

Minnesota Forests for the Future Program

Project and Funding Update

Overview: Minnesota Forests for the Future Program was established by the Minnesota Legislature and utilizes funding made available from a variety of sources to Minnesota DNR to protect environmentally important private forests, primarily through the purchase of permanent conservation easements. Projects conserve private working forests throughout Minnesota that contain fish and wildlife habitat, threatened and endangered species, timber, scenic, recreation, and other cultural and environmental values. Forty-four percent of Minnesota's forests, or approximately 7.5 million acres, are at risk of fragmentation or conversion to non-forest uses. The MN Forests for the Future Program is a complementary program to the MN Forest Legacy Program, a federally-funded national program which serves as an important partner and funding source for MN DNR's forest conservation efforts.

There are thirteen conservation easement programs in DNR; only four are currently active. Of the four active programs in DNR, two of those are in Forestry: Forest Legacy and Forests for the Future. Of all of the acres in DNR conservation easements, ninety two percent (92%) are in Forest Legacy or Forests for the Future conservation easements. See chart below.

DNR Easement Type	Number	Acres
ACUB	6	814
Aquatic Management	19	1,378
Cave	2	219
Forest Legacy*	37	136,479
Forests for the Future*	35	224,491
Metro Greenways	16	662
Northern Pike Spawning	8	87
Other Conservation	45	2,989
Native Prairie Bank*	171	14,785
Scientific Natural Areas	13	816
Trout Stream*	735	5,664
Water Bank	20	1,154
Wild and Scenic River	136	3,958
<i>Total</i>	<i>1,243</i>	<i>393,496</i>

*92% of all acres in DNR
conservation easements
are in **Forest Legacy** or
Forests for the Future*

*active DNR programs: Forest Legacy, Forests for the Future, Native Prairie Bank, and Trout Stream

Forests for the Future and Forest Legacy Program guidelines have been developed and implemented for over 15 years ensuring protection work is strategically located and stewardship sound and efficient. A forest stewardship plan is included with each conservation easement and updates required regularly; the plans make the land eligible for DNR forest stewardship including technical assistance and cost-sharing for forest BMPs and many conservation easement landowners choose to participate in these programs to better conserve and manage their privately-owned forested habitat. Ongoing stewardship includes annual landowner meetings and on-site monitoring.

Current proposal: Minnesota Forests for the Future Phase XI SE Blufflands to Northern Forest Protection requests \$8,000,000 to permanently protect 3,326 acres of high conservation value forested habitat in nine counties across the state with the acquisition of working forest conservation easements. We have \$550,000 in anticipated leverage funds.

Protection work achieves multiple benefits by conserving critical habitat, maintaining forested land cover essential for high water quality/quantity, building climate resilience and by sustaining the forested landscape critical for recreation and local jobs in tourism and timber. This work is crucial to conserving wildlife that require large intact forests and provides perpetual protection for fish, game and wildlife that inhabit these forested landscapes. Conservation easements are an efficient and effective tool – DNR acquires and stewards the conservation easement in perpetuity while the land continues to be privately owned and remains on the property tax rolls. Forest stewardship plans are required to be in place and kept updated. In addition to these benefits over 90% of our easement acres are open to public use.

Current funding and project updates:

	ML Year	Program Title	Appropriation Amount	Original AP Acres	Current Acres Complete	Current Dollars Spent
(a)	2022	MN Forests for the Future Phase IX (9)	\$2,501,000	3,329	1,653	\$2,231,498
(b)	2025	MN Forests for the Future Phase X (10)	\$5,241,000	4,440	0	\$0

(a) MN Forests for the Future Phase IX (9) is expired with 8 easements in place protecting 1,653 acres.

(b) MN Forests for the Future Phase X (10) is in progress with three conservation easement acquisitions in various steps of the process and should be complete this fiscal year. Work on the remaining parcels is expected to start soon and funding is projected to be used in its entirety.

Questions? Please contact:

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Keep Minnesota's Northwoods Green

The Pine River and Leech Lake River watersheds sit at the intersection of exceptional habitat and increasing demand for land, making strategic conservation especially important.



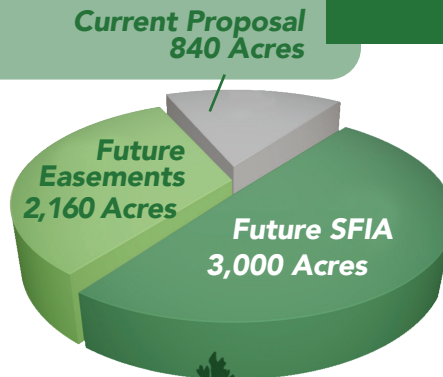
Population trends in Cass and Crow Wing Counties show that more people are choosing to live, build, and invest here. With strategic land conservation, we can protect habitat complexes that protect clean water, wildlife corridors, and outdoor recreation opportunities that make this region special.



The Pine River and Leech Lake River watersheds have some of the highest quality lakes and fisheries in the country. The protection of private lands within these two watersheds ensures the forest stays intact, the water quality remains high, and habitats are healthy for fish and other wildlife.

- Goal for Phase IV: 14 easements for 840 acres
- Overall goal: 75% protection

There is a clear path forward and an attainable goal: protect 6,000 acres of forest habitat.
We have a plan!



These watersheds are a statewide conservation priority, supporting more than 800 lakes, including high-quality walleye, muskie, and cold-water lakes, along with habitat for more than 120 unique, rare, endangered, and threatened species.



The Risk... what is at stake?

Forest fragmentation on private lands is being accelerated by increasing land use change.

Keeping Minnesota's forests intact is a cost-effective investment for taxpayers that protects water quality, sustains wildlife habitat, and preserves the connected landscapes essential for recreation, tourism, and local economies.

Public forestlands alone are not enough to meet this need. By protecting 75% of both public and private forestlands in the Pine River and Leech Lake River watersheds, we are maintaining excellent lake water quality and habitat that sustains sensitive cold-water fish populations.



The Solution

Only 6,000 acres are needed to reach the 75% protection threshold. The goal is within reach, and now is the opportunity to close the gap.



