

Fish, Game and Wildlife Habitat Protection, Restoration, and Enhancement in Minnesota

Recommendations by a Collaboration of Conservation Interests
to the
Lessard Outdoor Heritage Council
2/17/09

Introduction

In order to assist in the Lessard Outdoor Heritage Council's stated desire for a stakeholder prioritization process, Susan Schmidt from the Trust for Public Land, Dave Thompson, a resort owner and Chair of the Department of Natural Resources' Aquatic Management Area planning efforts, and Kris Larson of the Minnesota Land Trust volunteered to help organize a stakeholder meeting and guide the process forward. A multitude of agencies, organizations and individuals convened in person, by phone or via video conference to help the Lessard Outdoor Heritage Council (LOHC) set an achievable conservation agenda for the coming year. The following is a brief report on the state of our aquatic resources, the plans used by the funding proponents, a description of the collaborative process used to put these recommendations together and the individual proposals themselves.

Current Status of Fish, Game and Wildlife Habitat

Nothing defines Minnesota more than its extraordinary number of lakes, rivers, streams and the riparian land and upland associated with these water bodies. However, a combination of population growth that is attracted to these water bodies ("amenity migration") and the increasing demand for second homes is decreasing the last remaining natural shoreland in Minnesota. The upswing in shoreland prices over the past twenty years has pushed development to even more remote areas on even shallower, more environmentally sensitive lakes, rivers and streams.

This continued pressure for shoreland development is permanently changing the face of Minnesota. A study by the University of Minnesota based on 2003 county tax information estimated that there are between 200,000 and 225,000 lake homes on the 11,842 lakes of over ten acres in Minnesota. Of these, 180,000 are on fisheries lakes. About half of all lakeshore homes are seasonal residences, and 75% are located on less than 200 feet of frontage.

The impact of this intense shoreland development is acute in Minnesota's lake – based counties. For example, in the 30 years between 1960 and 1990, Cass and Crow Wing counties (the Brainerd lakes area) grew by approximately 30%; in the 30 years between 2000 and 2030, growth in these counties is projected to explode by over 60%. The Brainerd lakes area has been growing so fast that it has emerged as one of the nations' fastest growing "micropolitans." This two-county area around Brainerd attracted more than 4,000 new residents from 2000 to 2003 alone, making it the fourth

fastest growing mini metro area in the Midwest and the 28th nationally.

Over the past 20 years, Minnesota and other states with glacial lakes have experienced high increases in population while surrounding states have grown much more slowly or have even lost population. Patterns of growth tend to be away from agriculture and urban core areas and toward suburbs and lake-rich areas such as those in central and northern Minnesota. While Minnesota does not conduct regular surveys of the number of lakeshore homes, a 1998 study of Itasca County tax records showed a 31% increase in lakeshore development between 1992 and 1998. In the Twin Cities Metropolitan between 1990 and 2000, there was a loss of more than 100,000 acres of natural lands, mostly natural land in proximity to lakes, rivers and streams, and this pattern will likely continue without proactive land and water conservation actions.

The concentration of population and associated infrastructure development near our lakes, rivers and streams takes its toll on water quality and the fisheries. Lakeshore development is often related to a loss of in-stream aquatic and upland natural vegetation, which has a negative impact on fish populations and overall lake quality. According to a 2004 study, of the approximately 225,000 residential lake lots in Minnesota, more than 25% have a lawn mowed down to the lake resulting in nutrient runoff, diminished water quality, and loss of fish and wildlife habitat. Rainwater runoff from “lawn to lake” shoreline was measured to be five to ten times higher than forested shorelines. Important to lake water quality, the “lawn to lake” shoreline allows seven to nine times more phosphorus to enter the lake than a more natural, native-vegetated shoreline. The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has found that for every developed shoreline lot, there is an average 66% reduction in aquatic vegetation, which leads to lower fish production.

Minnesota also contains a variety of important fisheries in its streams. Southeast Minnesota offers some of the state’s best trout habitat. However, these streams, riparian zones, and associated flora and fauna were significantly degraded by changes in land use and hydrologic conditions starting with initial European settlement, which began in the mid 1800’s, and continues through today. European settlers developed southeast Minnesota’s land for agriculture, removed much of the native vegetation, and allowed livestock to graze valley slopes. By the early 1900’s, runoff and erosion had increased, flooding was frequent, and the physical characteristics of these coldwater streams had deteriorated. Formerly clear, coldwater streams became sediment laden and too warm to host the trout fishery. Southeast Minnesota’s once abundant native brook trout were reduced in abundance or extirpated.

