

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

MEMO: Agenda Item #15
DATE: June 29, 2016
SUBJECT: ML 2016, Ch. 172, Art. 1, Sec . 2 Accomplishment Plans
PRESENTER: Sandy Smith, Project Analyst Manager, LSOHC

Suggested Motion:

Move to approve all of the accomplishment plans for the ML 2016 appropriations as provided in the LSOHC member binders.

Council members may remove plans for further discussion or approval at an upcoming meeting.

Background:

MS 97A.056, Subd. 12 requires recipients of Outdoor Heritage Funds to submit accomplishment plans to the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council in the form prescribed by the council for council approval. Those accomplishment plans are the deliverables tied to expenditure of the appropriation. Programs whose accomplishment plans conform to the submitted proposal, draft accomplishment plan (APs), and appropriation language are placed on the consent list.

In order to enable managers to start spending July 1, 2016, the council must approve the APs at the June 29th council meeting.

Program managers have reviewed and updated their draft APs that were submitted in October, 2015 for final approval by the council. Staff has attached a spreadsheet highlighting significant changes from the October 2015 draft APs.

All managers receiving money in ML 2016 appropriation are up to date with status updates and final reports. Final Reports for ML 2011 are due November 1, 2016. Staff will report back at the November 14th meeting with another update.

Attachments:

LSOHC member binders and spreadsheet with list of accomplishment plan changes.

