

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

OHF-Related Upcoming Events

Tuesday, June 2, 2026 10:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.	LSOHC Field Tour: DNR Wetlands & Shallow Lakes Minnesota DNR	Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center 12718 10 th St. NE Spicer, MN 56288
Tuesday, June 9, 2026 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Minnesota Heritage Forest Acquisition Celebration Minnesota DNR	7 miles south of Wrenshall, MN then 1.5 miles west on County Rd 112, Blackhoof River Wildlife Management Area is on the south side of County Rd 112. GPS coordinates: 46.5332246, - 92.4164166
Saturday, June 13, 2026 2:00 p.m.	Orange Waterfowl Production Area Dedication Ducks Unlimited	Orange Waterfowl Production Area Douglas County
Thursday, June 25, 2026	Mantrap Wildlife Management Area Grand Opening Northern Waters Land Trust; Minnesota Land Trust	Mantrap WMA Jack Fish Drive, Park Rapids, MN 56470

Note: These events are not held by the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council. Members may not discuss or act on official business. These events are not public meetings of the Council and are provided for informational purposes only.

LSOHC Field Tour

Tuesday, June 2nd

- **10:00 a.m. – Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center**
12718 10th ST NE
Spicer, MN 56288
- **11:30 a.m. – Depart Prairie Woods with boxed lunches**
- **Stop 1 - Gopher Ridge WMA (12 miles)**
11:45 p.m. to 12:15 p.m.
- **Stop 2 – West Bay of Lake Wakanda (12 miles)**
12:30 p.m. to 12:45 p.m.
- **Stop 3 – East Bay of Lake Wakanda (8 miles)**
1:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- **Stop 4 – Atwater WMA (6 miles)**
1:45 p.m. to 2:15 p.m.
- **Stop 5 – Powers Lake WMA (13 miles)**
2:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- **Stop 6 – Powers Lake (3 miles)**
3:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- **Depart from Powers Lake located 6 miles north of Darwin, MN**
~3:30 p.m.





Minnesota Heritage Forest Acquisition Celebration

Please join us for a presentation, lunch, and hike

Who: Project partners and those who had a hand in making this acquisition possible

When: Tuesday, June 9, 2026, 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. (Coffee and morning treats at 9:00)

Where: 7 miles south of Wrenshall, MN then 1.5 miles west on County Rd 112, Blackhoof River Wildlife Management Area is on the south side of County Rd 112. GPS coordinates: 46.5332246, -92.4164166

Agenda:

9:30 a.m.	Welcome and introductions
10:00 a.m.	Project background and history
11:30 a.m.	Catered lunch on site
12:30 p.m.	Optional hiking tour

Bug spray, tick protection, and outdoor footwear is recommended.

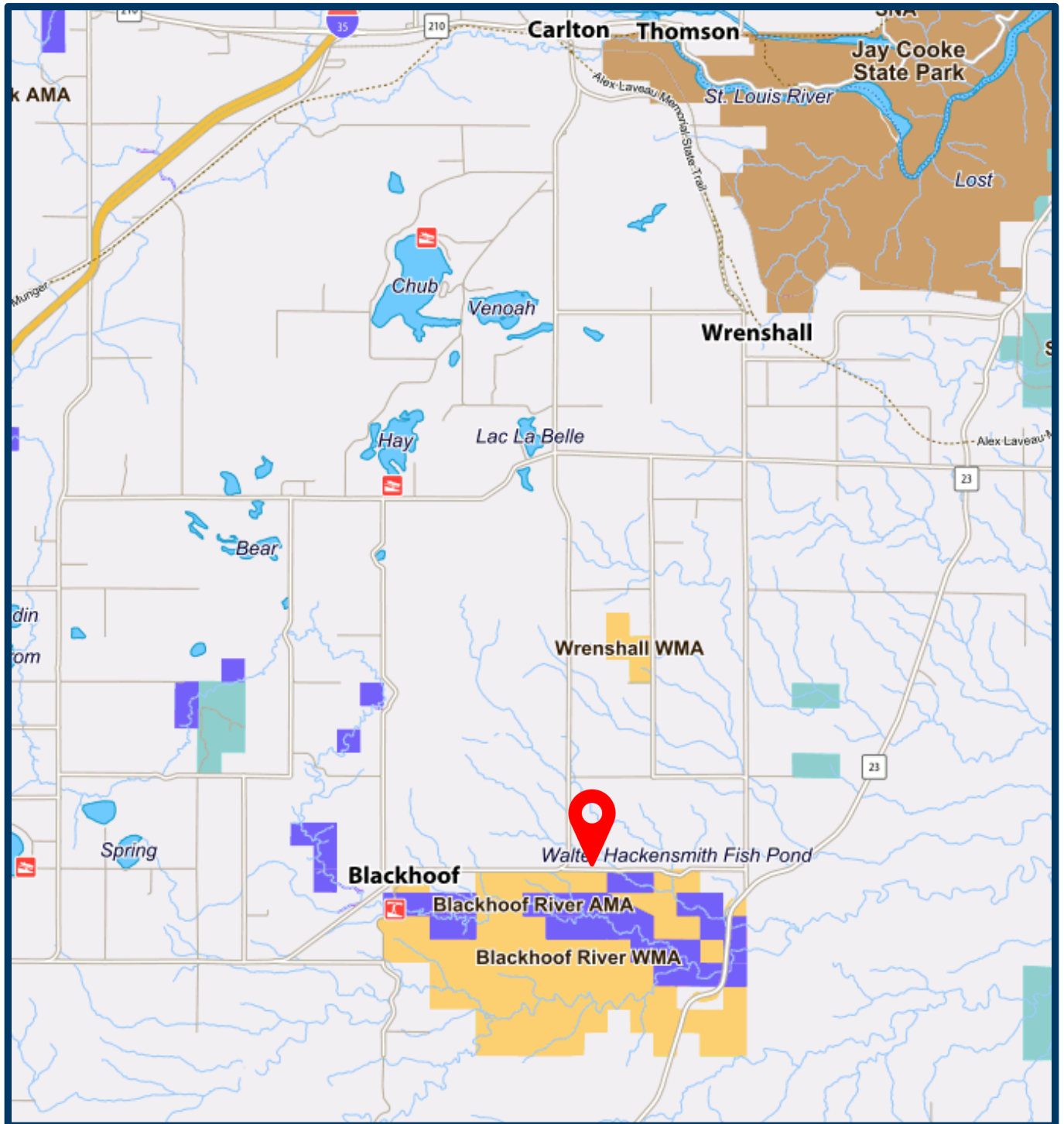
*****A catered lunch will be provided, please RSVP to Shannon.Anttila@state.mn.us by May 5, 2026.*****

