



## Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

### Resilient Habitat for Heritage Brook Trout Laws of Minnesota 2020 Accomplishment Plan

#### General Information

**Date:** 11/08/2023

**Project Title:** Resilient Habitat for Heritage Brook Trout

**Funds Recommended:** \$2,266,000

**Legislative Citation:** ML 2020, Ch. 104, Art. 1, Sec. 2, subd 5(c )

**Appropriation Language:** \$2,266,000 the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for agreements to acquire land in fee and permanent conservation easements and to restore and enhance habitat in targeted watersheds of southeast Minnesota to improve heritage brook trout and coldwater communities. Of this amount, \$350,000 is to The Nature Conservancy, \$258,000 is to Trout Unlimited, \$857,000 is to The Trust for Public Land, and \$801,000 is to Minnesota Land Trust. Up to \$96,000 to Minnesota Land Trust is to establish a monitoring and enforcement fund as approved in the accomplishment plan and subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 17. A list of proposed land acquisitions and permanent conservation easements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

**Amendment Description:** TPL would like to request an amendment to shift money in our budget from our acquisition line item to our contracts line item. Unfortunately, despite a targeted outreach effort and several potential projects moving through the early stages of the acquisition process, no acquisitions were secured within the allotted funding time frame (July 2020 – June 2023). Of our allocated \$857,000 approximately \$771,000 of TPL’s funds remain unspent, with the majority of our spent funds (\$86,000) utilized on restoration work along Girl Scout Camp Creek (on Yucatan WMA). Fortunately, an opportunity has presented itself to support one of our partners, MNTU, in their restoration work which will allow for TPL spend down a significant portion of our allocation while also completing two significant enhancement projects on public lands TPL previously acquired under past OHF appropriations. A summary of each project, including estimated cost, is provided below. For each of the projects TPL will manage and administer contracted enhancement activities, however for instream construction work on Maple Creek (Choice WMA) TPL will rely significantly on MNTU's in-stream restoration and enhancement expertise as MNTU will remain responsible for all project permitting, engineering and design.

#### Maple Creek

MNTU is restoring a 3,500’ segment of Maple Creek running through Choice WMA in Fillmore County on land previously protected by TPL. Maple Creek currently supports a healthy population of heritage strain brook trout, despite the presence of brown trout. The stream was recently hammered by severe flooding, increasing the scope of work. The project is in the final permitting and construction bidding phase and can be constructed next summer. However, due to the change in scope, MNTU does not have enough funding to construct all of it. MNTU would shift some funding from contracts to professional services to cover the increased design and look to TPL to

provide approximately \$300,000 in construction funding and oversight. In-stream habitat will be enhanced, bank erosion halted, and riparian vegetation managed for long term resilience of the native brook trout population.

#### Girl Scout Camp Creek

Girl Scout Camp Creek is a tributary of the South Fork of the Root River located on the Yucatan WMA protected by an earlier TPL land acquisition. Girl Scout Camp Creek supports a healthy population of heritage strain brook trout, despite degraded habitat. Because the headwaters of this watershed have been protected, MNTU would seize the opportunity to address the entire stream from the uplands on down. Planned work includes placing water retention ponds in the draws that drain down to the stream channel. These will provide wildlife habitat and enhance in-stream habitat by reducing peak flows and sedimentation. The work on the wildlife ponds can be accomplished within the grant window and TPL would utilize approximately \$100,000 for construction and oversight of these enhancement activities.

**CF / MN Heritage Forest parcel addition:** N/A (Not Adding Parcels)

### Manager Information

**Manager's Name:** John Lenczewski

**Title:**

**Organization:** Minnesota Trout Unlimited

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### Location Information

**County Location(s):** Fillmore, Houston, Goodhue, Olmsted, Wabasha and Winona.

**Eco regions in which work will take place:**

- Southeast Forest

**Activity types:**

- Protect in Easement
- Protect in Fee
- Restore
- Enhance

**Priority resources addressed by activity:**

- Wetlands
- Prairie
- Forest
- Habitat

## Narrative

### **Abstract**

Minnesota Trout Unlimited, the Minnesota Land Trust, The Nature Conservancy, and Trust for Public Land will combine their expertise in six targeted watersheds to increase the resilience of remnant populations of brook trout unique to Southeast Minnesota. We will protect and enhance habitat in floodplains, along gullies, above steep slopes, and on bluffs to slow runoff, increase infiltration, and keep aquatic habitat productive. This holistic watershed approach, combined with in-stream enhancements designed for Heritage Brook Trout, will protect the long term health of these unique coldwater communities and amplify the impact of past stream habitat and protection efforts.

