

Senator Bill Ingebrigtsen
Assistant Majority Leader
3207 MN Senate Building
95 University Avenue West
Saint Paul, MN 55155-1606
651-297-8063
Sen.Bill.Ingebrigtsen@senate.mn



Senate

State of Minnesota

September 18, 2018

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Committee Members,

On June 28th the committee acted on a request for an extension on a previously approved project. This extension "Agenda item #11" is for a project "Evaluate Effectiveness of AIS Prevention Strategies" which is aimed to combat AIS. This important project failed on a tie. As a former member of the LSOHC and Chairman of the Senate Environment Finance Committee I am respectfully asking you to reconsider that vote.

I do not make this ask lightly. We all know the importance that these dollars can play in finding ways to combat AIS. A simple extension request, so that the private funding already secured is not lost, in my eyes is not unreasonable. If you have any questions I can be reached at Sen.Bill.Ingebrigtsen@senate.mn or at 651-297-8063 at any time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bill".

Bill Ingebrigtsen
Minnesota State Senator
District 8

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SOIL AND WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT



September 26, 2018

Mark Johnson
Executive Director
Lessard Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

Dear Mr. Johnson,

I am writing in support of the Initiative Foundation request for an extension of the grant to support innovative strategies to prevent the spread of AIS to the state's lakes and waterways. I am the Itasca County AIS Coordinator and a recipient of a \$210,000 Initiative Foundation grant for our multi-region Resort Ambassador Project. The project is led by AIS Coordinators from the Lake Vermilion area, Itasca and Cass Counties.

Itasca County's first year in this project has been spent building relationships within the Resort community and trying to implement watercraft inspection and early detection programs by these resorts. We are just now winning the support of a small group of resort owners. A one-year extension would enable us to reach many more resorts and implement many of the programs we had hoped would be up and running by now.

We are at a crucial time in our efforts to build a critical mass of participating resorts in Itasca county. Without continued use of our awarded grant funds into the 2019 season we will not be able to implement many of the programs we have offered to resorts. With continued access to our already awarded funding I am confident the Itasca County Resort Ambassador Project will be able to bring a significant number of resorts on board by the end of the 2019 season. These resorts would be engaging many thousands of guests and public that use their landings. We have found that on some lakes the traffic at a resort's landing is higher than that of that lake's public water access site where we station DNR certified AIS Inspectors. This represents a major previously unmeasured vector for the introduction of AIS into our pristine lakes.

Please award the one-year extension the Initiative Foundation is requesting. The extension will enable a significant reduction in the risk of new AIS infestations in Itasca County.

Best regards,

Bill Grantges
Itasca County AIS Program Coordinator
218-256-4243
Coordinator@ItascaAIS.Info





September 26, 2018

Mark Johnson, Executive Director
Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
State Office Building, Room 95
St. Paul, MN

Dear Director Johnson,

The Vermilion Lake Association supports the Initiative Foundation's request to extend the end date of its Multi-Region Resort Ambassador Project from Jun 30, 2019 until Jun 30, 2020. No additional funding is requested, only an opportunity to use the project funds to work with resorts during the entire 2019 season.

The Multi-Region Resort Ambassador Project is an aquatic invasive species (AIS) partnership among Itasca County, Cass County, and the Lake Vermilion region in St Louis County. The goal is to develop and test innovative ways to extend the traditional AIS work at public accesses to the private resort, lodge, campground and marina environment.

The Vermilion Lake Association conducted a small pilot at a couple Vermilion resorts in 2016. It quickly became clear the issues were different from public accesses, and unique solutions would need to be developed. We also realized the best solutions at Lake Vermilion would be different from those in other areas.

With Initiative Foundations assistance, we were delighted to partner with Itasca and Cass to simultaneously test our best ideas in multiple regions to speed the learning. The project is working well, and we look forward to deploying and evaluating a second round of solutions during a full 2019 season.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeff Lovgren". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jeff" being more prominent than the last name "Lovgren".

Jeff Lovgren, AIS Program Coordinator
281-753-2413
lovgren.jeff@gmail.com

TO PROTECT AND IMPROVE LAKE VERMILION

P.O. Box 696 • Tower, MN 55790 • www.VermilionLakeAssociation.org

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

MEMO: Agenda Item #11

DATE: June 28, 2018

SUBJECT: **Action:** Request for Extension of Availability of Appropriation
ML 2014, 5(k) Evaluate Effectiveness of Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Strategies

PRESENTER: Don Hickman, Executive Director, Initiative Foundation.

Suggested Motion:

Motion by Councilmember XX for the Council to approve/deny the extension of appropriation availability for ML2014, 5(k) **“Evaluate Effectiveness of Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Strategies”** until June 30, 2020 (one year) to be included in the ML2019 OHF recommendations bill.

