

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

MEMO: Agenda Item # 10 (A)
DATE: March 12, 2021
SUBJECT: Extension of Availability of Appropriation
Critical Shoreland Habitat Program, Phase 5
PRESENTER: Wayne Ostlie, Minnesota Land Trust

Suggested Motion:

Motion by Councilmember X to approve/deny the legislative extension of appropriation availability for ML 2018, Chapter 208, Article 1, Section 2, subd [3\(e\) Critical Shoreland Habitat Program - Phase V](#) \$1,094,000 to June 30, 2023.

Information Provided by the Project Manager

At present, the Land Trust has closed on one conservation easement under this grant, with four additional projects in the works, one of which is expected to close prior to June 30. We are working toward options on the remaining three, but we would benefit greatly with an additional year to close out these projects. COVID-19 has resulted in an across-the-board slowdown in all facets of our OHF grants. This grant in particular has been impacted by those delays.

Staff Notes

- Four past appropriations are all closed with nearly all money spent.
- This program's acquisition dollars expire June 30, 2021, with agreements closing until 2022.
- ML 2018 appropriations were not affected by the COVID-19 extension in ML 2020 bill.
- This is a COVID related extension request.
- Chart shows open appropriations and spending to date.

ML Year	Subd	Appropriation Amount	Spent to date	Balance	% spent
2017	3(f)	\$1,700,000	\$1,238,600	\$461,400	73%
2018	3(e)	\$1,094,000	\$128,400	\$965,600	12%