### **Design and Scope of Work**

Word has spread that Southeast Minnesota's streams support a robust trout fishery and trout fishing now generates \$800 Million annually to local communities. Less well known is that a small number of these streams hold remnant populations of native brook trout unique to Southeast Minnesota. They have persisted for thousands of years and through the time of European settlement. These "Heritage Brook Trout" populations are indigenous to this unique area and a Species in Greatest Conservation Need. Yet their long-term persistence is far from secured.

Small populations of Heritage Brook Trout persist in perhaps 20% of Southeast trout streams, and are abundant in just 17 streams. These face growing challenges from land conversion, parcelization, intensified agricultural practices, poor land management and an increasingly wet and warm climate. Recent DNR research suggests that consistent baseflow from groundwater springs can provide a level of resilience to these coldwater systems. Coldwater streams with ample spring baseflow may provide a climate refugia for brook trout and other coldwater species.

Minnesota Trout Unlimited and DNR Fisheries have made significant investments in restoration and enhancement of in-stream habitat in Southeast Minnesota. Protecting the health of the surrounding watersheds will be critical to maintaining these coldwater streams and gaining the maximum benefit from in-stream improvements. Improved riparian habitat and connectivity are key factors in stream quality; they also provide important corridors for terrestrial wildlife, connecting large habitat cores.

Program partners Minnesota Trout Unlimited, Minnesota Land Trust, The Nature Conservancy, and Trust for Public Land used several resilience factors to identify six subwatersheds where conservation of robust populations of Heritage Brook Trout is most achievable: Beaver Creek, East Indian Creek, Mississippi River-Lake Pepin HUC8 tributaries, Rush Creek-Pine Creek, South Fork Root River, Zumbro Tributaries, and Whitewater River. Partners will harness their collective expertise in land protection and terrestrial and in-stream habitat restoration/enhancement to increase the resiliency of these coldwater systems and their Heritage Brook Trout.

While restoring in-stream habitat has improved stream bank and aquatic habitat in many coldwater reaches, little work has been done restoring broader floodplain areas surrounding DNR easement corridors. Restoring floodplain forests, wet prairies and wetlands provides significant benefits to stream health and corridors provide habitat connectivity.

Because of the Driftless Area's rugged terrain, the vast majority of its natural communities occupy steep slopes that play an important role in the region's hydrology. Protecting through targeted fee and easement acquisition and improving the condition of these forests and prairies through restoration and enhancement will improve their ability to slow runoff and increase infiltration. This will reduce sediment and nutrient delivery to streams,

improving the hydrology of the watershed by reducing peak flows and increasing baseflows, while also improving plant diversity and wildlife habitat in one of the most biologically diverse parts of Minnesota. Restoring habitat along the upper edges of steep forested slopes will help buffer the natural communities, while significantly slowing the formation and spread of gullies that deliver large amounts of sediment and nutrient runoff directly to streams.

### **How does the plan address habitats that have significant value for wildlife species of greatest conservation need, and/or threatened or endangered species, and list targeted species?**

This proposal focuses principally on the protection and restoration/enhancement of priority coldwater stream systems through a watershed approach. Though with a focus on Heritage Brook Trout populations, this work will also benefit a large number of associated coldwater stream species.

Sedimentation and erosion are major threats to fish in the region. Protecting and enhancing upland natural communities, especially on the steep bluffs that flank most trout streams, will help prevent additional erosion. Aquatic habitat also benefits from protection of trout stream banks and floodplains. The water quality benefit that comes with the protection of forested upland areas is significant and contributes to improved trout and non-game fish and mussel habitat. In-stream restoration of coldwater streams will amplify the conditions necessary to support Heritage Brook Trout and other coldwater species.

Watersheds selected as priorities for this work contain significant high-quality examples of native plant communities ranging from oak savanna and bluff prairie to maple-basswood and white pine-oak/maple forests, and oak-hickory woodlands. These habitats support species including: tri-colored and northern long-eared bats, timber rattlesnake, Blanding's turtle, western foxsnake, North American racer, American ginseng, great Indian plantain, plains wild indigo and red-shouldered hawk. Protection and restoration efforts will create and build off of existing complexes of protected lands and habitat blocks.

### **Describe how the plan uses science-based targeting that leverages or expands corridors and complexes, reduces fragmentation or protects areas identified in the MN County Biological Survey:**

Minnesota DNR's Watershed Health Assessment Framework (WHAF) provides health scores for watersheds across the state at a catchment level based on multiple metrics. We used a subset of those metrics to identify watersheds containing coldwater trout streams that will be most resilient to changing conditions. Features we considered most important for coldwater stream resilience include aquatic and riparian connectivity, density of known springs, high proportions of perennial cover, hydrological factors (such as high perennial cover and minimal wetland loss and impervious cover), and the quality of the current aquatic biotic community (IBI scores). We also emphasized watersheds of streams that support "Heritage Brook Trout" populations - genetic strains that are native to the region and pre-date modern stocking efforts.