Background:

ML2014, 5(k) **“Evaluate Effectiveness of Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Strategies”** was a \$4,040,000 appropriation to the Initiative Foundation to “develop a series of pilot projects to enhance aquatic habitat by preventing the spread of aquatic invasive species, including pilot projects conducting education and outreach, inspection and decontamination, enforcement, and other activities. All pilot projects must be conducted on a reimbursement basis and require a match of non-Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars. A required evaluation of results must be funded with Non-Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars. The required evaluation must evaluate the efficacy of inspection and decontamination activities utilized in any of the pilot projects in preventing the spread of aquatic invasive species.” The appropriation’s current availability is until June 30, 2019.

Additional background material is in the attached Initiative Foundation submission.

Attachments: Background sheet, accomplishment plan amendment

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405 First Street SE
Little Falls, MN 56345



ifound.org

In June 2014, the Minnesota Legislature accepted the recommendation of the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council (LSOHC) and awarded \$4,040,000 to Initiative Foundation to:

“...develop a series of pilot projects to enhance aquatic habitat by preventing the spread of aquatic invasive species, including pilot projects conducting education and outreach, inspection and decontamination, enforcement, and other activities. All pilot projects must be conducted on a reimbursement basis and require a match of non-Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars. A required evaluation of results must be funded with non-Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars. The required evaluation must evaluate the efficacy of inspection and decontamination activities utilized in any of the pilot projects in preventing the spread of aquatic invasive species.” This appropriation is available until June 30, 2019.

This project has successfully engaged with over 17 projects throughout the state and continues to support 14 that have remained active in their delivery of innovative activities and strategies to treat and/or prevent the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS). Per our original legislative authorization, the total project is scheduled to conclude by June 30, 2019. The seven projects initiated in the past year request that the LSOHC consider allowing a short extension. This would allow continued data collection through summer 2019 (at no additional cost to the state). Stated formally, the Initiative Foundation would like to request approval from the Outdoor Heritage Council of a one-year extension of availability to our appropriation. This would allow us to continue to support AIS prevention activities through September 30, 2019, with all final reporting submitted to Council staff before June 30, 2020.

Background

In the first year and one-half of this effort, fewer quality projects were supported, in part because local project hosts were not prepared to provide matching funds, and/or with the unexpected creation of the “State AIS Aid” funding stream, many projects focused on this (less restrictive) source of revenue. Over time and with adequate planning, many quality projects were advanced, with the last seven approved in the winter of 2017-2018.

Because of the practical impossibility of “proving the absence” of AIS, at the inception of this project staff at the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council encouraged the Initiative Foundation to support efforts for as many “seasons” as possible to add rigor and analytical integrity to claims that specific activities had been successful at excluding or containing AIS. For projects approved in 2015 and 2016 we will have two to three years of “recreational seasons” upon which to base conclusions and recommendations. For projects approved since autumn 2017, the summer of 2018 is likely to represent the only full season of data collection and analysis unless the requested extension is approved. This includes seven total projects:



- Voyageurs National Park, \$800,000, Invasive cattail management
- Greater Lake Sylvia (Wright County), \$623,340, mandatory boat inspections
- Sportsmen's Club of Lake Vermilion (St. Louis County), \$31,775, Faster boat inspection process
- Itasca County (including Cass, Itasca, and St. Louis Counties), \$210,000, partnership with Resorts to prevent AIS
- Citizen's League, \$53,000, evaluation of management structures that support AIS prevention
- Carver County, \$22,000, habitat management near boat access to reduce AIS
- Aitkin County Soil and Water Conservation District, \$36,000, bait bucket water replacement

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

Laws of Minnesota 2014 Accomplishment Plan



Date: February 03, 2017

Program or Project Title: Evaluate Effectiveness of AIS Prevention Strategies

Funds Recommended: \$ 4,040,000

Manager's Name: Don Hickman

Title: Vice President for Community and Economic Development

Organization: Initiative Foundation

Address: 405 1st Street SE

City: Little Falls, MN 56345

Office Number: 320-632-9255

Mobile Number: 218-821-5623

Fax Number: 320-632-9258

Email: dhickman@ifound.org

Website: www.ifound.org

Legislative Citation: ML 2014, Ch. 256, Art. 1, Sec. 2, Subd. 5(k)

Appropriation Language: \$4,040,000 in the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Central Minnesota Initiative Fund to develop a series of pilot projects to enhance aquatic habitat by preventing the spread of aquatic invasive species, including pilot projects conducting education and outreach, inspection and decontamination, enforcement, and other activities. All pilot projects must be conducted on a reimbursement basis and require a match of nonoutdoor heritage fund dollars. A required evaluation of results must be funded with nonoutdoor heritage fund dollars. The required evaluation must evaluate the efficacy of inspection and decontamination activities utilized in any of the pilot projects in preventing the spread of aquatic invasive species. A list of pilot projects must be included in the required final report. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2019. The accomplishment plan must accelerate the start of the pilot project.