Project Partners:

- Cass SWCD
- Crow Wing SWCD
- Hubbard SWCD
- Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe
- Leech Lake River Watershed
- Pine River Watershed
- MN BWSR

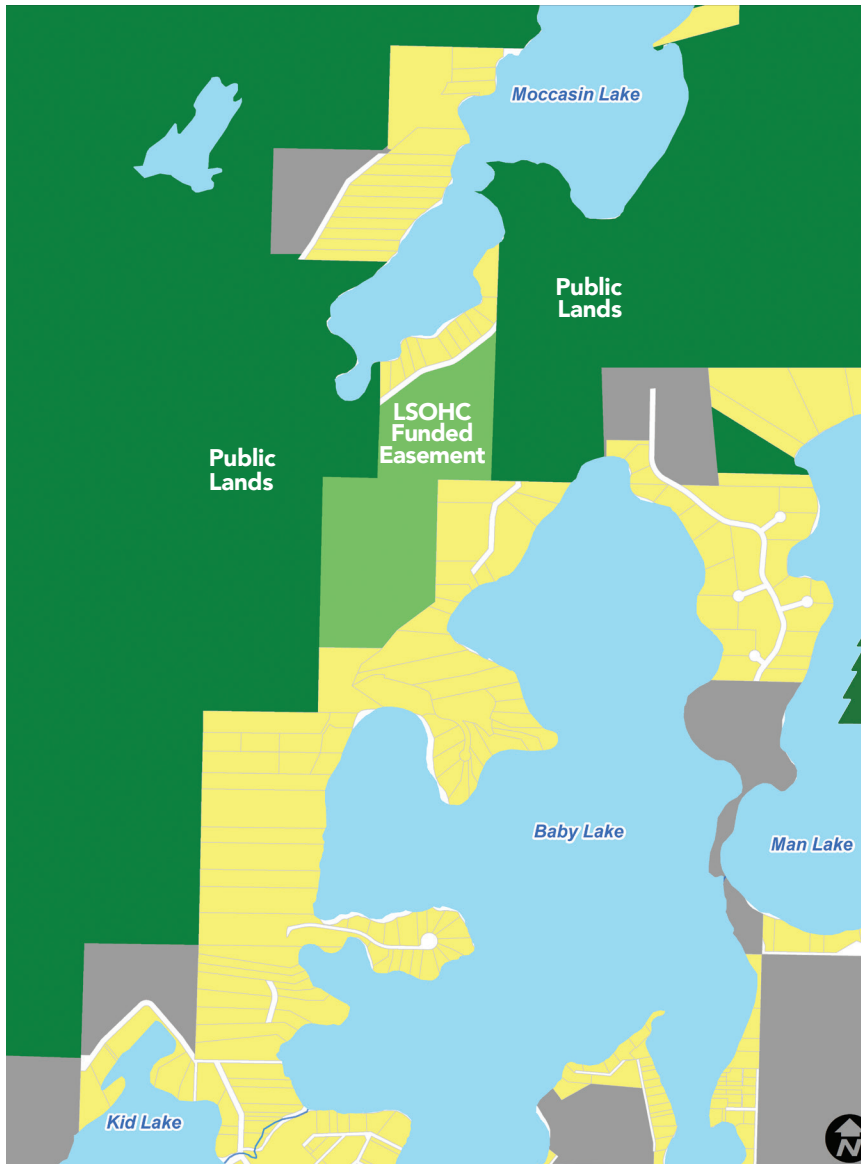


A quick look back

Three phases of funding have resulted in:

- 28 easements secured
- 1,362.4 acres protected through easements

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- LSOHC Funded Easement
- Public/Tribal Lands
- Potential Future Easements (Large-tract forested)
- Small-tract Private Parcels

Success looks like...

With the help of LSOHC's Phase III funding, an 87-acre easement completed in the Leech Lake River Watershed in 2025 protected the land bridge between Moccasin and Baby Lake. This easement connected 397 parcels and more than 36,000 acres of public land, completing a large, contiguous habitat complex.



Protecting private forests provides public benefits including healthy lakes and rivers, connected wildlife habitat, scenic landscapes, and stronger outdoor recreation opportunities that support local communities and economies.

Conservation easements create lasting public benefits without taking land out of private ownership. Landowners continue to pay property taxes and manage their forests, while the easements protect forest habitat, support connected landscapes near public lands, safeguard water quality, and preserve the character of the region.

Issues Update

Stewardship of Minnesota's forests has once again been in the news this summer, highlighting widespread forest health issues and demonstrating the need for continued work to enhance and protect Minnesota's forest resource.

2026 Wildfires

Wildfires in northern Minnesota have burned approximately **74,000 acres of forest land** so far this year, with fire season still underway. These fires affect wildlife habitat, recreation opportunities, rural economies, and community health and safety.

Ongoing Spruce Budworm Outbreak

Part of the reason these fires have burned so quickly and had such a catastrophic impact on the forests they have burned is due to the build up of dead and dying balsam fir and spruce as a result of the ongoing spruce budworm outbreak.

While spruce budworm is a native pest with natural cyclical outbreaks, the current outbreak, since 2021, has been prolonged and has resulted in mortality likely **exceeding 1.5 million acres of forest land** by the end of 2026 in Lake, Cook, and St. Louis counties.



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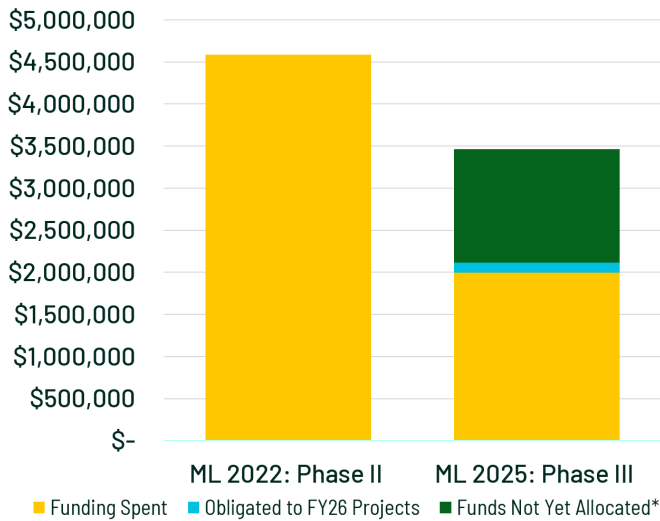
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Forest Recovery Project Accomplishments Update

The Minnesota Forest Recovery Project helps address these new and ongoing threats to forests and forest habitats, and we continue to scale-up our work through LSOHC and leveraged funds. In response to **wildfires, spruce budworm, and emerald ash borer threats**, in 2026, TNC planted 501,794 trees as well as forest restoration along 30 miles of streams and lakeshores.