Based on those criteria, we selected watersheds that contained the highest scoring catchments. Expanding the project areas to the larger watersheds includes upstream catchments that may not score as highly, but where conservation will benefit resilient areas downstream. Within these priority watersheds, individual projects will focus on landscape features that have maximum impact on water quality and hydrology. These include riparian

areas, floodplains, wetlands, steep slopes and highly erodible areas, and transition zones from upland agricultural areas to the steeper, often forested, slopes of bluffs. This focus will direct our work towards the land most critical for watershed health while minimizing impact on the most productive cropland.

The selected watersheds also contain areas of biodiversity significance identified by the MN County Biological Survey and corridors that score highly on the Wildlife Action Network. Protection, restoration, and enhancement in these watersheds will expand and connect existing public land areas and stream easements held by MN DNR Department of Fisheries to develop and strengthen corridors and complexes of habitat. This will provide multiple benefits for the game and non-game wildlife of these areas while protecting watershed health.

### Which two sections of the Minnesota Statewide Conservation and Preservation Plan are most applicable to this project?

- H2 Protect critical shoreland of streams and lakes
- H6 Protect and restore critical in-water habitat of lakes and streams

### Which two other plans are addressed in this program?

- Driftless Area Restoration Effort
- Outdoor Heritage Fund: A 25 Year Framework

### Which LSOHC section priorities are addressed in this program?

#### Southeast Forest

- Protect, enhance, and restore habitat for fish, game, and nongame wildlife in rivers, cold-water streams, and associated upland habitat

## Outcomes

### Programs in prairie region:

- Stream to bluff habitat restoration and enhancement will keep water on the land to slow runoff and degradation of aquatic habitat ~ *Conservation easement (MLT) - acres and shoreline protected. Fee acquisition (TPL) - acres and shoreline protected. Restoration and enhancement (TNC, MLT and MNTU) - acres restored/enhanced; instream feet restored.*

### Does this program include leveraged funding?

Yes

### Explain the leverage:

MLT: Minnesota Land Trust encourages landowners to fully or partially donate the value of conservation easements as part of its landowner bid protocol. An estimated leverage of \$67,000 of donated value from landowners from easement acquisition is a conservative estimate.

TPL & TNC - Partners are also leveraging private funds to cover a portion of travel and direct support services cost

totaling \$85,000.

MNTU: TU will contribute a portion of its direct support service cost. TU members and chapters will donate in-kind labor/services. We hope to leverage federal EQIP funds, US Fish & Wildlife Service funds, and other sources.

**Per MS 97A.056, Subd. 24, Please explain whether the request is supplanting or is a substitution for any previous funding that was not from a legacy fund and was used for the same purpose.**

Funding procured by MLT, MNTU, TPL or TNC through the Outdoor Heritage Fund via this proposal will not supplant or substitute any previous funding from a non-Legacy fund used for the same purpose associated with any of the recipient organizations.

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

TPL - Tracts acquired in fee will be transferred to the state for ongoing management. Acquisition projects will be near or adjacent to existing protected lands, including state-owned lands and lands under conservation easement, allowing for the expansion of management activities that are already taking place. MN DNR has been successful in securing federal habitat enhancement funding.

TNC - Restoration and enhancement work will occur primarily on state land. Activities will be closely coordinated with DNR partners to ensure the projects completed will fit within their overall management plans and strategies. The goal of all restoration and enhancement projects will be to return a community to a condition where typical maintenance-level management will be sufficient to keep it healthy.

MLT - The land protected through conservation easements will be sustained through the state-of-the-art stewardship standards and practices. MLT is a nationally accredited and insured land trust with a successful easement stewardship program that includes annual property monitoring and defending the easements as necessary.

MNTU - Construction contracts will include maintenance/warranty provisions to ensure habitat work is well established. Afterwards no significant maintenance is usually required to sustain the habitat outcomes for decades.

## Actions to Maintain Project Outcomes

Year	Source of Funds	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3
One year after grant ends	MNTU volunteers or part of regular agency visits.	In-stream enhancements: inspect structural elements and vegetation	In-stream enhancements: If needed, alert DNR and develop actions needed.	In-stream enhancements: Conduct maintenance with volunteers and/or contractors if DNR does not.
Every 3 years thereafter	MNTU volunteers and/or agency.	In-stream enhancements: Inspect structural elements and vegetation.	In-stream enhancements: If needed, develop action plan with DNR.	In-stream enhancements: Perform or assist DNR with maintenance if needed.
Every 4-6 Years	Game and Fish Fund	Prescribed Fire where appropriate	-	-
Every 4-6 Years	Game and Fish Fund	Survey for invasive species and overall plan community development	Control invasive species as necessary	-

## Activity Details

### Requirements

**If funded, this program will meet all applicable criteria set forth in MS 97A.056?**

Yes

**Will county board or other local government approval be formally sought\*\* prior to acquisition, per 97A.056 subd 13(j)?**

No

**Describe any measures to inform local governments of land acquisition under their jurisdiction:**

TPL - TPL will follow the county/township board notification processes as directed by current statutory language.