Project History: In 2020, The Conservation Fund (TCF) purchased 72,000 acres of forest land in northern Minnesota from PotlatchDeltic Corporation to prevent fragmentation of large forest blocks, conserve habitat, and maintain forest diversity.

Together, Northern Waters Land Trust (NWLT) and the DNR submitted a proposal to the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council (LSOHC), which recommended funding for DNR and NWLT (on behalf of nine counties) to purchase and permanently protect over 18,000 acres of these forest lands.

Event location

GPS coordinates: 46.5332246, -92.4164166





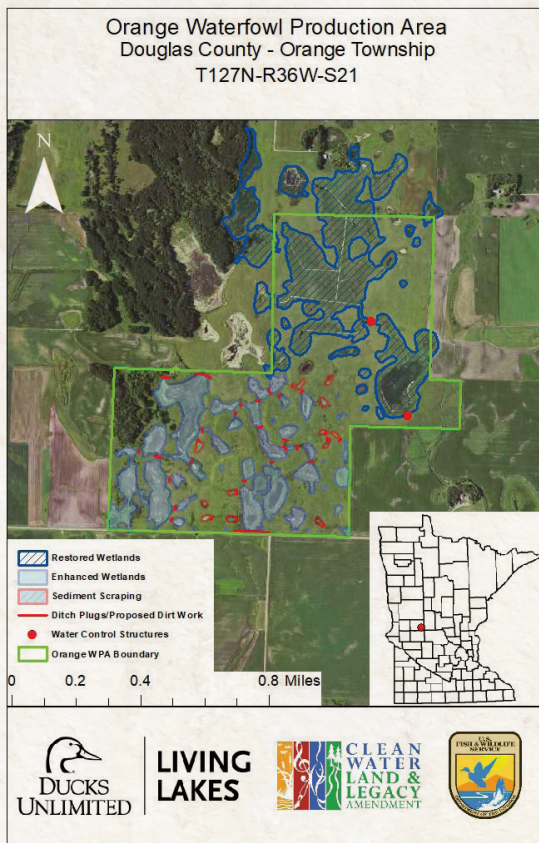
PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE

ORANGE WATERFOWL PRODUCTION AREA DEDICATION

ORANGE WPA, OSAKIS MN
SATURDAY, JUNE 13, 2026
BEGINNING AT 2:00 PM



MINNESOTA LIVING LAKES INITIATIVE



Orange WPA is a 431-acre federal property purchased with federal Migratory Bird Conservation “Duck Stamp” Funds and managed by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. In 2021, Ducks Unlimited restored and enhanced 48 prairie pothole wetlands totaling 186 acres to improve habitat for breeding waterfowl. Funding was provided from Minnesota’s Outdoor Heritage Fund, federal North American Wetlands Conservation Act, Pioneer Heritage Conservation Trust, and Ducks Unlimited philanthropic supporters.

Ducks Unlimited proudly dedicates the Orange WPA as part of Minnesota’s *Living Lakes* conservation initiative. Thanks to Ducks Unlimited Major Sponsors for their generous contributions.