- ◆ To date in Phases I-III, we have implemented **30,768 acres of enhancement treatments**, reaching 154% of our goal using OHF funds.
- ◆ OHF funds have **leveraged over 115,000 acres** of additional enhancement treatments.
- ◆ This past May, we completed a **928-acre forest conservation easement project** in collaboration with Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center, using Phase II Forest Recovery Project funds.

Forest Recovery Spending, Active Phases



*Funds not yet allocated are earmarked for protection work

Next Steps

We are actively preparing sites burned in the 2025 Camp House and Jenkins Creek fires for planting over 200,000 trees in spring of 2027.

If funded, our ML 2027 proposal will enable 14,000 OHF-funded enhancement acres, and likely thousands of additional leveraged acres.



PA05



Quality of Water ~ Quality of Life

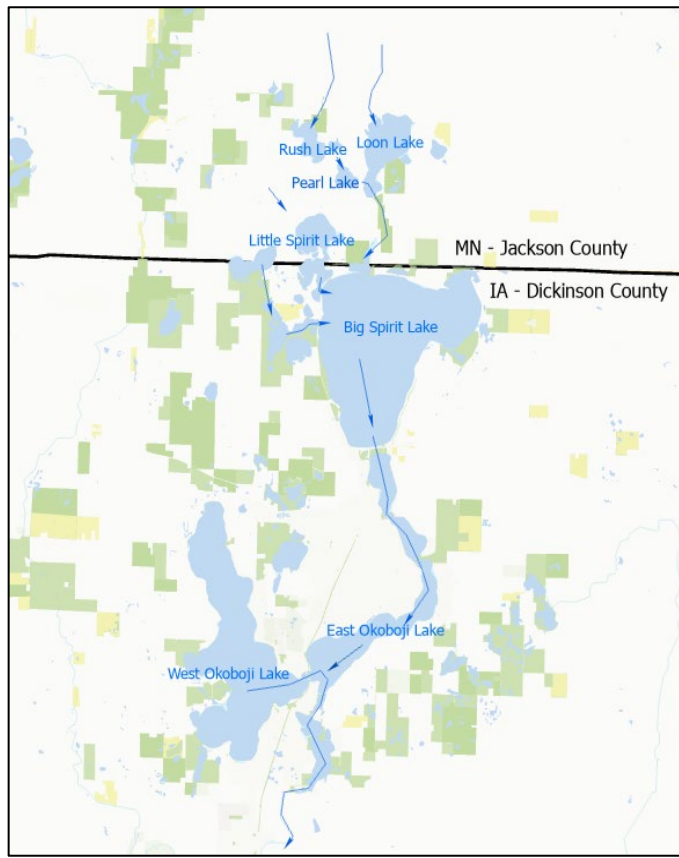
History of Cooperation and Mutual Support

- In the last decade, Iowa has invested ~\$500,000 in Minnesota wetland and oxbow habitat restoration.
- In 2013, LSOHC invested \$261,000 to install a fish barrier on Lower Gar Lake in Iowa to prevent carp invasion of MN lakes in this watershed.
- **SLPA wildlife and water quality goals depend on investing in MN watersheds.**

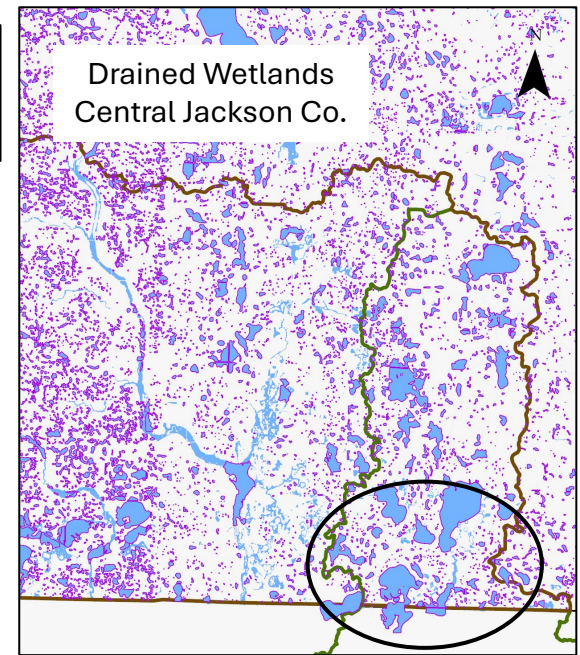
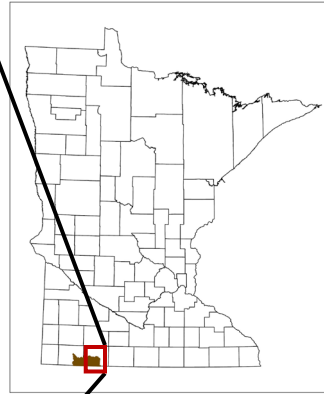
Wildlife Response to Efforts Already Underway

- Sandhill cranes repopulating the area
- 80% of Big Spirit Lake sample sites have wild celery, a favorite food of canvasback ducks
- Successful oak savanna and bullrush restoration on Big Spirit Lake
- Iowa's largest paddlefish was speared on West Lake Okoboji in 1919. Iowa DNR stocked them again in 2024 and documented survival in 2026.



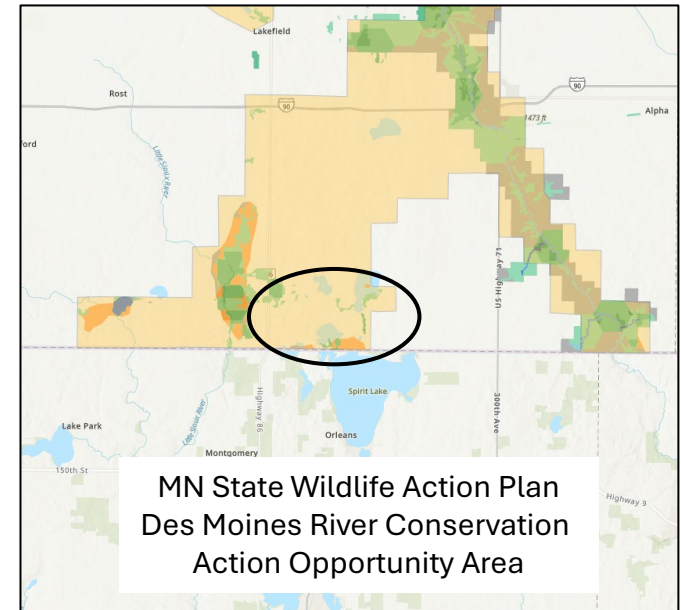


Where are the Great Prairie Lakes?