County Locations: Not Listed

Regions in which work will take place:

- Forest / Prairie Transition
- Metro / Urban
- Northern Forest
- Prairie

Activity types:

- Enhance
- Evaluate the effectiveness of aquatic invasive species prevention strategies

Priority resources addressed by activity:

- Habitat

Abstract:

Assess the effectiveness of a range of strategies to prevent introduction of Aquatic Invasive Species in uninfected or minimally impacted lakes in Minnesota through a range of inspection, education and outreach, enforcement, and/or other methods that can be administered locally.

Design and scope of work:

INTRODUCTION

Nationally, introductions of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) have caused the decline of many plant and animal species. They have significant impacts on human activities; for example, in 2005 they cost the U.S. economy over \$120 billion (Flathead Basin [Montana] Aquatic Invasive Species Strategic Prevention Plan, 2010). As they are increasing in their occurrence and distribution, adverse impacts associated with AIS continue to rise. This scenario is playing itself out regionally and locally as well.

Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 84D.01, Subd. 9a defines "Invasive species" as a nonnative species that: (1) causes or may cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health; or; (2) threatens or may threaten natural resources or the use of natural resources in the state. Many invasive species of concern have been identified that may likely be introduced and survive in Minnesota. Once introduced into new habitats where they have no natural controls or enemies, they disturb native species through competition, predation, displacement, hybridization, and spread of diseases and parasites and, in the process, degrade fish and wildlife habitat. AIS can also adversely affect commercial, agricultural, recreational, and residential activities that depend on water resources.

THE HUMAN ENVIRONMENT--VECTORS AND PATHWAYS

What is common among all AIS is that they have been introduced to North America by human activity. Primary vectors and pathways of concern include:

- Transient users of water resources (e.g., recreational activities, such as boating, fishing, diving) through public and private accesses
- Activities affecting water resources (e.g., commercial, natural resource management, or construction activities)
- Natural and man-made conveyance of waters
- Owners of riparian lands
- Watercraft and trailers
- Docks, lifts, and other such equipment
- Bait harvesters and bait users
- Construction/resource management equipment (e.g., barges, plant harvesters, waders, boots, diving equipment, aquarium and aquascaping)
- Storm water drainage systems (including outlet streams and pipes)
- Float planes
- Tributary waters

PROJECT PURPOSE

This project will assess the effectiveness of a range of implementation activities to prevent the introduction of AIS into uninfested lakes or to prevent the introduction of additional AIS in previously infested lakes in Minnesota. More specifically, the project will examine the most innovative, legal, effective, and financially sustainable methods of preventing the spread of AIS through a range of education and outreach, inspection and decontamination, enforcement, and/or other methods to enhance fish and wildlife habitat that can be administered locally. This purpose will be realized under the following three goals:

Goal 1—AIS Planning and Data Collection—

While it is recognized that finding rare occurrences of AIS in lakes is a daunting challenge, successful pilot projects will be required to have some current baseline monitoring completed on impacts of AIS on fish and wildlife habitat in their lakes. Grant reimbursable activities under this goal may include:

- Creation of an AIS prevention plan following a standard format, or;
- Update of an existing AIS prevention plan;
- Update or population of an AIS database;

These pilots will help guide and track efficient and effective long-term AIS prevention activities that enhance fish and wildlife habitat.

Goal 2—Prevention and Containment--The primary goal of this project is to keep pilot project lakes free of new AIS. There is also the reality that AIS may exist undetected, be introduced or spread in pilot project lakes, or be transported out of pilot lakes. All activities under this goal are intended to enhance fish and wildlife habitat by providing long-term or permanent solutions to AIS infestation and must be based on the best available science regarding AIS prevention and control of spread to other surface waters. Grant reimbursable activities under this goal may include:

- Strategies to manage access to and from pilot project lakes;
- Inspection and decontamination of watercraft and other equipment to limit the spread of AIS to and from pilot project lakes that seek to 1) keep AIS from migrating from already infested lakes, or 2) prevent AIS from entering uninfested lakes;+
- New and innovative strategies, biologic processes, or products with potential to prevent AIS.
- Programs enlisting landowner participation and commitment to prevent introduction of AIS.
- A local cooperative strategy for strong enforcement of existing AIS laws or special regulations;
- Extensive public information campaigns, including social marketing principles, on AIS prevention and corresponding enhancement of fish and wildlife habitat;

Successful pilot projects must marshal additional manpower, equipment, and funding to extend and expand the AIS prevention effort. Projects must also focus State, Tribal, and local efforts on rapid response and removal where AIS infestations are found to exist during the pilot project to prevent spread elsewhere. Adaptive management to allow strategies to be modified or replaced during the active

project is allowed but must be approved in advance.

