

Division of Fish and Wildlife 500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155

December 27, 2021

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 55155

Dear Mr. Johnson:

The Joint Drainage Authority of Cottonwood and Jackson Counties is requesting a permanent easement to reroute and abandon an existing tile line on String Lakes WMA in Cottonwood County. This parcel was purchased by the Minnesota DNR with ML 2014, Ch. 256, Art. 1, Sec. 2, Subd. 3(b) Outdoor Heritage Funds. Since easements are considered a conveyance of an interest in the land, we are required to seek approval from LSOHC prior to DNR approval.

Project Description: The Cottonwood Jackson County Joint Drainage authority will reroute and abandon existing tile lines that currently drain wetlands on the WMA. The easement application will allow the drainage authority to relocate a tile line and will be a significant benefit to the hydrology and wetland vegetation of the WMA. The footprint and dimensions of the easement are in the application attachment. The easement is established based on a court order and the DNR will not be charging a fee for the easement.

Sincerely,

Jeff Tillma Fish and Wildlife Land Acquisition 1201 E. Hwy 2 Grand Rapids, MN 55744

String Lakes WMA, T:105, R:36, S:29, Cottonwood and Jackson County Joint Drainage Authority, Easement