Why a Conservation Focus Here?

- Historically intense land conversion to row crops impact wildlife habitat and water quality
- MN State Wildlife Action Plan Focus Area
- Terrestrial Core and Prairie Connectivity opportunities exist to protect and connect species of greatest conservation need in MN



Martin County WMA Acquisition

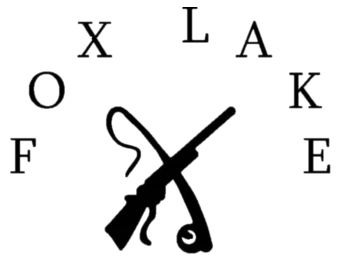
3 acquisitions closing in September will spend down 76% of available Acq. funds:

- 140 acres at Ceylon WMA
- 140 acres at Perch Creek WMA
- 95 acres at Island WMA

\$1,505,000

\$1,170,000

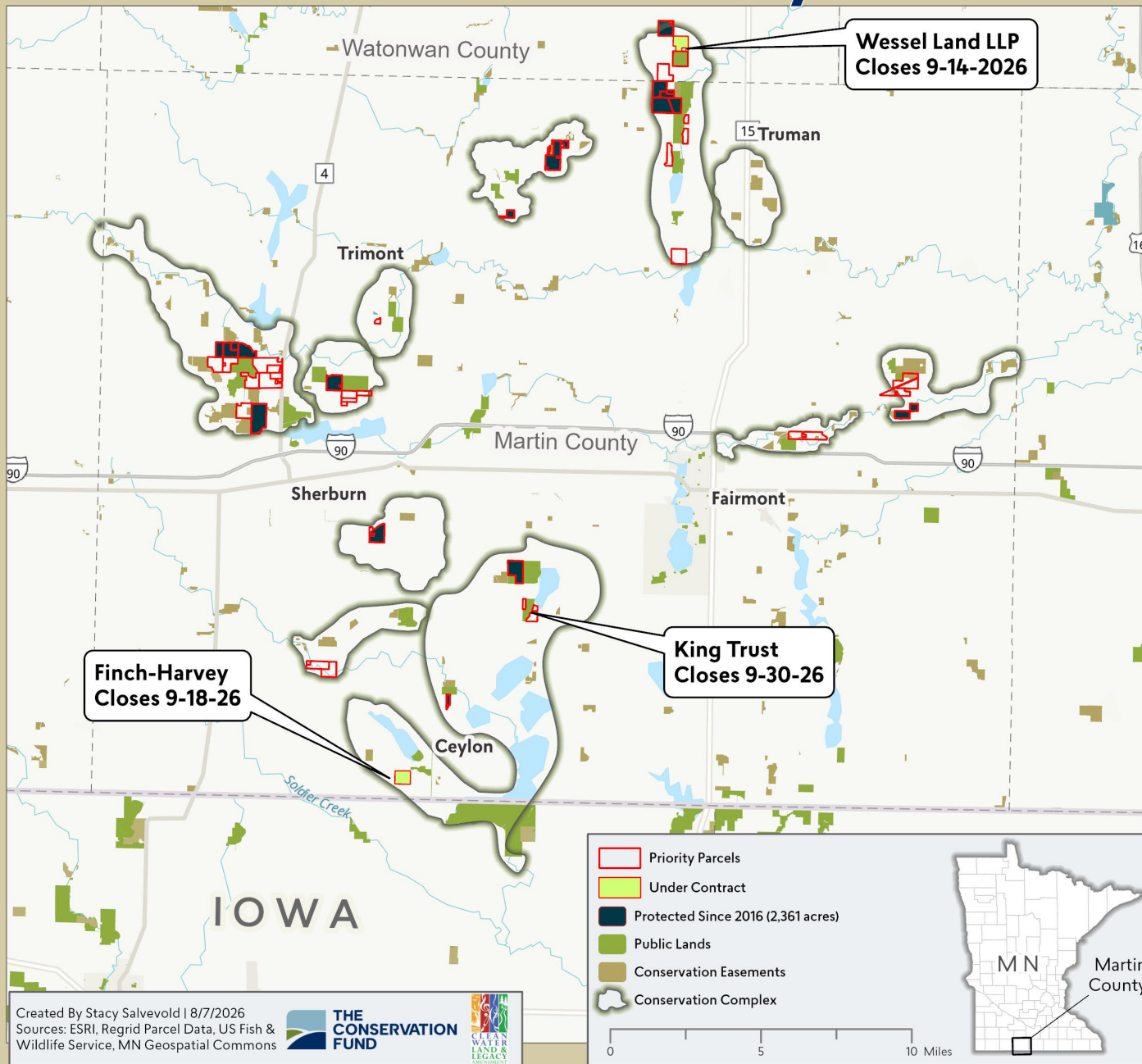
\$985,000



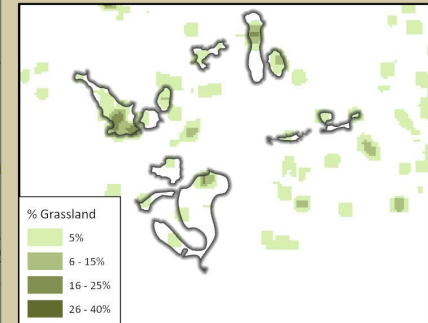
CONSERVATION
LEAGUE



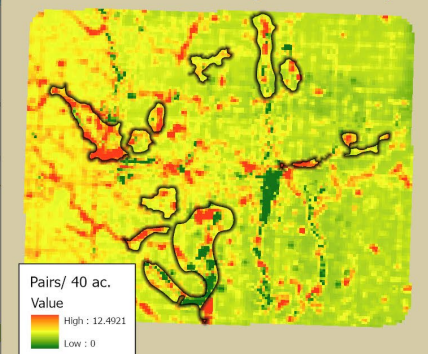
Martin County Habitat



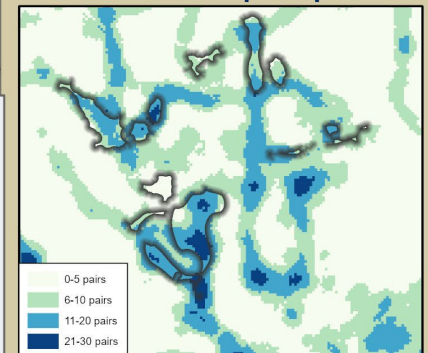
Percent Landscape in Grassland



Bobolink Nesting Suitability



Waterfowl Pairs per Sq. Mile



**Tallgrass
Aspen
Parklands**

The Nature
Conservancy



MN Prairie Recovery Program

Advancing the Protection, Restoration, and Enhancement of prairie habitat within prairie core and corridor landscapes. Our programmatic work focuses on 5 key prairie landscapes across western MN.