Goal 3—AIS Pilot Project Results Reporting—Successful pilot projects must establish a rigorous results reporting program, using a standard format, to monitor and report interim as well as overall progress, successes, and challenges. Non-LSOHC matching funds will be used to complete activities under this goal which may include:

- Use of science-based strategic planning and evaluation models;
- Reports on the reactions and attitudes of lake residents, lake service providers, business owners, and non-riparian citizens to aggressive, targeted approaches to prevent human-assisted AIS migration to or from pilot project lakes, and the unintended consequences or strategies that failed to achieve their intended goals;
- Reports on the degree of support, interaction and cooperation between State and local governments, Tribal governments, and private organizations in administering AIS prevention/control efforts;
- Risk management and cost/benefit analyses;
- The ability of a project to attract local or other outside matching resources to expand and financially sustain the AIS prevention/control effort;
- Recommendations for changes or additions to AIS prevention and regulation laws to enhance fish and wildlife habitat at the State or local level.

This amendment to our accomplishment plan will allocate \$20,000 of our contract budget to support a second AIS Aquatic Invaders Summit in October 2016. It is our hope and intent to accomplish a repeat of our very successful 2015 AIS Summit by bringing together the fishing, hunting,

Which sections of the Minnesota Statewide Conservation and Preservation Plan are applicable to this program:

- H2 Protect critical shoreland of streams and lakes
- H4 Restore and protect shallow lakes
- H6 Protect and restore critical in-water habitat of lakes and streams

Which other plans are addressed in this program:

- A Vision for Wildlife and Its Use -- Goals and Outcomes 2006-2012
- Ducks Unlimited Living Lakes Initiative
- Long Range Plan for Fisheries Management
- Long Range Plan for Muskellunge and Large Northern Pike Management Through 2020
- Managing Minnesota's Shallow Lakes for Waterfowl and Wildlife
- Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership
- Minnesota DNR Strategic Conservation Agenda
- National Fish Habitat Action Plan
- 100th Meridian Initiative

Which LSOHC state-wide priorities are addressed in this program:

- Address Minnesota landscapes that have historical value to fish and wildlife, wildlife species of greatest conservation need, Minnesota County Biological Survey data, and rare, threatened and endangered species inventories in land and water decisions, as well as long-term or permanent solutions to aquatic invasive species
- Are ongoing, successful, transparent and accountable programs addressing actions and targets of one or more of the ecological sections
- Attempts to ensure conservation benefits are broadly distributed across the LSOHC sections
- Ensures activities for "protecting, restoring and enhancing" are coordinated among agencies, non profits and others while doing this important work; provides the most cost-effective use of financial resources; and where possible takes into consideration the value of local outreach, education, and community engagement to sustain project outcomes
- Leverage effort and/or other funds to supplement any OHF appropriation
- Produce multiple enduring conservation benefits
- Use a science-based strategic planning and evaluation model to guide protection, restoration and enhancement, similar to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service's Strategic Habitat Conservation model

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

Metro / Urban:

- Protect, enhance, and restore riparian and littoral habitats on lakes to benefit game and nongame fish species

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, restore, and enhance shallow lakes

Relationship to other funds:

- Not Listed

Describe the relationship of the funds:

Not Listed

How does this program accelerate or supplement your current efforts in this area:

Pilot project partners would be required to provide 20% non-State local cash and in-kind match and may contribute up to 30% additional non-Outdoor Heritage cash match, or qualifying in-kind match to supplement efforts during the first two active years of the project and the three years of follow-up monitoring (and any ongoing implementation).

Grass-roots efforts are pushing LUG's to help stop the spread of AIS and more comprehensive, cooperative AIS programs are being demanded. AIS statutes now make it possible for LUG's, Tribal governments, and 501(c)3 nonprofit organizations to participate in AIS prevention and control. Local volunteer efforts are expected to continue as long as cooperative progress is made toward more complete and cost effective solutions.

DNR looks to local government, Tribal governments, and 501c3 nonprofit organizations to help protect public waters and enhance fish and wildlife habitat. This request is not a substitution for other State resources.

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

The AIS Prevention Plans developed through this process will provide local focus and direction for long term AIS control and prevention and fish and wildlife habitat enhancement programs. Local governments, Tribal governments, and 501c3 nonprofit organizations will need to provide or secure additional funds for long term AIS prevention.

It is assumed that local support and funding will continue for efforts that are identified as successful and cost-effective. Conversely, State and local funding and other resources can avoid being wasted on strategies that are found to be ineffective. The final pilot project reports and survey results will likely provide important guidance on AIS issues that could lead to meaningful changes in existing programs and future AIS management approaches.

