

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council
Walker, MN Area Habitat Tour
Outdoor Heritage Funded Program Sites
 June 28, 2017

The public is welcome to join any of the stops on this tour.
 For questions or to request disability accommodations: Becky Enfield: 651-284-6430
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Wednesday, June 28th, 2017

Time	Site Name / Description	Location/Notes
10:00 am	Depart from Country Inn, Walker, MN	442 Walker Bay Blvd Walker, MN 56484
10:20 am – 11:00 am	<u>LESTER LAKE AMA</u> The Lester Lake SNA/AMA is a cooperative project between MN Dept. of Natural Resources (DNR), Divisions of Ecological & Water Resources and Fish & Wildlife, Trust for Public Lands (TPL), and the Kabekona Lake Foundation (KLF). The Area is 440 acres, with 120 acres designated as AMA and 320 acres designated as SNA. It completely surrounds 56 acre Lester Lake, and is located within the Kabekona Lake watershed. <u>(Conservation Partners Legacy (CPL) grant to Trust for Public Land and Kabekona Lake Foundation)</u> <u>(ML 2009, Ch. 172, Art. 1, Sec. 2, Subd. 5(b): Aquatic Management Area Acquisition – Phase 1)</u>	28554 CR-37 Laporte, MN 56461
11:05 am – 11:25 am	<u>KABEKONA WMA</u> In 2015, jack pine was planted on seven acres of Kabekona WMA. Funding for this project came from a Jack Pine Woodland Enhancement project, funded in FY12. The goal of the project was to enhance natural jack pine woodlands in north-central MN. Funds were used for site preparation, tree planting, bud-capping, seeding and prescribed burning on Wildlife Management areas and State Forests in Beltrami, Cass, Hubbard and Wadena Counties. In addition, wetlands on the WMA were treated with herbicide to kill sections of hybrid cattail. Additional herbicide treatments are planned for these wetland, which will create open water areas valuable to waterfowl. <u>(ML 2011, First Sp. Session, Ch. 6, Art. 1, Sec. 2, Subd. 3(c): Accelerated Forest Habitat Enhancement – Phase 2)</u>	27356 Mallard Drive Laporte, MN 56461

<p>12:00 pm – 12:45 pm</p>	<p>BADOURA JACK PINE WOODLAND SNA The SNA encompasses 877 acres of land in the Pine Moraines and Outwash Plains sub section of the MN Drift and Lake Plains (MDL) Ecological Section and supports one of the largest remaining stands of native jack pine woodland in the MDL. <i><u>(ML 2011, First Sp. Session, Ch. 6, Art. 1, Sec. 2, Subd. 2(a): WMA, SNA, Prairie Bank Easement Acquisition – Phase 3)</u></i> <i><u>ML 2013, Ch. 137, Art. 1, Sec. 2, Subd. 2(c): WMA, SNA, Prairie Bank Easement Acquisition – Phase 5)</u></i> <i><u>(ML 2014, Ch. 256, Art. 1, Sec. 2, Subd. 3(c): Protecting Pinelands Sands Aquifer Forestlands and Aquatic Habitat – Phase 1)</u></i></p>	<p>140th Street Nevis, MN 56467</p>
<p>1:05 pm - 1:35pm</p>	<p>HUNTERSVILLE WMA In 2013, five sites on Huntersville WMA were planted to jack pine. A total of 12 acres were planted and bud-capped on the unit that year. The work was funded by the Park Rapids Jack Pine Management project, an FY11 appropriation. Project dollars went towards jack pine reforestation projects on four Wildlife Management Areas in the Park Rapids work area. Funds were used for site preparation, jack pine planting and bud-capping. <i><u>(ML 2010, Ch. 361, Art. 1, Sec. 2, Subd. 3(d): Accelerated Forest Wildlife Habitat Program – Phase 1)</u></i></p>	<p>26529 CR-19 Sebeka, MN 56477</p>
<p>2:05 pm – 2:55 pm</p>	<p>KAISER WILD RICE RIM EASEMENT In 2012 BWSR in partnership with Ducks Unlimited and DNR began the first of five phases of L-SOHC recommended projects to protect wild rice shoreland habitat. Most of the shoreland protection has been accomplished through wild rice easements in a six county area of north-central Minnesota. Wild rice is very high quality habitat, especially for waterfowl during migration. The first phase of the wild rice program protected 10 miles of wild rice shoreland through 15 conservation easements and 4 fee title projects. <i><u>(ML 2011, First Special Session, Chapter 6, Article 1, Section 2, Subdivision 4(c): Shallow Lake Shoreland Protection: Wild Rice Lakes)</u></i></p>	<p>3340 2nd St NW Backus, MN 56435</p>
<p>3:15 pm – 4:00 pm</p>	<p>CASS COUNTY FOREST ACQUISITION This 80 acre site in Hiram Township is part of a project to permanently protect 585 acres of forest wildlife habitat. The site is bordered by School Trust and Tax Forfeited Trust land on three sides. Nearby, the County was able to acquire an additional 200 acres of Potlatch land. This site was harvested approximately 20 years ago and would be expected to be harvested again in 2037. This grant was completed in January</p>	<p>5312 County 40 NW Hackensack, MN 56452</p>