Accomplishments to Date:

Protected 8,981 acres

Restored 2,890 acres

Enhanced 235,000 acres

Sequestered 1,850,000 tons CO₂e

**Agassiz
Beach
Ridges**

**Glacial
Lakes**

**Upper
Minnesota
River
Valley**

**Prairie
Coteau**

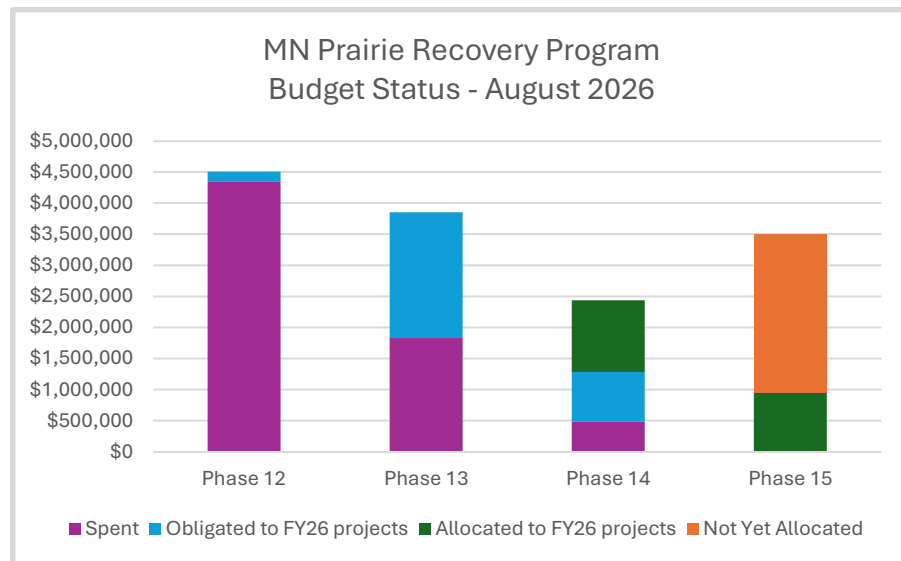
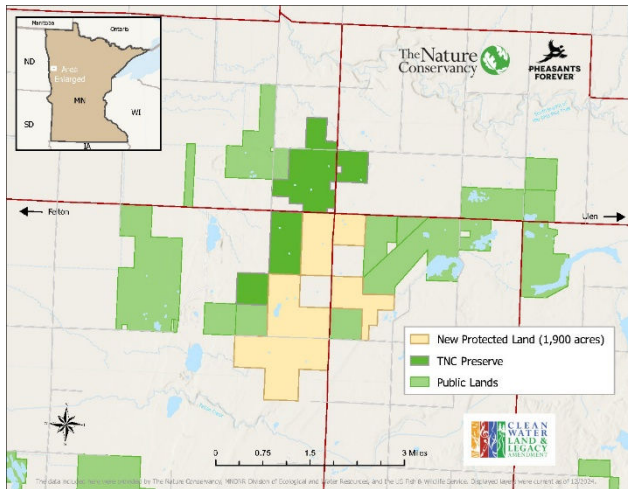


- MN Prairie Plan Core Areas
- MN County Boundaries

0 25 50 100 Miles



Huge land protection accomplishment in northern Clay County! The Nature Conservancy partnered with Pheasants Forever to protect 1,902 acres of prairie, wetland, and restorable habitat in fee title in the Agassiz Beach Ridges landscape of NW MN. We spent MN Prairie Recovery Program acquisition funds from Phases 12-14 (ML22, 23, 25) to protect 802 of those acres.



Of the current \$7.6 million in existing unspent allocations, \$5 million is obligated or allocated to projects in FY2027 (July 1 – June 30), with only \$2.6 million available for the following year. We have completely spent all acquisition funds for Phases 12-14, leaving only Phase 15 acquisition funds. We are already pursuing several fee title protection opportunities.

Definition of Obligated: Funds locked in via Purchase Agreements or signed Contracts for Services, along with personnel, supplies, equipment, travel required to support those projects.

Definition of Allocated: Funds budgeted for planned projects that are in the design or bidding phase and will soon be obligated to Contracts for Services.



PA13: Western Minnesota Prairie and Wetland Protection Program

Building Complexes; Leveraging the State's Investment

PARKERS PRAIRIE (PAULSON) – Otter Tail County

This 54-acre fully-donated (\$404,000) conservation easement in Otter Tail County closed in June 2026 in tandem with a second 127-acre conservation easement completed by the same landowner and the USFWS. The Land Trust continues to deliver high-quality conservation easement projects and significant leverage to the State's funding through donations of conservation easement value.

To date, landowners within this grant program area have donated \$12.8M in easement value since 2013. Restoration activities are underway on both conversation easements.



TAMARACK LAKE COMPLEX – Otter Tail County

The Land Trust closed on a 199-acre conservation easement in 2023 along Tamarack Lake, with two additional conservation easement projects underway. These three conservation easements, building off an existing public Waterfowl Production Area, will create a complex of protected land totaling 624.