Activity Details:

Will there be planting of corn or any crop on OHF land purchased or restored in this program - **Not Listed**

Is the activity on permanently protected land per 97A.056, subd 13(f) and/or public waters per MS 103G.005, Subd. 15 - **Yes (Public Waters, no)**

Evaluate the effectiveness of aquatic invasive species prevention strategies

GRANT ACTIVITIES

The Initiative Foundation will develop this project as an initiative under its Healthy Lakes and Rivers Partnership (HLRP) program. The project will include the following broad program components:

- Convene a Review Committee including expert representation from AIS science, education, and evaluation; DNR Divisions of

Ecological Services and Water Resources, local units of government; Tribal governments; lake property owner organizations; and the recreation and resort industry. The University of Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center will serve as independent scientific advisers to the Committee. The Committee will design or endorse criteria and protocols for the program, and assist in initial planning for public outreach. This Committee will also help the Foundation develop or endorse criteria for eligible surface waters, evaluate species prevention priorities, establish the evaluation program, and review and score applications. The Foundation will coordinate with the DNR Aquatic AIS Advisory Committee to incorporate their substantial expertise, minimize redundancy with existing programs, and add value to the work already conducted or in progress by DNR. A liaison has been appointed by the Aquatic AIS Advisory Committee Chair to report on project activities.

- Co-sponsor an "AIS Summit" early in the project to inform potential project partners on the state of the art in AIS prevention in Minnesota, around the US, and internationally. In addition to presentations on the best AIS science, this conference will help focus LGU strategies around AIS framework plans and encourage cooperative regional approaches to prevention.
- Work with DNR experts on lakeshore owner and lake user surveys to assure the collection of the most relevant data, consistency in data gathering, and accuracy of reporting.
- Issue a Request for Proposals from potential program partners, seeking "inquiry" level of explanation of their strategies and potential implementation partners.
- Invite full proposals from Local Units of Government, Tribal Governments, or 501(c)3 nonprofit organizations in the form of an AIS prevention management plan, outlining AIS status in the lake watershed, prevention/control strategy, timeline, budget, and management structure or responsibility (See required full proposal information below). We anticipate supporting individual lake projects, or umbrella projects involving several lakes provided they are managed by a single local entity/partnership, well-coordinated, and able to demonstrate measurable results.
- Support implementation activities through contracts for service with program partners. Contracts will require expenditure of a majority of implementation funds within the first 24 months of the project.
- Over the last three years of the program, observe and evaluate self-supported implementation efforts begun in first two years of program and continue to evaluate success of strategies.

Groups including the Minnesota Coalition of Lake Associations (MNCOLA), Minnehaha Creek Watershed District (MCWD) will continue to be consulted on project implementation, and project activities will be closely coordinated with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Ecological and Water Resources Division - Invasive Species Program on regulated activities such as local delegation of inspection authority, special regulations, and location and operation of decontamination stations. To allow the project to "hit the ground running" once funds are available, work will include development or updating of AIS prevention plans, development of the Request for Proposals, promotion of the RFP, and establishment of clear procedures which link regulatory review (by DNR) with proposal assessment (by the review committee) so that we are able to support innovative, cost-effective, and legal projects.

APPLICATION PROCESS

With input from the Review Committee, the Foundation will:

- Develop a Request for Proposal/Program Manual incorporating LSOHC priorities.
- Solicit inquiry level applications;
- Work with selected applicants to submit full scorable proposals;
- Oversee grant selection;
- Adopt an AIS prevention/control plan template;
- Prepare and execute contracts;
- Review expenditure documentation, insuring financial integrity, and makes payments;
- Monitor pilot project progress;
- Oversee ongoing evaluation, monitoring, and quality control;
- Assist recipients with closing out agreements;
- Prepare required reports

REQUIRED INQUIRY LEVEL PROPOSAL INFORMATION

Prospective program partners may be asked to provide information such as:

- A list of proposed strategies and potential implementation partners;
- Administrative and financial capacity to administer the program;
- General lake data (physical area, depth, recreational use intensity, etc);
- Availability of current AIS and fish and wildlife habitat survey data;
- A summary of local AIS education, monitoring, and prevention/control efforts to date.

FULL PROPOSAL REVIEW PROCESS

Foundation staff and Review Committee will evaluate and score applications based on criteria listed below. A final score will be given to all applications. Foundation staff will work with program partners to complete financial reviews, grant agreements, and other paperwork. Work may not begin until the grant is executed. The Foundation may choose to make additional awards under this announcement, consistent with LSOHC policy and guidance, if additional funding becomes available or if a program partner cannot complete a project as planned.