ML 2016/FY 2017 LSOHC FINAL Accomplishment Plans

Subd.	Project Title	Organization	Program Manager	Appropriation	Staff Notes
2(a)	DNR Wildlife Management Area and Scientific and Natural Area Acquisition - Phase VIII	MN DNR	Patrick Rivers	\$3,250,000	DSS reduced from \$21,000 to \$10,000
2(b)	Accelerating Wildlife Management Area Acquisition - Phase VIII	Pheasants Forever, Inc.	Eran Sandquist	\$5,229,000	One parcel has existing protection, explained on pg 4
2(c)	Martin County/Fox Lake Wildlife Management Area Acquisition	Fox Lake Conservation League, Inc.	Doug Hartke	\$1,000,000	Parcel has existing protection, explained on pg 3
2(d)	Northern Tallgrass Prairie National Wildlife Refuge Land Acquisition - Phase VII	The Nature Conservancy	Richard Johnson	\$2,754,000	Addition of fringe benefits language approved for TNC programs by the council on 10/7/2014
2(e)	Cannon River Headwaters Habitat Complex - Phase VI	The Trust for Public Land	Bob McGillivray	\$583,000	
2(f)	Accelerated Native Prairie Bank Protection - Phase V	MN DNR	Judy Schulte	\$2,541,000	Language for trails updated per November follow up for DNR, DSS reduced from \$28,100 to \$18,500
2(g)	Reinvest In Minnesota (RIM) Buffers for Wildlife and Water - Phase VI	BWSR	Tabor Hoek	\$6,708,000	How does the buffer law affect this?
2(h)	Prairie Chicken Habitat Partnership of the Southern Red River Valley - Phase II	MN Prairie Chicken Society / Pheasants Forever, Inc.	Eran Sandquist	\$2,269,000	
2(i)	Grassland Conservation Partnership - Phase II	The Conservation Fund	Steve Hobbs	\$1,475,000	Added work in the Forest/Prairie Transition Region, parcel in Kittson County was added
2(j)	Accelerated Prairie Restoration and Enhancement on DNR Lands - Phase VIII	MN DNR Wildlife	Greg Hoch	\$3,983,000	Pg 5 Outcome section incomplete, DSS reduced from \$373,300 to \$172,000
2(k)	Anoka Sandplain Habitat Restoration and Enhancement - Phase IV	Great River Greening	Wiley Buck	\$1,208,000	
3(a)	Young Forest Conservation - Phase II	American Bird Conservancy	George Fenwick	\$1,369,000	
3(b)	Jack Pine Forest/Crow Wing River Watershed Habitat Acquisition	MN Deer Hunters Association	Craig Engwall	\$3,570,000	New budget and outputs with new \$ amount, new MDHA board resolution attached
3(c)	Camp Ripley Partnership - Phase VI	Morrison SWCD	Helen McLennan	\$1,500,000	
3(d)	Southeast Minnesota Protection and Restoration - Phase IV	The Nature Conservancy	Richard Biske	\$5,000,000	Added work in the Prairie Region
3(e)	Minnesota Forests for the Future - Phase IV	MN DNR Forestry	Richard F. Peterson	\$1,840,000	Minor budget shifts, DSS reduced from \$8,000 to \$3,000
3(f)	Protect Key Forest Lands in Cass County - Phase VII	Cass County	Joshua Stevenson	\$500,000	Trail question not answered, acre output reduced from 481 to 377, new parcels added as the previous parcels were acquired with earlier OHF appropriation
3(g)	State Forest Acquisitions - Phase III	MN DNR Forestry	Robert Milne	\$1,000,000	DSS reduced from \$9,000 to \$2,900, added Fillmore and Olmsted Counties to list
3(h)	Forest Habitat Protection Revolving Account	MN DNR Forestry	Richard F. Peterson	\$1,000,000	Minor budget shifts, DSS reduced from \$13,400 to \$4,000
3(i)	Mississippi River Floodplain Forest Enhancement - Phase II	Audubon Minnesota	Tim Schlagenhaft	\$412,000	
3(j)	Protecting Forest Wildlife Habitat in the Wild Rice River Watershed	White Earth Nation	Lorena Vogt	\$2,188,000	
4(a)	Accelerating the Waterfowl Production Area Acquisition - Phase VIII	Pheasants Forever, Inc.	Eran Sandquist	\$5,650,000	Minor budget shifts increase contracts, reduce Fee Acquisition
4(b)	Shallow Lake and Wetland Protection Program - Phase V	Ducks Unlimited	Jon Schneider	\$5,801,000	One parcel has existing protection
4(c)	RIM Wetlands Partnership - Phase VII	Board of Water and Soil Resources	Dave Rickert	\$13,808,000	
4(d)	Wetland Habitat Protection Program - Phase II	Minnesota Land Trust	Kris Larson	\$1,629,000	
4(e)	Accelerated Shallow Lakes and Wetlands Enhancement - Phase VIII	MN DNR	Ricky Lien	\$2,167,000	Minor budget shifts, DSS reduced from \$223,000 to \$109,000, acres increased from 7,348 to 9,425
4(f)	Marsh Lake - Phase II	MN DNR Div. of Fish and Wildlife	Ricky Lien	\$2,000,000	
5(a)	DNR Aquatic Habitat Protection - Phase VIII	MN DNR	Martin Jennings	\$1,578,000	Minor budget shifts
5(b)	Metro Big Rivers Habitat - Phase VII	Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Trust, Inc. (Metro Big Rivers)	Deborah Loon	\$4,000,000	
5(c)	Mississippi Headwaters Habitat Corridor Partnership - Phase II	Mississippi Headwaters Board	Tim Terrill	\$3,150,000	Trail question explained since draft AP
5(d)	Fisheries Habitat Protection on Strategic North Central Minnesota Lakes - Phase II	Leech Lake Area Watershed Foundation	Lindsey Ketchel	\$1,425,000	Deleted reference in narrative to 8 easements on the bottom of pg 8 where previously stated, roads and trail question not answered
5(e)	Minnesota Trout Unlimited Coldwater Fish Habitat Enhancement and Restoration - Phase VIII	Minnesota Trout Unlimited	John Lenczewski	\$1,975,000	Included money is DSS which came from original personnel budget, extended timeline due to shortened R/E season in Northern MN streams
5(f)	DNR Stream Habitat	MN DNR	Brian Nerbonne	\$2,074,000	Minor budget shifts, DSS reduced from \$99,300 to \$40,000
5(g)	St. Louis River Restoration Initiative - Phase III	MN DNR	John Lindgren	\$2,707,000	Budget shifts, DSS reduced from \$184,500 to \$66,000, lost \$10 million on GLRI leverage, reduced acres from 225 to 40, email responses attached.
5(h)	Sand Hill River Fish Passage - Phase II	Sand Hill River Watershed District	Daniel Wilkens	\$828,000	Addition of advancement language per council direction
5(i)	Shell Rock River Watershed Habitat Restoration Program - Phase V	Shell Rock River Watershed District	Andy Henschel	\$1,200,000	
5(j)	Roseau Lake Rehabilitation	MN DNR, Roseau River Watershed District	Randy Prachar	\$2,763,000	Timeline updated
5(k)	Conservation Partners Legacy Grant Program: Statewide and Metro Habitat - Phase VIII	MN DNR	Jessica Lee	\$7,438,000	
6(a)	Contract Management	MN DNR	Katherine Sherman-Hoehn	\$150,000	
6(b)	Technical Evaluation Panel	MN DNR	Wade Johnson	\$125,000	