**TOGETHER WE WILL FILL THE SKIES WITH
WATERFOWL TODAY, TOMORROW AND FOREVER!**

ORANGE WATERFOWL PRODUCTION AREA DEDICATION

SATURDAY, JUNE 13, 2026
BEGINNING AT 2:00 PM

PLEASE SCAN THIS CODE TO RSVP
by June 5



FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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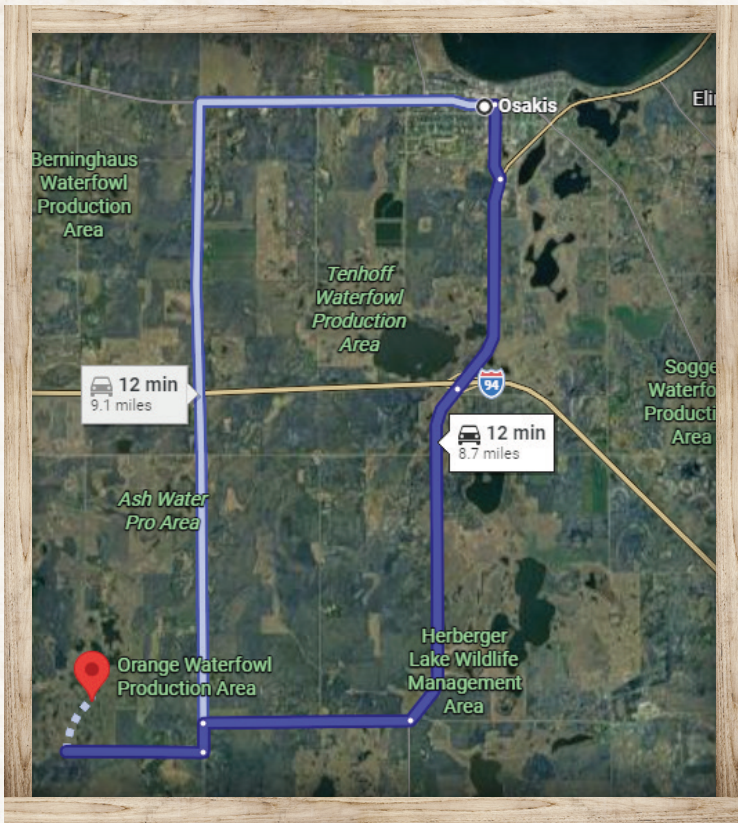
PARTNERS

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE THROUGH OUR LIVING LAKES CONSERVATION INITIATIVE. SUPPORT WAS PROVIDED FROM MINNESOTA'S OUTDOOR HERITAGE FUND, NORTH AMERICAN WETLANDS CONSERVATION ACT, FLINT HILL RESOURCES, CATERPILLAR FOUNDATION AND DUCKS UNLIMITED MEMBERS AND MAJOR SPONSORS.

North American Wetlands Conservation Act



DIRECTIONS














**Thursday, June 25, 2026 | Begins at
2:00pm | Mantrap Lake Beach & Picnic Area**

Boat tours and hiking available prior to the event.
Space is limited. Please RSVP to attend.

[RSVP](#)

<p>Boat Tours & Hiking</p> <p>12:00pm</p> <p>Arrive early to enjoy boat tours or a guided hike before the ceremony.</p>  	<p>Grand Opening</p> <p>2:00pm</p> <p>Celebrate the official opening of the new Wildlife Management Area with a special ceremony at the lake!</p> 	<p>Social & Refreshments</p> <p>Starting at 2:00pm</p> <p>Enjoy light refreshments and time to connect following the ceremony.</p> 
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Funding was provided by the Outdoor Heritage Fund as part of the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment and by the project Restoration of Common Loons in Minnesota, which was funded by the Open Ocean Trustee Implementation Group through the Natural Resource Damage Assessment Deepwater Horizon settlement.

EVENT DETAILS



Thursday, June 25, 2026



Begins at 2:00pm

(Boat tours and birding hikes available beginning at 12:00pm)



Mantrap Lake Beach & Picnic Shelter

Jack Fish Drive, Park Rapids, MN 56470

(See map below)



Free to attend!



RSVP appreciated

Join us for the grand opening celebration of the **Mantrap Lake Wildlife Management Area!** Recently acquired from 3M by Northern Waters Land Trust and the Minnesota Land Trust, this beautiful **449-acre property with more than 6 miles of shoreline is now protected forever**, managed by the MN DNR, and open to the public as a new Wildlife Management Area. [Read the full story here.](#)

This project was funded through the state's Outdoor Heritage Fund as part of the Clean Water, Land, and Legacy Amendment, with a matching contribution of federal funding through the Minnesota Loon Restoration Project.

This is a major win for water quality, wildlife habitat, and public access in the region. We look forward to celebrating with you!

Link to Google Maps: [Jack Fish Drive, Park Rapids, MN 56470](#)