REQUIRED FULL PROPOSAL INFORMATION

In the preparation of full proposals, program partners may be asked to submit information such as:

- Sponsoring organization name and status—governmental unit, 501(c)3 nonprofit, etc.;
- Proposed lake watershed targeted for prevention—provide maps, available data;
- AIS of focus—multiple species approaches get priority;
- Current AIS monitoring/surveys—some existing monitoring effort required
- Physical characteristics of the lake watershed;
- Adjacent or upstream infested waters;
- Potential downstream impacts;
- Recreational and commercial use information—provide available data;
- Strategy to manage lake access;
- Participating LUG's, Tribal governments, and other local organization sponsors, and the nature and extent of their participation;
- Agreement stating administrative and financial capacity to administer and cash flow the program on a reimbursement basis;
- Agreement stating a specified enforcement mechanism—DNR CO's, Sheriff's Dept., Tribal CO's;
- Support by local residents--lake association, resorts, water-related businesses, lake service providers;
- Support by LUG's—Counties, Cities, SWCD, WD, Townships;
- Support by DNR and other State agencies;
- Support by Tribal or Federal governments, if applicable;
- Prevention strategy elements and timelines—who, what, when, where?
- Conflict resolution strategy--between partners and affiliated organizations, and/or with the general public;
- Agreement stating sources of cash matching funds (State, Federal, Tribal, LGU, Lake Association, private donation, or other funding) and the amount of match from each source;
- Agreement stating sources of local in-kind contributions of labor and materials documented at prevailing rates;
- Commitment and mechanism to continue the prevention strategy beyond the funding period;
- Long term monitoring strategy;
- Budget—personnel, contracted services, equipment, maintenance, insurance, etc.

APPLICATION EVALUATION CRITERIA

The Foundation and Review Committee may consider criteria in evaluating applications such as:

- Lake watershed characteristics;
- Adjacent or upstream infestations;
- Potential downstream impacts;
- Long-term or permanent nature of AIS prevention/control proposal for the enhancement of fish and wildlife habitat;
- Demonstrated administrative and financial capacity to administer the program;
- Applicants' capacity to successfully complete, sustain the goals of the project.
- Based on the best available science regarding AIS prevention and control;
- Local support—government, recreation industry, recreational users, lake service providers, lake residents;
- Current baseline AIS survey
- Multiple AIS prevention benefits;
- Preservation of public access for recreation, hunting, and fishing while adequately enhancing fish and wildlife habitat through AIS prevention;
- Degree of collaboration between local organizations to prevent AIS spread;
- Budget/ cost effectiveness;
- Project match funding strategy—degree to which the application accesses non-State matching funds, other resources, and volunteer labor and equipment to expand and sustain the project;

The Foundation will provide copies of all final requests for proposals, as well as evaluation and scoring criteria to LSOHC for their records.

PROGRAM PARTNER MATCHING REQUIREMENTS

Funding for local projects may include:

- LSOHC funds can pay up to 50% of project costs,
- Local match must be 20% (but can include in-kind services or materials, and must include all costs of evaluation), and
- The remaining 30 percent can be from any source including non-LSOHC State Funds (like the AIS County aid awards).

Proposals with higher matching rates will receive higher scores in the project selection process. The goal for cash match is 40% of the

Outdoor Heritage funds allocated to program partners.

PILOT PROJECT EVALUATION AND REPORTING

Outdoor Heritage funds will be used to develop a standard evaluation template and process for use by all pilot projects, including cross-pilot assessment of data. Funds will also be used to train program partner representatives in the use of the evaluation template and process.

Program partners will submit semi-annual pilot project reports on forms provided by the Foundation. These reports will evaluate progress and results of the pilot project including the efficacy of education and information, inspection, and decontamination activities utilized. Costs incurred in conducting required evaluations and preparing evaluation reports are not reimbursable and must be paid using non-Outdoor Heritage matching funds.

Program Partners will submit semi-annual budget reports on forms provided by the Foundation, based on LSOHC report forms. Costs incurred in preparing required statistical and budget-related reporting are reimbursable.

Foundation staff will submit required accomplishment reports to LSOHC and post reports on the Foundation's website and other websites as may be determined useful. The third year report (summarizing impact and assessment of prevention activities) will include conclusions and recommendations, based on all pilot projects, which may be used as supporting documentation for funding additional AIS prevention projects. The final reports (years four and five) will include ongoing AIS monitoring results, documented successes or failures, degrees of lasting effectiveness, and impacts of AIS prevention efforts.

PROGRAM PARTNER PAYMENT

Program Partners will receive 80% of the Outdoor Heritage funds approved for their projects once all work plans, contracts, and funding agreements are approved and fully executed. The final 20% of Outdoor Heritage funds will be withheld until final reporting is submitted to the Foundation and approved, and all Outdoor Heritage and matching fund expenditures documented.

The Initiative Foundation reserves the right to terminate a pilot project before its completion date if, in the opinion of the Foundation staff and the Review Committee, a good faith effort is not being made to fulfill the contractual obligations of the project according to the approved work plan.