Total: \$109,847,000

Amanda Brazee

From: Lindgren, John P (DNR) <john.lindgren@state.mn.us>
Sent: Thursday, June 02, 2016 8:52 AM
To: MacGregor, Molly (DNR); Wilson, Grant (DNR); Sandy Smith
Subject: RE: Accomplishment Plan follow up requested - 5(g)

All:

Thanks to Molly for sending the first response. We are short staffed at the moment and there has been a strong need to be at the Knowlton Creek Stream Restoration Project, so I was not able to provide my input. Molly's information is correct, but I will add a bit of further clarification. At the time we wrote the draft Accomplishments Plan, we were in a discussion with MPCA, USEPA and USACE about how we were going to apply funding to complete projects. The MPCA had expressed a desire to transfer OHF funds to the USACE to complete work at specific sites in the Area of Concern (Grassy, Kingsbury, 21st, and 40th). We (MNDNR) determined that we should not directly appropriate funds to the USACE based on our experience on the Mississippi. The proposed strategy was for MNDNR to complete the Grassy and Kingsbury projects with OHF and Superfund NRDA settlement funds, with design support from USACE, and MPCA/USACE would complete 21st and 40th. We would use federal funds expended at 21st and 40th as match/leverage to OHF funds applied to Grassy and Kingsbury. Therefore, we claimed the acreage of the 21st and 40th and the federal funds applied to them. Based on further discussion partners, we changed our strategy, which was after the AP was submitted. We are now operating under a tentative agreement with USEPA and MPCA that approximately \$3 million in federal funds will be applied to Grassy Point and the Kingsbury Project will be heavily supported by the Superfund Natural Resource Damage Assessment settlement. We did not claim the NRDA in ML2016, because it is not quite final. We will be applying that to the ML2017 AP, if we are fortunate enough to be allocated funding.

The general guidance given to us recently by St. Paul was to only claim match that has a very high probability of being received. If we had received that level of guidance last fall, we may not have claimed the \$10 million and the acreage of the matched projects.

It may make sense for Molly and I to come down when you have the non-consent hearings to describe this relatively complicated situation to the Council. On a more positive note, this situation should not repeat itself on a potential ML2017 AP. Hopefully this does not jade the perception of the St. Louis River Restoration Initiative in the eyes of the council.

Thank you,

John Lindgren
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
St. Louis River AOC Coordinator

From: MacGregor, Molly (DNR)
Sent: Wednesday, June 01, 2016 8:38 AM
To: Lindgren, John P (DNR); Wilson, Grant (DNR); Sandy Smith (sandy.smith@lsohc.leg.mn)
Subject: RE: Accomplishment Plan follow up requested - 5(g)

Hi Sandy:

This is to follow-up on the voice mail I left you. I am answering on behalf of John, who is in the field at Knowlton Creek most of today.

In May 2015, the DNR St. Louis River Team requested \$10 million from USEPA for GLRI funds for the work outlined in the original 2016 proposal. At that point, we anticipated matching those funds with other projects in the estuary led by MPCA (21st Ave W and 40th Ave W). That's why we used that number and acreage in the 2016 proposal.

After discussions with DNR leadership, we are refining the proposal to reflect only the work DNR is leading at Grassy Point, which is slightly more than \$3 million (the original request was \$3 million for each of the projects plus money for staff). Leadership's directive was to report DNR work directly. However, this is different than what was proposed and from the way we have presented earlier proposals.

We are more than willing to meet with you and council members in person to make sure that this change is clear to all and consistent with council's goals and vision.

I will try to call you again this afternoon, and I know John will be talking to you tomorrow.

Thanks in advance,

Molly

Molly MacGregor
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From: Sandy Smith [<mailto:sandy.smith@sohc.leg.mn>]
Sent: Tuesday, May 31, 2016 2:08 PM
To: Lindgren, John P (DNR)
Cc: Joe Pavelko; Mark Johnson; Amanda Brazee; Wilson, Grant (DNR)
Subject: Accomplishment Plan follow up requested - 5(g)

John –

In reviewing the AP for Council review on June 29th it was noticed that a large amount (\$10.3 million) of leverage, original to the draft accomplishment plan was not included in the final draft. In addition, the acres (outputs) were dramatically reduced as well. Can you address this? I am sure the Council will have some concern over this change. Did the federal GLRI not come through? It looks like the anticipated date of the federal funds, originally thought to be December 2015, was changed to December 2016.

Sandy Smith
Project Analyst Manager
Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council
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