**Is the land you plan to acquire (fee title) free of any other permanent protection?**

No

**Describe the permanent protection and justification for additional protection:**

Some parcels for protection may include stream frontage under a trout stream easement held by MN DNR Dept. of Fisheries. These easements only extend 66 ft from the centerline of the stream, and provide public access for angling purposes only. Such protection projects will only be undertaken when protecting the larger parcel will significantly expand the benefits beyond those of the easement. We will follow guidance established by the Outdoor Heritage Fund to proceed.

**Is the land you plan to acquire (easement) free of any other permanent protection?**

Yes

**Who will manage the easement?**

Minnesota Land Trust.

**Who will be the easement holder?**

Minnesota Land Trust.

**What is the anticipated number of easements (range is fine) you plan to accomplish with this appropriation?**

MLT - We expect to close 2-4 conservation easements through this appropriation, depending on size and cost.

**Will restoration and enhancement work follow best management practices including MS 84.973 Pollinator Habitat Program?**

Yes

**Is the restoration and enhancement activity on permanently protected land per 97A.056, Subd 13(f), tribal lands, and/or public waters per MS 103G.005, Subd. 15 or on lands to be acquired in this program?**

Yes

**Where does the activity take place?**

- WMA
- SNA
- AMA
- Permanently Protected Conservation Easements
- Public Waters
- State Forests

**Land Use**

**Will there be planting of any crop on OHF land purchased or restored in this program?**

Yes

**Explain what will be planted:**

Short-term use of agricultural crops is an accepted best practice for preparing a site for prairie restoration. For example, short-term use of soybeans could be used for restorations in order to control weed seedbeds prior to prairie planting. In some cases this necessitates the use of GMO treated products to facilitate herbicide use in order to control weeds present in the seedbank; however, neonicotinoids will not be used.

**Are any of the crop types planted GMO treated?**

True

**Is this land currently open for hunting and fishing?**

Yes

**Describe any variation from the State of Minnesota regulations:**

Some parcels acquired in fee currently have angling easements that cover 66 feet from the centerline of the stream. Acquisition of these properties will expand the protection beyond the 66 feet, and open the property to other uses, including hunting.

**Will the land be open for hunting and fishing after completion?**

Yes

**Describe any variation from the State of Minnesota regulations:**

None.

**Who will eventually own the fee title land?**

- State of MN



**Land acquired in fee will be designated as a:**

- WMA
- State Forest

**What is the anticipated number of closed acquisitions (range is fine) you plan to accomplish with this appropriation?**

TPL expects to close on one to three fee acquisitions during the course of this grant.

**Will the eased land be open for public use?**

No

**Are there currently trails or roads on any of the proposed acquisitions?**

Yes

**Describe the types of trails or roads and the allowable uses:**

MLT - Most conservation easements are established on private lands, many of which have driveways, field roads and trails located on them. Often, these established trails and roads are permitted in the terms of the easement and can be maintained for personal use if their use does not significantly impact the conservation values of the property. Creation of new roads/trails or expansion of existing ones is typically not allowed.

~~TPL - TPL is not aware of any trails or roads on potential acquisitions. If any are discovered, they will be managed per DNR policy for WMAs, AMAs, SNAs or State Forests.~~

**Will the trails or roads remain and uses continue to be allowed after OHF acquisition?**

Yes

**How will maintenance and monitoring be accomplished?**

MLT - Existing trails and roads are identified in the project baseline report and will be monitored annually as part of the Land Trust's stewardship and enforcement protocols. Maintenance of permitted roads/trails in line with the terms of the easement will be the responsibility of the landowner.

**Will new trails or roads be developed or improved as a result of the OHF acquisition?**

No

**Will the acquired parcels be restored or enhanced within this appropriation?**

Yes

MLT - Restoration and enhancement may be completed on some easement parcels, depending on the the need and condition of each parcel. We have budgeted \$200,000 to restore/enhance at least 50 acres of habitat through this appropriation.