Fortunately, a number of these fisheries have been restored through efforts by our DNR and various conservation organizations. According to a DNR study in 2003, southeast Minnesota now has 788 miles of cold water in 181 streams compared to the 280 miles of coldwater habitat in 76 streams documented in 1970. Coldwater resources in southeast Minnesota currently support a trout population that is at or near all time highs.

Minnesota’s trout stream resource is a popular, active fishery where an estimated 520,879 “angler-days” were recorded in 2001. The economic impact statewide of trout fishing in Minnesota streams, including several in the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area, accounts for over \$30 million in sales with another \$18 million in income. Statewide, it is estimated that recreational fishing accounts for more than \$60 million annually in economic activity.

While some of the restoration efforts along southeast streams have been successful, protected lands throughout Minnesota continue to be threatened. In many parts of the state, development is increasingly surrounding public recreation lands such as our state and regional parks, state Wildlife Management Areas (WMA) and Aquatic Management Areas (AMA). As these lands become “islands” of habitat in the overwhelming presence of cabins, houses and roads, their recreational and wildlife habitat value is severely degraded. WMAs along the St. Croix, for instance, attract homebuyers whose objection to hunting threatens the primary purpose for which these areas were acquired. Other WMAs in the Metropolitan area are experiencing similar pressures. A 124-unit housing development has been proposed on 362 acres of high quality habitat on the southwestern boundary of Carlos Avery WMA. In Champlin, surrounding development caused city officials to close down firearms hunting on Schmidt WMA, leaving the state recreational unit open only to limited archery.

Current Statewide Plans

Minnesota currently has several plans that address the protection of fish, game and wildlife habitat, most notably the AMA Acquisition Plan (2008), the Long Range Plan for Fisheries Management (2004), the WMA Acquisition Plan (2002) and the Strategic Plan for Coldwater Resources Management in Southeast Minnesota Management Area (2004). At a statewide level, a number of other plans have dealt with fish and wildlife issues as well including the Statewide Conservation and Preservation Plan, the Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy, Tomorrow’s Habitat for the Wild and Rare and the Campaign for Conservation’s Fifty-Year Vision. Additionally, there are a variety of regional resource specific plans such as the Metro Conservation Corridors Partnership Vision and Plan and the Metropolitan Regional Park and Open Space System Plan 2030. There are also watershed-based plans in the form of specific watershed district comprehensive plans (i.e., Leech Lake Watershed District) as well as river specific plans, for example, those focused on the St Louis River Estuary, the Minnesota River Valley Green Corridor Plan and the St Croix Collaborative that are applicable to this conservation work.

The State’s AMA Acquisition Plan outlines the need to protect 1,100 miles of lake and warmwater stream habitat and 1,500 miles of coldwater stream habitat in the next 25 years. To achieve this goal, the AMA plan states a need of \$35 million/year for the first ten years. The management plan for the coldwater fisheries of Southeast Minnesota doesn’t reference the AMA plan directly, but the strategies within the plan are compatible with the AMA goals. The State’s WMA plan calls for the acquisition of 439,000 additional acres throughout the state. The Statewide Conservation and Preservation Plan’s primary recommendation is the restoration of ecoregion-appropriate, landscape-scale complexes of habitat centered on concentrations of existing remnant habitat with a focus on critical lands including aquatic areas. The Fifty-Year Vision for Conservation calls for the protection and management of fish and wildlife habitat outlining specifics region-by-region in the state. The Metro Conservation Corridors inventory and associated map identifies key habitats to protect and restore within the greater metropolitan area. The Metropolitan Regional Park and Open Space System Plan 2030 identifies habitat protection and restoration opportunities with an emphasis on providing recreational access to the myriad of lakes, rivers and streams within the metropolitan area.

Collaborative Process Described

While the working title for this collaborative effort was “Fish, Game and Wildlife” in order to mirror the LOHC’s categorization, nearly all the final proposals are associated with protection, restoration or enhancement of our state’s aquatic resources. The development of this collaborative conservation proposal required the participation of numerous individuals representing numerous groups and agencies working throughout Minnesota, including the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area.

Known conservation implementation organizations and individuals were invited to meetings on February 6 and 13, 2009, to develop a process and guidelines for working as a coalition and creating this final proposal (please see page 6 for list of invitees and participants). Although the timing was compressed, organizers attempted to be as expansive as possible when developing the invitation list. There were three meetings of a smaller working group charged with reconciling the large number of valid program proposal requests with the realities of LOHC funding. A set of ground rules was adopted (see page 8) and the budgetary needs assessed. The group used the ground rules and an iterative project review process to reduce the original \$92 million of program proposals to the approximately \$43 million presented herein.