PA13: Western Minnesota Prairieand Wetland Protection Program: MLT

Grant Phase		Budget			Output								
		Protection			Leverage			Protection					
		Award	Spent	Committed	Proposed	Actual	% of Goal	Acres Protected			Shoreline (mi)		Projects
								Proposed	Outcome	% of Goal	Proposed	Actual	
2013 Wetlands	Complete	\$ 1,980,000	\$ 1,966,200	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,209,705		1,100	1,962	178%	0.00	14.22	14
2016 Wetlands 2	Complete	\$ 1,629,000	\$ 1,627,187	\$ -	\$ 315,000	\$ 386,975	123%	750	1,025	137%	0.00	17.55	9
2018 Wetlands 3	Complete	\$ 1,302,900	\$ 1,307,565	\$ -	\$ 223,500	\$ 10,315,000	4615%	646	666	103%	0.00	9.46	5
2019 Wetlands 4	Complete	\$ 1,518,500	\$ 1,503,808	\$ -	\$ 277,000	\$ 127,250	46%	800	626	78%	0.00	10.57	4
2020 Wetlands 5	Complete	\$ 1,590,000	\$ 1,579,677	\$ -	\$ 360,000	\$ 72,050	20%	1,040	689	66%	0.00	4.03	4
2020 SWMN 1	Complete	\$ 2,577,000	\$ 2,544,200	\$ -	\$ 200,000	\$ 105,100	53%	550	476	87%	0.00	7.44	4
2021 Wetlands 6	Complete	\$ 2,279,000	\$ 2,267,641	\$ -	\$ 336,900	\$ 196,000	58%	1,213	901	74%	0.00	7.27	7
2022 Wetlands 7	Complete	\$ 2,042,000	\$ 1,965,285	\$ -	\$ 369,000	\$ 404,520	110%	1,144	642	56%	0.00	4.51	4
2023 Wetlands 8	In Progress	\$ 1,776,000	\$ 1,706,023	\$ -	\$ 233,000	\$ -	0%	745	506	68%	0.00	3.04	4
2023 SWMN 2	In Progress	\$ 2,998,000	\$ 824,998	\$ 848,000	\$ 200,000	\$ -	0%	506	119	24%	0.00	2.19	2
2024 SWMN 3	In Progress	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 49,684	\$ -	\$ 142,000	\$ -	0%	312	0	0%	0.00	0.00	0
2025 Wetlands 10	In Progress	\$ 1,370,200	\$ 161,476	\$ 1,008,000	\$ 380,000	\$ -	0%	261	31	12%	0.00	0.82	0
2026 Wetlands 11	In Progress	\$ 1,442,000	\$ 5,667	\$ -	\$ 87,000	\$ -	0%	239	0	0%	0.00	0.00	0
2027 Western MN	Proposed	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		0	0		0.00	0.00	0

Program Totals	Budget			Protection								
	Protection			Leverage			Acres Protected			Shoreline Protected		Projects
	Award	Spent	Committed	Proposed	Actual	% of Goal	Proposed	Outcome	% of Goal	Proposed	Actual	
Complete	\$ 14,918,400	\$ 14,761,563	\$ -	\$ 2,081,400	\$ 12,816,600	616%	7,243	6,987	96%	0.00	75.04	51
In Progress	\$ 9,586,200	\$ 2,747,847	\$ 1,856,000	\$ 1,042,000	\$ -	0%	2,063	656	32%	0.00	6.04	6
Totals Across All Grants	\$ 24,504,600	\$ 17,509,410	\$ 1,856,000	\$ 3,123,400	\$ 12,816,600	410%	9,306	7,643	82%	0.00	81.09	57



PRE02: Restoring Minnesota's Prairie Pothole Ecosystem Phase 1

Project Highlights

Fergus Falls Fish and Game Club, Demmer Property

A USFWS conservation easement on private property purchased by Migratory Bird Conservation Funds, restored with OHF Funds and open to public hunting.



Inspiration Point Bible Camp

Tile removal (below) and prairie restoration (right) is taking place on the Inspiration Point Bible Camp and Folden Woods conservation easements. Photos taken this year. Wetland restorations and tree removal on this site are in progress. These properties provide public access.



Restore/Enhance Results to Date

In Progress Phases

	Award	Spent	Committed	% of Budget	Proposed Acres
2022 Wetlands 7	\$1,288,000	\$454,430	\$833,570	100.00%	992
2023 Wetlands 8	\$1,236,000	\$641,867	\$594,133	100.00%	945
2023 SWMN 2	\$73,000	\$60,295	\$0	82.60%	200
2024 Wetlands 9	\$2,128,000	\$679,565	\$1,448,435	100.00%	983
2024 SWMN 3	\$872,000	\$490,581	\$381,419	100.00%	125
2025 Wetlands 10	\$1,482,800	\$216,496	\$1,266,304	100.00%	450
2026 Wetlands 11	\$1,725,000	\$284	\$1,724,716	100.00%	500
2027 Restoring PPR 1	\$6,960,000	\$0	\$6,960,000	100.00%	2,500
Progress subtotal:	\$8,804,800	\$2,543,518	\$6,248,577	99.86%	4,195

Completed Phases

	Award	Proposed Acres	Actual Acres	% of Output
2018 Wetlands 3	\$483,100	745	954	128%
2019 Wetlands 4	\$610,500	978	1,102	113%
2020 Wetlands 5	\$1,093,000	942	981	104%
2020 SWMN 1	\$467,000	195	532	273%
2021 Wetlands 6	\$809,000	870	886	102%
Complete subtotal:	\$3,462,600	3,730	4,455	119%

Totals Across All Grants

	Award	Proposed Acres
	\$12,267,400	7,925



Restoring Ecosystems

Establishing a prairie-hardwood transition zone at the Prairie Woods ELC (Spicer, MN)

Over 2,500 trees and shrubs planted along widely used multi-purpose trails (Two Harbors, MN)



Protecting Native Species

Showy Lady Slippers found after tree removal with Minnesota Land Trust (Otter Tail County, MN)

Wood Lily and Yellow Lady Slipper found for the first time on easement with MLT (Otter Tail County, MN)



Enhancing Habitats

Trumpeter swans gather on Lemman's Lake, where hybrid cattail was removed (Champlin, MN)

Installation of rock arch rapids and removal of last remaining obstruction in the Roseau River (Roseau, MN)



Streambank stabilization at the Crane Meadows Wildlife Refuge (Morrison County, MN)

2026 CPL Project

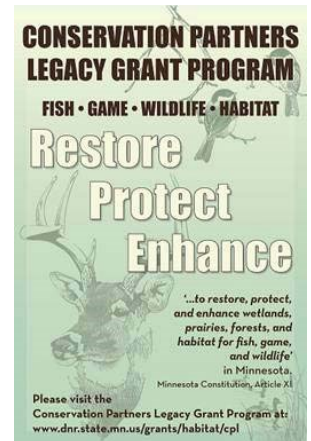
Monitoring Overview

55 projects by 41 partners were visited:

- 32 Counties travelled to
- 23 in the Metro
- 32 Outstate
- 13 Forest
- 12 Prairie
- 30 Fish, Game, and Wildlife



Before and after a culvert replacement that was blocking fish passage in the headwaters of the Talmadge River, a designated trout stream that flows into Lake Superior (Duluth, MN)



Proposal Request: \$16,995,000 Proposal Leverage: \$1,700,900 (10%)

Proposal Summary: This is Phase 16 of Ducks Unlimited's ongoing program to strategically acquire and restore pothole wetlands and prairie uplands as additions to public state WMAs and federal WPAs. This request proposes to buy and restore 1,222 acres, including 306 wetland acres and 916 prairie upland acres.