**Timeline**

<b>Activity Name</b>	<b>Estimated Completion Date</b>
Initiate protection and restoration projects	July 2020
Complete easement protection projects	June 2023
Complete restoration and enhancement projects	June 2025
<del>Complete fee protection projects</del>	<del>June 2023</del>

**Date of Final Report Submission:** 11/01/2025

**Availability of Appropriation:** Subd. 7. Availability of Appropriation

Money appropriated in this section may not be spent on activities unless they are directly related to and necessary for a specific appropriation and are specified in the accomplishment plan approved by the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council. Money appropriated in this section must not be spent on indirect costs or other institutional overhead charges that are not directly related to and necessary for a specific appropriation. Unless otherwise provided, the amounts in this section are available until June 30, 2023. For acquisition of real property, the amounts in this section are available until June 30, 2024, if a binding agreement with a landowner or purchase agreement is entered into by June 30, 2023, and closed no later than June 30, 2024. Funds for restoration or enhancement are available until June 30, 2025, or five years after acquisition, whichever is later, in order to complete initial restoration or enhancement work. If a project receives at least 15 percent of its funding from federal funds, the time of the appropriation may be extended to equal the availability of federal funding to a maximum of six years if the federal funding was confirmed and included in the original approved draft accomplishment plan. Funds appropriated for fee title acquisition of land may be used to restore, enhance, and provide for public use of the land acquired with the appropriation. Public-use facilities must have a minimal impact on habitat in acquired lands.

**Budget**

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

**Grand Totals Across All Partnerships**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Funding Request</b>	<b>Leverage</b>	<b>Leverage Source</b>	<b>Total</b>
Personnel	\$330,300	-	-	\$330,300
Contracts	<del>\$571,200</del> <u>\$1,175,900</u>	\$15,000	-, Federal Farm Bill; USFWS	<del>\$586,200</del> <u>\$1,190,900</u>
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	<del>\$604,700</del> -	-	-	<del>\$604,700</del> -
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	-	-	-	-
Easement Acquisition	\$312,000	\$67,000	Private donations	\$379,000
Easement Stewardship	\$96,000	-	-	\$96,000
Travel	\$15,500	\$2,000	-, TPL	\$17,500
Professional Services	\$129,500	-	-	\$129,500
Direct Support Services	\$97,800	\$89,300	-, Trout Unlimited, TNC, TPL	\$187,100
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	\$15,000	-	-	\$15,000
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	\$2,000	-	-	\$2,000
Supplies/Materials	\$67,000	\$10,000	-, Federal Farm Bill; USFWS	\$77,000
DNR IDP	\$25,000	-	-	\$25,000
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$2,266,000</b>	<b>\$183,300</b>	-	<b>\$2,449,300</b>

## Partner: Minnesota Land Trust

**Totals**

Item	Funding Request	Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	\$130,300	-	-	\$130,300
Contracts	\$157,000	-	-	\$157,000
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	-	-	-	-
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	-	-	-	-
Easement Acquisition	\$312,000	\$67,000	Private donations	\$379,000
Easement Stewardship	\$96,000	-	-	\$96,000
Travel	\$11,000	-	-	\$11,000
Professional Services	\$59,500	-	-	\$59,500
Direct Support Services	\$35,200	-	-	\$35,200
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	-	-	-	-
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	-	-	-	-
Supplies/Materials	-	-	-	-
DNR IDP	-	-	-	-
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$801,000</b>	<b>\$67,000</b>	-	<b>\$868,000</b>

**Personnel**

Position	Annual FTE	Years Working	Funding Request	Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
MLT - Protection Staff	0.25	3.0	\$70,000	-	-	\$70,000
MLT - Restoration Staff	0.21	3.0	\$60,300	-	-	\$60,300

**Partner: Minnesota Trout Unlimited****Totals**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Funding Request</b>	<b>Leverage</b>	<b>Leverage Source</b>	<b>Total</b>
Personnel	\$30,000	-	-	\$30,000
Contracts	\$141,000	\$15,000	Federal Farm Bill; USFWS	\$156,000
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	-	-	-	-
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	-	-	-	-
Easement Acquisition	-	-	-	-
Easement Stewardship	-	-	-	-
Travel	\$2,000	-	-	\$2,000
Professional Services	\$30,000	-	-	\$30,000
Direct Support Services	\$6,000	\$6,000	Trout Unlimited	\$12,000
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	-	-	-	-
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	\$2,000	-	-	\$2,000
Supplies/Materials	\$47,000	\$10,000	Federal Farm Bill; USFWS	\$57,000
DNR IDP	-	-	-	-
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$258,000</b>	<b>\$31,000</b>	-	<b>\$289,000</b>

**Personnel**

<b>Position</b>	<b>Annual FTE</b>	<b>Years Working</b>	<b>Funding Request</b>	<b>Leverage</b>	<b>Leverage Source</b>	<b>Total</b>
Enhancement work staff	0.1	5.0	\$30,000	-	-	\$30,000

**Partner: The Nature Conservancy****Totals**

Item	Funding Request	Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	\$80,000	-	-	\$80,000
Contracts	\$223,200	-	-	\$223,200
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	-	-	-	-
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	-	-	-	-
Easement Acquisition	-	-	-	-
Easement Stewardship	-	-	-	-
Travel	\$2,500	-	-	\$2,500
Professional Services	-	-	-	-
Direct Support Services	\$24,300	\$51,000	TNC	\$75,300
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	-	-	-	-
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	-	-	-	-
Supplies/Materials	\$20,000	-	-	\$20,000
DNR IDP	-	-	-	-
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$350,000</b>	<b>\$51,000</b>	-	<b>\$401,000</b>