The LOHC should be aware that there is significantly more potential for projects protecting aquatic habitat than are presented here, and we would welcome the opportunity to present these if and when funding allows. The Collaborative believes that much more of our state’s land and water resource needs to be protected and restored if we are to meet the targeted goals set forth in the aforementioned land and water resource plans. We strongly encourage the LOHC to work with the Collaborative and its partners in the year ahead to develop a 25-year plan for fish, game and wildlife protection, restoration and enhancement as a means to identify the conservation priorities so critical to our states future. It is the goal of the participants who created these recommendations to work closely with the LOHC toward this end.

High Priority Programs and Projects

Conservation partners involved in protection, restoration and enhancement of aquatic habitats have developed a portfolio of high-priority projects for consideration by the LOHC (appended). Collectively, these proposals represent measurable, on-the-ground conservation activities that take a meaningful first step towards a longer-term goal of protecting and restoring our states lakes, rivers and streams.

For this first round of funding, collaborative partners have developed proposals for projects that can be completed in a very short time with existing programs. They are generally very consistent with the priorities identified by various state and regional plans listed above. These projects utilize the existing conservation delivery structure of agencies and organizations, using proven conservation practices. While the proposals attempt to address the questions and issues identified by the LOHC in its guidance document, the abbreviated time available to develop proposals may require the future submission of additional information at the request of the LOHC.

Each proposal included in this package identifies specific activities, expenses and goals. We believe appropriate measures of success for the various programs include the following, and will be provided to the LOHC subsequent to project and/or program completion:

1. Acquisition of land that protects lakes, rivers and streams

The most easily understood measures of land acquisition are the acres acquired and the money spent per acre. As projects are closed, details on location of projects, the number of acres purchased, the natural features found on the land, the cost of the project, and the plans for the management of the parcel will be posted to the project website.

2. Conservation Easements on land that protects lakes, rivers and streams

Since conservation easements cover land held by private owners, some level of confidentiality is required. As easements are signed, the township and county where the easement is located, the total acres eased, and a brief description of the ecological features of the property will be posted to the website.

3. Lake, River and Stream Enhancement

Undertaking restoration and enhancement on a site is a multi-year commitment. For purposes of this proposal, we have asked project managers to limit their funding horizon to about three years. For each site managed, the location, area covered, current condition, and proposed treatment schedule will be reported. At the conclusion of the grant period, a progress report will include the date, type of management activity undertaken, and the effectiveness of that action.

4. Lake, River and Stream Restoration

For each lake, river and stream restoration attempted, the location, size, timeline, and general plan of how the restoration will be carried out will be available. The success of the restoration will be monitored during the grant period, and a description of the site, actions and response will be provided.