Accomplishment Timeline:

Activity	Approximate Date Completed
Assemble and Convene Review Committee	July/August 2014
Review Committee finalizes AIS Prevention Pilot Program criteria and priorities	August 2014
Deadline for Inquiry Level Applications	October 2014
Review of Inquiry Level Applications--selection of full proposal applicants	November 2014
Deadline for Full AIS Prevention Proposals	December 2014
Scoring and selection of successful full proposal applicants	December 2014/January 2015
AIS Prevention Project activity begins	January 2015/February 2015
Formal AIS Prevention Project activity commences	February 2015 to end of grant
Follow up monitoring and final reporting completed	Annually, with conclusion in June 2019

Federal Funding:

Do you anticipate federal funds as a match for this program - **Not Listed**

Outcomes:

Programs in the northern forest region:

- Improved aquatic habitat indicators *Demonstration of effective strategies of fish and wildlife habitat enhancement by successful implementation of locally-led efforts to implement and financially sustain AIS prevention efforts.*

Programs in forest-prairie transition region:

- Improved aquatic habitat vegetation *Demonstration of effective strategies of fish and wildlife habitat enhancement by successful implementation of locally-led efforts to implement and financially sustain AIS prevention efforts.*
- As our proposal is for statewide impact, the proposed program outcomes are the same for each region. Please refer to the "Other"

program outcomes detailed in the northern forest region.

Programs in metropolitan urbanizing region:

- Improved aquatic habitat indicators *Demonstration of effective strategies of fish and wildlife habitat enhancement by successful implementation of locally-led efforts to implement and financially sustain AIS prevention efforts.*

Programs in prairie region:

- Protected, restored, and enhanced shallow lakes and wetlands *Demonstration of effective strategies of fish and wildlife habitat enhancement by successful implementation of locally-led efforts to implement and financially sustain AIS prevention efforts.*
- As our proposal is for statewide impact, the proposed program outcomes are the same for each region. Please refer to the "Other" program outcomes detailed in the northern forest region.

Budget Spreadsheet

Budget reallocations up to 10% do not require an amendment to the Accomplishment Plan

How will this program accommodate the reduced appropriation recommendation from the original proposed requested amount

Not Listed

Total Amount of Request: \$ 4040000

Budget and Cash Leverage

Budget Name	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	\$157,000	\$0		\$157,000
Contracts	\$3,794,000	\$3,598,000	20% non-State local project match, 30% non-Outdoor Heritage project match	\$7,392,000
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	\$0	\$0		\$0
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	\$0	\$0		\$0
Easement Acquisition	\$0	\$0		\$0
Easement Stewardship	\$0	\$0		\$0
Travel	\$14,100	\$0		\$14,100
Professional Services	\$52,900	\$49,900	AIS Summit Revenue	\$102,800
Direct Support Services	\$0	\$0		\$0
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	\$0	\$0		\$0
Capital Equipment	\$0	\$0		\$0
Other Equipment/Tools	\$2,000	\$0		\$2,000
Supplies/Materials	\$20,000	\$100,000	Private Source	\$120,000
DNR IDP	\$0	\$0		\$0
Total	\$4,040,000	\$3,747,900		\$7,787,900

Personnel

Position	FTE	Over # of years	LSOHC Request	Anticipated Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Administrative Support (K. Botzek, Program Assistant for Community and Economic Development)	0.20	5.00	\$25,000	\$0		\$25,000
Project Manager (D. Hickman, VP Community and Economic Development)	0.20	5.00	\$92,000	\$0		\$92,000
Accounting	0.00	5.00	\$40,000	\$0		\$40,000
Total	0.40	15.00	\$157,000	\$0		\$157,000

Output Tables

Table 1a. Acres by Resource Type

Type	Wetlands	Prairies	Forest	Habitats	Total
Restore	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Easement	0	0	0	0	0
Enhance	0	0	0	2,200	2,200
Total	0	0	0	2,200	2,200

Table 2. Total Funding by Resource Type

Type	Wetlands	Prairies	Forest	Habitats	Total
Restore	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Easement	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Enhance	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$4,040,000	\$4,040,000
Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$4,040,000	\$4,040,000

Table 3. Acres within each Ecological Section

Type	Metro Urban	ForestPrairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N Forest	Total
Restore	0	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	0	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Easement	0	0	0	0	0	0
Enhance	550	550	0	550	550	2,200
Total	550	550	0	550	550	2,200

Table 4. Total Funding within each Ecological Section

Type	Metro Urban	ForestPrairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N Forest	Total
Restore	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Easement	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Enhance	\$1,010,000	\$1,010,000	\$0	\$1,010,000	\$1,010,000	\$4,040,000
Total	\$1,010,000	\$1,010,000	\$0	\$1,010,000	\$1,010,000	\$4,040,000

Target Lake/Stream/River Feet or Miles

0

Parcel List

For restoration and enhancement programs ONLY: Managers may add, delete, and substitute projects on this parcel list based upon need, readiness, cost, opportunity, and/or urgency so long as the substitute parcel/project forwards the constitutional objectives of this program in the Project Scope table of this accomplishment plan. The final accomplishment plan report will include the final parcel list.