**Personnel**

Position	Annual FTE	Years Working	Funding Request	Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
TNC Restoration and Grants Staff	0.27	3.0	\$80,000	-	-	\$80,000

**Partner: Trust for Public Land****Totals**

Item	Funding Request	Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	\$90,000	-	-	\$90,000
Contracts	\$50,000 \$654,700	-	-	\$50,000 \$654,700
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	\$604,700 -	-	-	\$604,700 -
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	-	-	-	-
Easement Acquisition	-	-	-	-
Easement Stewardship	-	-	-	-
Travel	-	\$2,000	TPL	\$2,000
Professional Services	\$40,000	-	-	\$40,000
Direct Support Services	\$32,300	\$32,300	TPL	\$64,600
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	\$15,000	-	-	\$15,000
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	-	-	-	-
Supplies/Materials	-	-	-	-
DNR IDP	\$25,000	-	-	\$25,000
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$857,000</b>	<b>\$34,300</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$891,300</b>

**Personnel**

Position	Annual FTE	Years Working	Funding Request	Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
TPL - Protection and Legal Staff	0.18	3.0	\$90,000	-	-	\$90,000

**Amount of Request:** \$2,266,000

**Amount of Leverage:** \$183,300

**Leverage as a percent of the Request:** 8.09%

**DSS + Personnel:** \$428,100

**As a % of the total request:** 18.89%

**Easement Stewardship:** \$96,000

**As a % of the Easement Acquisition:** 30.77%

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

Activities and outputs related to land protection (via easements and fee title) and restoration/enhancement (upland and in-stream) have been scaled proportional to the original proposal.

**Describe and explain leverage source and confirmation of funds:**

TPL - Will leverage privately sourced funds to cover half of direct support services (DSS) costs and funds for travel.

MLT - Expected landowner donation of easement value.

TNC - Will leverage privately sourced funds for non-grant reimbursed (DSS) costs.

MNTU - We hope to secure EQIP and USFWS funds.

## Contracts

### What is included in the contracts line?

MLT: Contracts for restoration work; writing of habitat management plans; outreach via SWCD offices.

~~TPL: Potential site clean-up and initial restoration activities.~~

~~TNC: Contract line item are dedicated to enhancement and restoration~~ The contract line item is allocated to enhancement work.

TNC: Contract line item are dedicated to enhancement and restoration work. Typical contractors include private vendors and

Conservation Corps of MN/IA.

MNTU: Enhancement services, ~~including labor.~~

## Easement Stewardship

### What is the number of easements anticipated, cost per easement for stewardship, and explain how that amount is calculated?

The average cost per easement to fund the Minnesota Land Trust's perpetual monitoring and enforcement obligations is \$24,000. This figure is derived from MLT's detailed stewardship funding "cost analysis" which is consistent with Land Trust Accreditation standards.

MLT shares periodic updates to this cost analysis with LSOHC staff.

## Travel

### Does the amount in the travel line include equipment/vehicle rental?

No

### Explain the amount in the travel line outside of traditional travel costs of mileage, food, and lodging

MLT often rents vehicles for grant-related work in Southeast Minnesota.

### I understand and agree that lodging, meals, and mileage must comply with the current MMB Commissioner Plan:

No

## Direct Support Services

### How did you determine which portions of the Direct Support Services of your shared support services is direct to this program?

MLT - In a process that was approved by the DNR on March 17, 2017, Minnesota Land Trust determined our direct support services rate to include all of the allowable direct and necessary expenditures that are not captured in other line items in the budget, which is similar to the Land Trust's proposed federal indirect rate. We will apply this DNR approved rate only to personnel expenses to determine the total amount of the direct support services.

TPL - DSS request is based upon our federal rate which has been approved by the DNR. 50% of these costs are



requested from the OHF grant, 50% is contributed as leverage.

TNC - DSS is based on TNC's Federally Negotiated Rate (FNR) as proposed and subsequently approved by the US Dept. of Interior on an annual basis. In this proposal we are requesting reimbursement of 7.5% of eligible base costs as determined by our annual FNR and based on suggestions from the Council in last year's hearings. The portion of the approved rate unrecovered through the life of the grant is offered as leverage.

MNTU - The DSS requested represents a portion of TU's federal rate, which is approved annually. The requested amount likely

represents one third of what we would be eligible to claim based upon past DNR approval. TU is donating the other portion.