	<p>2016. <u>(ML 2014, Ch. 256, Art. 1, Sec. 2, Subd. 3(d): Protecting Key Forest Lands in Cass County)</u></p>	
<p>4:15 pm – 6:00 pm</p>	<p>AIS INSPECTION AND TEN MILE LAKE BOAT TOUR OF MLT EASEMENTS AIS Inspection The Cass County project provides advanced training for inspectors in conflict resolution, techniques to de-escalate confrontations, and basic precepts in limnology and ecology of common AIS. E-learning opportunities are being explored to share the advanced training materials with other counties. The additional knowledge gained through this project has resulted in inspectors being more comfortable encouraging people to change behaviors because they have a knowledge base to explain the impacts of AIS prevention as well as skills to deflect conflict. Numerous other counties and lake associations have inquired about replicating the advanced training. In 2017, the training will be open to lake associations and resorts in addition to DNR-trained watercraft inspectors. <u>(ML 2014, Ch. 256, Art 1, Sec. 2, Subd. 5(k): Evaluate the Effectiveness of AIS Prevention Strategies)</u></p> <p>Ten Mile Lake MLT Easements Fisheries research has shown that healthy watersheds with intact forests are fundamental to good fish habitat; if at least 75% of a lake's watershed is forested and permanently protected, the lake has a high probability of sustaining clean water and a healthy lake ecosystem that supports fish. Ten Mile Lake is one of 31 targeted Tullibee Refuge Lakes that are the focus of habitat protection to achieve that 75% goal. The Leech Lake Area Watershed Foundation and the Minnesota Land Trust are working collaboratively with the Ten Mile Lake Association, Minnesota DNR, BWSR and other partners through several funding sources to advance land protection in the watershed in pursuit of that goal. On this tour, we will board pontoon boats and tour Ten Mile Lake, learning about targeted land protection in the watershed, how Outdoor Heritage Fund monies complement other funds being used in the watershed, and view one of the OHF-funded conservation easements on the lake. <u>(ML 2014, Ch. 256, Art. 1, Sec. 2, Subd. 5(b): Fisheries Habitat Protection on Strategic North Central Minnesota Lakes)</u></p>	<p>6412 Bear Paw Trail NW Hackensack, MN 56452 (MN DNR Public Boat Access)</p> <p>Council will board boats to tour sites. Public is welcome, but will need to provide their own watercraft.</p>
<p>6:00 pm</p>	<p>End of tour and depart for Walker, MN</p>	

NOTE: All tour sites may or may not require walking through uneven terrain with ticks, flies, and mosquitoes. Please dress and plan accordingly!