Primary Goals:

1. Strategically acquire prairie land with drained prairie pothole wetlands adjacent to WMAs / WPAs.
2. Strategically acquire prairie land to buffer intact larger wetlands and public water shallow lakes.
3. Restore wetlands and prairie to grow habitat complexes to produce ducks, pheasants, and nongame birds.

Secondary Goals:

1. Strategically contribute to habitat goals of the Prairie Pothole Joint Venture & MN Prairie Conservation Plan.
2. Preserve remnant native prairie and restored grasslands in USDA's Conservation Reserve Program (CRP).
3. Provide additional public land in the Prairie Section for outdoor recreation, including public hunting.

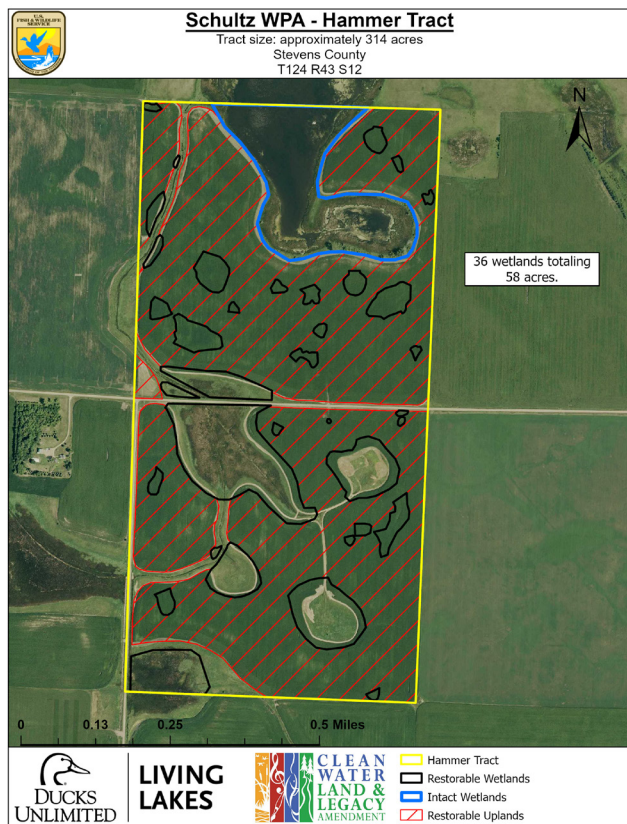
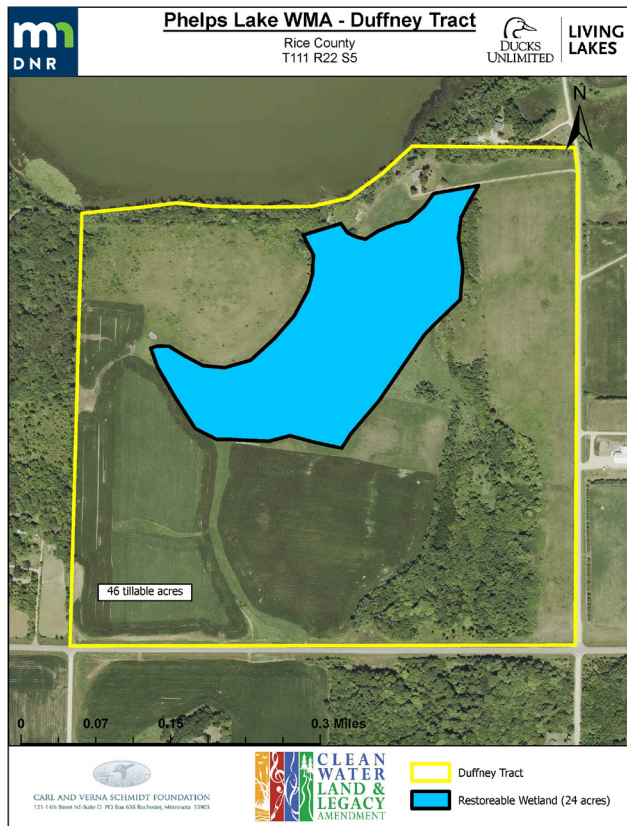


Proposed Budget:

\$11,000,000	Fee-title Land Acq. – Cost of land for Minnesota DNR and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.
\$ 3,900,000	Contracts - To hire private contractors to restore drained wetlands and plowed prairie.
\$ 880,000	Personnel – DU land staff, biologists and engineers who buy, survey, and restore land.
\$ 370,000	Prof. Services – Consultants for land appraisals, title review, surveys, closing costs, etc.
\$ 266,000	Supplies/Materials – Native prairie grass/forb seed material purchase to restore land.
\$ 72,900	Travel – Instate mileage/lodging travel expenses by DU staff to buy and restore land.
\$ 70,000	Direct Support Services – 8% of Personnel for staff support costs (legal, admin, office).
\$ 60,000	Tools/Equipment – GPS survey equipment lease to survey/restore drained wetlands.
\$ 136,100	DNR IDP – Initial Development Plan costs est. by DNR for parking lots, posts, signs, etc.
\$ 240,000	DNR LAM – Lands/Minerals costs est. by DNR for realty staff to review/approve lands.
\$16,995,000	TOTAL REQUEST

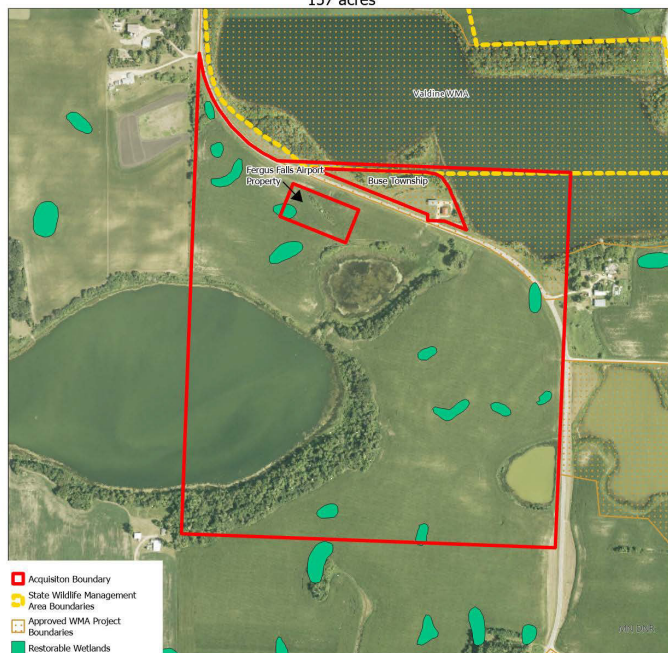
Prior DU OHF Appropriations for this Land Acquisition & Restoration Program:

Appropriation Year	Amount	Accomplishments	Status
Phases 1 – 10	\$47,305,000	56 tracts acquired, 5,870 acres	All Final Reports Completed
ML2022 Phase 11	\$ 4,779,000	9 tracts acquired, 549 acres	99% Spent, Restoration Ongoing
ML2023 Phase 12	\$ 7,061,000	2 tracts acquired, 694 acres	97% Spent, Restoration Ongoing
ML2024 Phase 13	\$ 7,670,000	4 tracts acquired, 715 acres	79% Spent, Restoration Ongoing
ML2025 Phase 14	\$ 5,673,000	4 tracts acquired, 548 acres	76% Spent, Restoration Starting
ML2026 Phase 15	\$ 6,087,000	2 tracts under Purchase Agreement	Closings in September & October



Valdine WMA Tracts 2,8

Otter Tail County
T132NR43W Sec. 26
157 acres

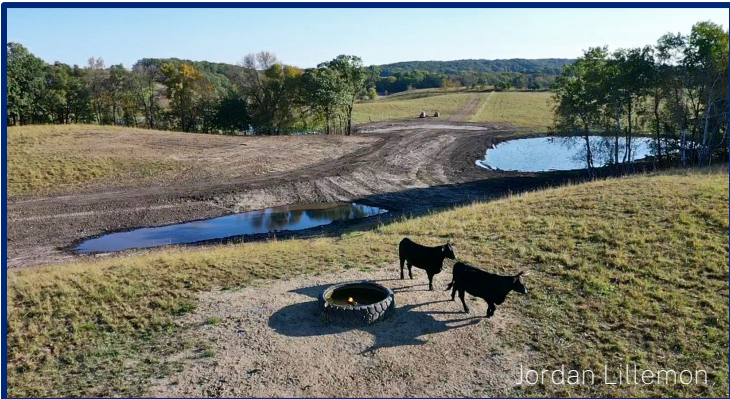


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WRE01 Accelerating the USFWS Habitat Easement Program



Ducks Unlimited and Pheasants Forever propose to continue accelerating the US Fish & Wildlife Service's working lands habitat conservation easement program on private lands in western Minnesota by strategically restoring and enhancing 4,300 prairie and wetland acres.

- Phase 7 of successful partnership between DU, PF, and the USFWS focusing on restoring and enhancing working lands protected by USFWS easements.
- Improves wildlife habitat and outcomes while fitting into agricultural operations by allowing grazing and delayed haying.
- This program strategically focuses on critical private lands in western Minnesota within existing habitat complexes and near existing public lands.



New Partner – Monarch Joint Venture

This proposal expands the partnership to include the Monarch Joint Venture, adding capacity and specialized expertise in prairie restoration and enhancement. MJV habitat staff will collaborate directly with Ducks Unlimited field staff to implement projects using DU's established planning, design, and contracting infrastructure. Incorporating MJV into project delivery will increase staff capacity, strengthen technical capacity, and accelerate the implementation of high-quality habitat projects across priority prairie landscapes.

- Restore/Enhance 4,300 acres of high priority habitat (up from last year's 3,750)
- Keep prairie and wetland habitats intact for breeding ducks, pheasants, and a wide array of non-game grassland wildlife such as Monarchs, Meadowlarks, Bobolinks, and many more.
- Help the USFWS protect private working lands by providing funding, personnel, and expertise for restoration work.

FOCUS AREA: Prairie and Transition sections of the Prairie Pothole region of western MN.

HABITAT OUTCOMES: 3,225 acres of prairie and 1,075 acres of wetlands enhanced or restored on habitat protected by the USFWS. Many of these lands will be managed long term by grazing or delayed haying.





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BUDGET:	\$14,499,000 TOTAL REQUEST - \$1,733,000 LEVERAGE (11.95%)
Personnel:	\$2,778,000 for DU, PF, and MJV biologists and engineers over 5 years
Contracts:	\$11,000,000 for enhancement and restoration contracts
In-State Travel:	\$120,000 for DU and PF biologists and engineers over 5 years
Professional Services	\$15,000 for archaeology surveys and permitting costs
Direct Support Services:	\$296,000 for DU, PF and MJV support costs (legal, admin, and office)
Capital Equipment:	\$0, DU, PF, and MJV are utilizing existing capital equipment
Other Equipment/Tools:	\$110,000 for GPS survey equipment and other tools
Supplies/Materials:	\$180,000 for native seed materials and restoration supplies
LEVERAGE:	\$1,420,000 Confirmed Federal Funds, \$313,000 Anticipated Funds



PRIOR APPROPRIATION SPENDING AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- **ML2020 – Phase 2: Fully spent out.** Closed out the grant this spring and sent remaining moneys back to the council (1171 acres protected of our 720 acre goal). This is the second straight year we have closed out an outstanding grant phase. **At last years hearing we were 94% spent out.**
- **ML2021 – Phase 3: 92% spent out** (\$4,370,100 of \$4,752,000) A few projects are left to complete on this grant, but are all being actively worked on. (1555 acres protected of a 1400 acre goal, 97 acres restored of a 140 acre goal) **At last years hearing we were 91% spent out.**
- **ML2023 – Phase 4: 46% spent out with another 13% under contract** (\$2,315,600 of \$5,077,000, \$647,600 under contract). Have lots of projects on the ground currently. The program is spending Phase 4 at a high rate, numerous projects are nearing completion (1,130 acres of 1,950 acre goal, 58% complete). **At last years hearing we were 21% spent out.**
- **ML2025 – Phase 5 : 5% spent out with another 1% under contract** Many projects have been designed, 5+ projects approaching contracting, several contracts have been awarded, and several habitat projects have been completed. (135 acres of 1,400 acres, 9.6% complete). **At last years hearing we were 0% spent out.**
- **ML2026 – Phase 6:** Just awarded in July of 2026. We are already working on projects under this phase and moving forward with designs on our first projects.