### Federal Funds

**Do you anticipate federal funds as a match for this program?**

No

## Output Tables

### Acres by Resource Type (Table 1)

Type	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat	Total Acres
Restore	0	10	50	0	60
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	<u>73 0</u>	<u>73 0</u>	0	<u>146 0</u>
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Easement	0	0	0	408	408
Enhance	0	30	60	<u>47 57</u>	<u>137 147</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b><u>113 40</u></b>	<b><u>183 110</u></b>	<b><u>455 465</u></b>	<b><u>751 615</u></b>

### Total Requested Funding by Resource Type (Table 2)

Type	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat	Total Funding
Restore	-	\$70,000	\$80,000	\$7,900	\$157,900
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	<del>\$428,500</del> <u>\$48,700</u>	<del>\$428,500</del> <u>\$48,700</u>	-	<del>\$857,000</del> <u>\$97,400</u>
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	\$596,400	\$596,400
Enhance	-	\$120,000	\$80,000	<del>\$454,700</del> <u>\$1,214,300</u>	<del>\$654,700</del> <u>\$1,414,300</u>
<b>Total</b>	-	<b><del>\$618,500</del> <u>\$238,700</u></b>	<b><del>\$588,500</del> <u>\$208,700</u></b>	<b><del>\$1,059,000</del> <u>\$1,818,600</u></b>	<b><u>\$2,266,000</u></b>

### Acres within each Ecological Section (Table 3)

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest	Total Acres
Restore	0	0	60	0	0	60
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	0	<u>146 0</u>	0	0	<u>146 0</u>
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	0	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Easement	0	0	408	0	0	408
Enhance	0	0	<u>137 147</u>	0	0	<u>137 147</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b><u>751 615</u></b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b><u>751 615</u></b>

### Total Requested Funding within each Ecological Section (Table 4)

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest	Total Funding
Restore	-	-	\$157,900	-	-	\$157,900
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	<del>\$857,000</del> <u>\$97,400</u>	-	-	<del>\$857,000</del> <u>\$97,400</u>
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	\$596,400	-	-	\$596,400
Enhance	-	-	<del>\$654,700</del> <u>\$1,414,300</u>	-	-	<del>\$654,700</del> <u>\$1,414,300</u>
<b>Total</b>	-	-	<b><u>\$2,266,000</u></b>	-	-	<b><u>\$2,266,000</u></b>

### Average Cost per Acre by Resource Type (Table 5)

Type	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat
Restore	-	\$7,000	\$1,600	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	<del>\$5,869</del> -	<del>\$5,869</del> -	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	\$1,461
Enhance	-	\$4,000	\$1,333	<del>\$9,674</del> <u>\$21,303</u>

**Average Cost per Acre by Ecological Section (Table 6)**

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest
Restore	-	-	\$2,631	-	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	\$5,869	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	\$1,461	-	-
Enhance	-	-	\$4,778	\$9,621	-

**Target Lake/Stream/River Feet or Miles**

1.5

## Parcels

*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.*

### Sign-up Criteria?

[Yes - Sign up criteria is attached](#)

**Explain the process used to identify, prioritize, and select the parcels on your list:**

### Restore / Enhance Parcels

Name	County	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection
Beaver Creek Floodplain	Fillmore	10208203	10	\$40,000	Yes
Gribben Creek	Fillmore	10309228	2	\$10,000	Yes
Maple Creek	Fillmore	10208203	0	\$0	Yes
<u>Maple Creek (Choice WMA)</u>	<u>Fillmore</u>	<u>10208203</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>\$300,000</u>	<u>Yes</u>
Vesta Creek	Fillmore	10208210	2	\$20,000	Yes
Beaver Creek	Houston	10206230	0	\$0	Yes
<u>Yucatan WMA (Girl Scout Camp Creek)</u>	<u>Houston</u>	<u>10307230</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>\$200,000</u>	<u>Yes</u>
Crow Spring	Olmsted	10611210	0	\$0	Yes
Evergreen Acres - MLT	Olmsted	10814224	40	\$123,000	Yes
East Indian Creek	Wabasha	10910228	0	\$0	Yes
Middle Creek	Wabasha	10912213	0	\$0	Yes
Hemingway Creek	Winona	10509227	0	\$0	Yes
<del>Yucatan WMA</del>	<del>Houston</del>	<del>10307230</del>	<del>25</del>	<del>\$60,000</del>	<del>Yes</del>

