed upfront costs—such as final design, permitting, and mobilization—would consume most available funds. Insufficient resources would remain for meaningful sediment removal or habitat installation, preventing measurable habitat improvements and limiting ecological benefits or demonstration of project effectiveness.

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

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	0	-	-
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	$3,000,000	$1,283,000	42.77%
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-
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	140	140	100.0%
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	-	-
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	$3,000,000	$1,283,000	42.77%
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-
Enhance	-	-	-