Section 1 - Restore / Enhance Parcel List

No parcels with an activity type restore or enhance.

Section 2 - Protect Parcel List

No parcels with an activity type protect.

Section 2a - Protect Parcel with Bldgs

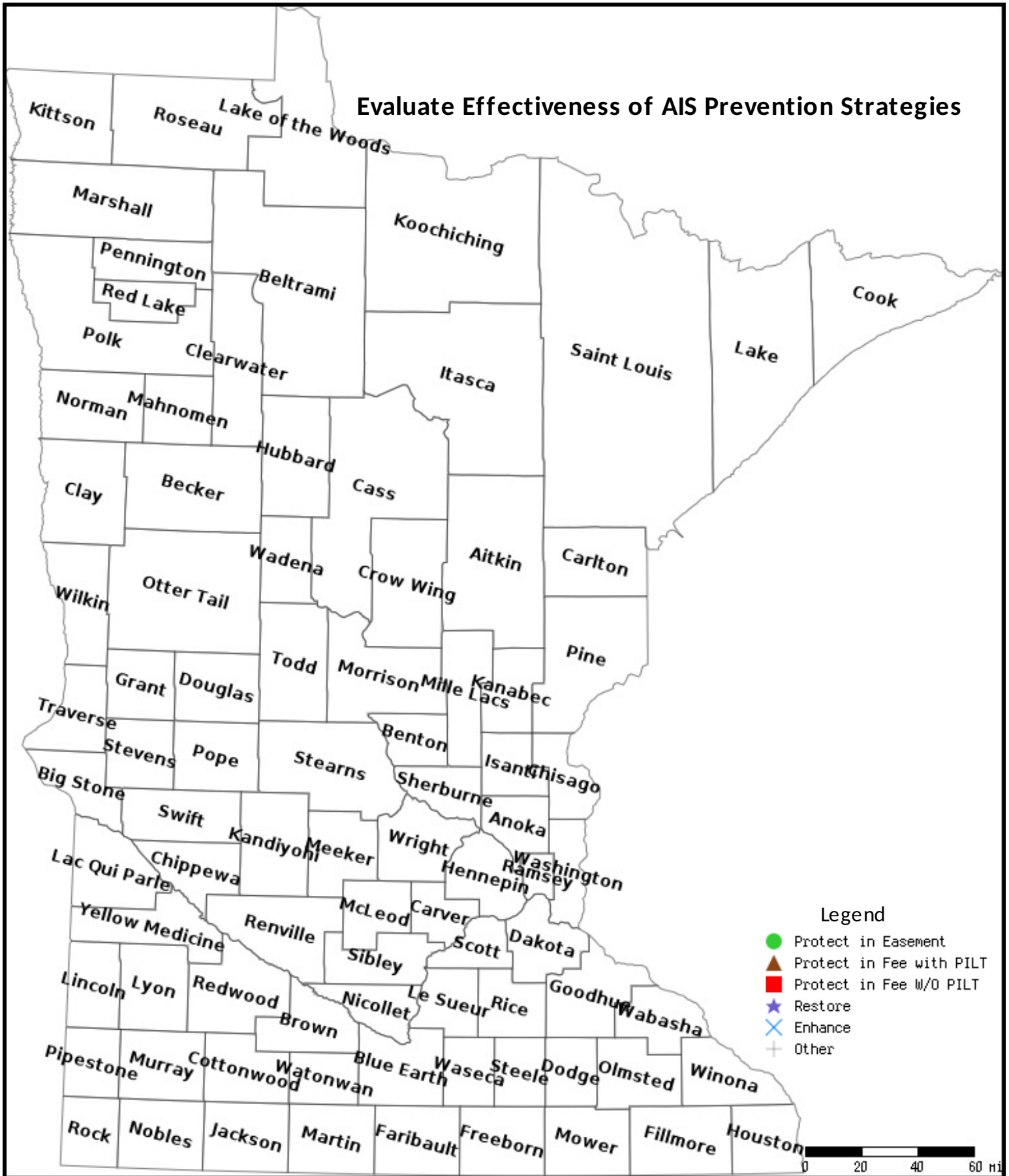
No parcels with an activity type protect and has buildings.

Section 3 - Other Parcel Activity

No parcels with an other activity type.

Parcel Map

Evaluate Effectiveness of AIS Prevention Strategies



Data Generated From Parcel List