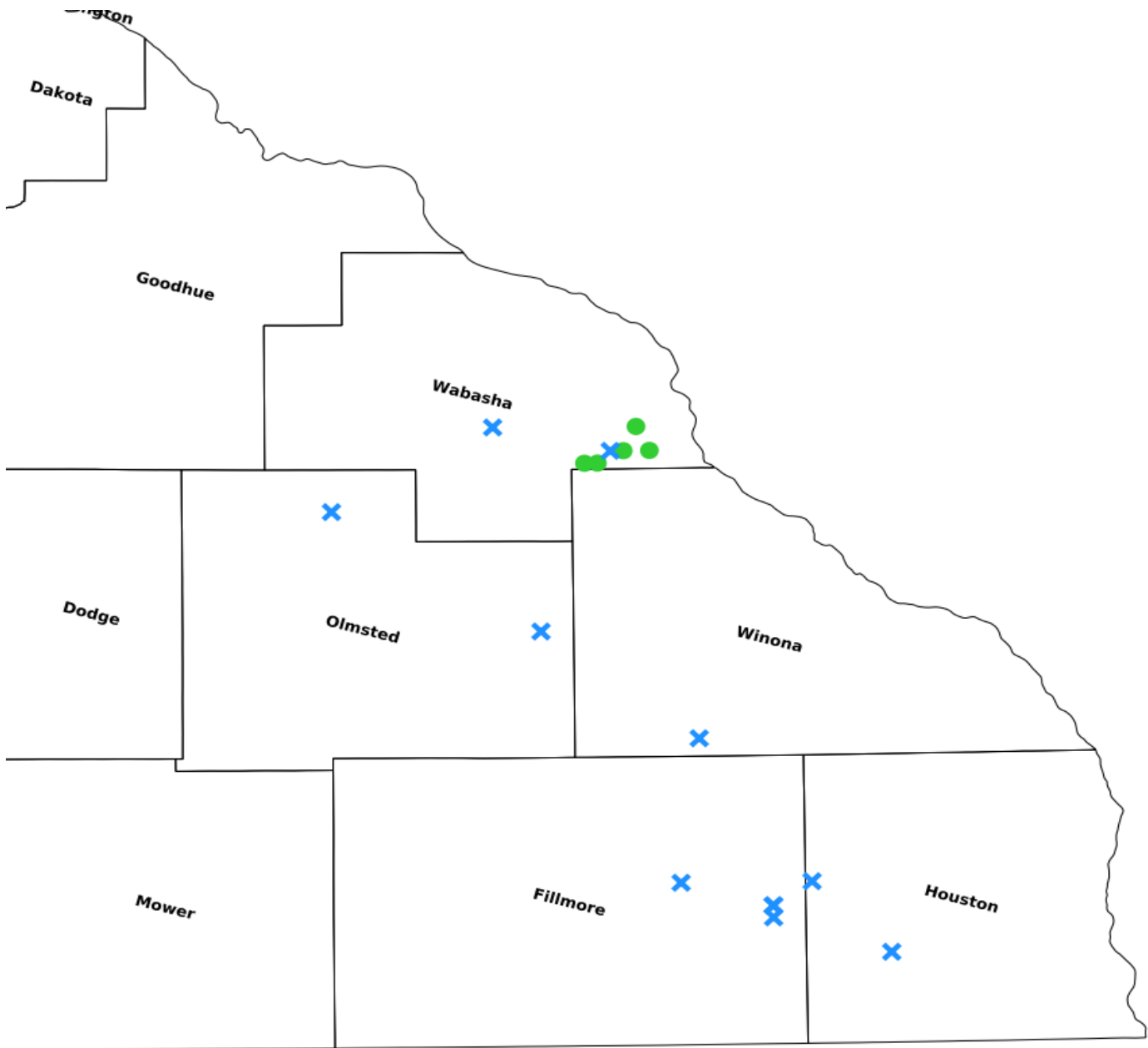
### Fee Parcels

Name	County	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection
<del>Maple Creek</del>	<del>Fillmore</del>	<del>10208203</del>	<del>0</del>	<del>\$0</del>	<del>No</del>
Hay Creek Unit Addition	Goodhue	11214207	144	\$1,071,000	No
<del>Beaver Creek</del>	<del>Houston</del>	<del>10206230</del>	<del>0</del>	<del>\$0</del>	<del>No</del>
<del>Crow Spring</del>	<del>Olmsted</del>	<del>10611210</del>	<del>0</del>	<del>\$0</del>	<del>No</del>
<del>East Indian</del>	<del>Wabasha</del>	<del>10910228</del>	<del>0</del>	<del>\$0</del>	<del>No</del>
<del>Middle Creek</del>	<del>Wabasha</del>	<del>10912213</del>	<del>0</del>	<del>\$0</del>	<del>No</del>
<del>Hemingway Creek</del>	<del>Winona</del>	<del>10509227</del>	<del>0</del>	<del>\$0</del>	<del>No</del>

### Easement Parcels

Name	County	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection
East Indian Creek 1	Wabasha	10910231	96	\$100,000	Yes
East Indian Creek 2	Wabasha	10910232	120	\$120,000	Yes
East Indian Creek 3	Wabasha	10910227	225	\$450,000	No
East Indian Creek 4	Wabasha	10910225	150	\$200,000	No
East Indian Creek 5	<del>Winona</del> Wabasha	10910214	180	\$216,000	No

### Parcel Map



- Protect in Easement
- ▲ Protect in Fee with PILT
- Protect in Fee W/O PILT
- ★ Restore
- ✕ Enhance
- ⊕ Other