Lakes, Rivers, Streams and Other Habitat Group

Last Name	First Name	Organization	Feb 6 mtg	Small grp
Local Conservation Groups & Citizens				
Aichinger	Cliff	Ramsey Washington Metro Watershed District (RWMWD)		
Anderson	Maurie			
Bedell	Jim	Leech Lake Area Watershed Foundation	X	
Berg	Greg	Stearns County SWCD	X	
Blaska	Karen	Anoka County Parks	X	
Boe	Julene	St. Louis River Citizens Action Committee	X	
Brezinka	Jay	Camp Ripley Headquarters	X	
Carlson	Boe	Three Rivers Park District	X	
Carlson	Bill	Isanti County Parks & Rec Commission		
Chandler	Karen	Barr Engineering Co.	X	
Clark	Whitney	Friends of the Mississippi River	X	
Edwards	Andrew	1854 Treaty Authority		
Elholm	John	Washington County Parks	X	
Ferrin	Randy	Washington County Parks & Open Space Commission		
Gears	Cris	Three Rivers Park District		
Grochow	Lyle	Sibley County Parks		
Gurban	Jon	Minneapolis Parks		
Hahm	Mike	St. Paul Parks & Recreation		
Harnack	Ron	Red River Watershed Management Board	X	
Harper	Jane	Washington County		
Herring	Kyle	Herring Exterior Design		
Hobbs	Steve	Belwin	X	x
Huseby	Jay	Red Lake DNR		
Kartuzinski	David	Herring Exterior Design		
Kimble	Mike	Minneapolis Parks & Rec Board	X	
Knowles	Rebecca	Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe (LLBO)		
Lehman	Nicole	McGhie & Betts	X	
Lewanski	Tom	Friends of the Mississippi River	X	
Loon	Deb	MN Valley Trust		
Mack	Greg	Ramsey County Parks	X	x
Majewski	Bill	St. Louis River Citizens Action Committee	X	
Martinez	Jody	City of St. Paul		
Mattice	Marc	Wright County Parks	X	
McGuinness	Dan	St. Croix River Association	X	
Mielke	Darin	Sibley County Parks		
Mork	Laird	Chisago County	X	
Mortensen	Steve	Leech Lake Division of Resource Management		
Nelson	Lori	Friends of the Minnesota Valley	X	
Pavelko	Joe	Friends of the Minnesota Valley	X	
Pierson	Cordelia	Citizen	X	
Quale	Randy	City of Bloomington	X	
Reak	Don	Le Sueur County Parks		
Reisetter	Mark	Lewiston Area Trout Guides		
Robbins	Adam	St. Paul Parks & Rec	X	
Runkel	Julie	Rice County Parks		
Ryan	Tom	Olmsted County Parks		
Schetnan	Judd	Met Council		
Schrage	Mike	Fond du Lac Resource Management Division		
Singer	Al	Dakota County FLNAP	X	x
Skoglund	Marty	Camp Ripley Headquarters	X	
Skovholt	Glen	Citizen		
Sparlin	Scott	Coalition for a Clean Minnesota River (CCMR)	X	
Stefferd	Arne	Met Council		
Sullivan	Steve	Dakota County Parks	X	
Sumption	John	Cass County		
Swan	Mike	White Earth		
TenEyck	Mark	Minnehaha Creek	X	
Themig	Mark	Scott County	X	x
Thomas	Doug	Rice Creek Watershed District	X	
Thompson	Dave	Fisherman's Village Resort	X	x
Underwood	Wendy	City of St. Paul		
Varney	Don	St. Paul Parks & Recreation		
Von De Linde	John	Anoka County Parks	X	
Walsh	Marty	Carver County	X	
Weaver	Rich	Camp Ripley Headquarters	X	
Wendorf	Barry	Isanti County Parks	X	
West	Paula	Leech Lake Area Watershed Foundation	X	x
Wocken	Chuck	Stearns County Parks		
MN DNR				
Becker	Bill	MN DNR	x	
Boe	Forrest	MN DNR		
Booth	Peggy	MN DNR		
Carlson	Beth	MN DNR		
Chisolm	Ian	MN DNR-Division of Eco Resources	X	
Collins	Pat	MN DNR		
Doncarlos	Kathy	MN DNR	X	
Duval	Mike	MN DNR	X	x
Fouchi	Cathi	DNR		

Lakes, Rivers, Streams and Other Habitat Group

Fox	Gail	MN DNR		
Halverson	Mike	MN DNR	X	
Hiemstra	Harland	MN DNR		
Klotz	Steven	MN DNR - Fisheries		
Kurcinka	Joe	MN DNR		
Lilly	John	MN DNR		
Martinson	Laurie	MN DNR		
Nelson	Courtland	MN DNR		
Norrgard	Ray	MN DNR	X	
Peterson	Dirk	MN DNR - Fisheries	X	
Richardson	Bart	MN DNR		
Sames	Wayne	MN DNR		
Schad	Dave	MN DNR		
Wilson	Grant	MN DNR	X	x
Statewide Conservation Groups				
Axler	Rich	U of MN - Duluth, Natural Resources Research Institute	X	
Blair	Charlie	US Fish & Wildlife Service	X	
Blann	Kristen	American Fisheries Society	X	
Bohn	Ray	Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts		
Botzek	Gary	Capitol Connections		
Brennan	Kevin	US Fish & Wildlife Service	X	
Broberg	Jeffrey	MN Trout Association	X	
Buck	LeAnn	MN Assoc. of Soil & Water Conservation Districts	X	
Buck	Wiley	Great River Greening		
Carlton	Steve	Trout Unlimited- Minnesota	X	
Coleman	Beth	Parks and Trails Council	X	
Curry	John	Audubon - Minnesota		
Dornack	Tom	Trout Unlimited- Minnesota		
Duffus	Tom	The Conservation Fund		
Erickson	Judy			
Furtman	Michael			
Garletz	Annalee	Association of MN Counties		
Goeschel	Roger	MN Seasonal Recreational Property Owners (MSRPO)		
Goetting	Mickey	MN B.A.S.S. Federation		
Haensel	Carl	Trout Unlimited- Minnesota	X	
Hanson	Kate	NPS	X	
Hastings	Jeff	Trout Unlimited- Minnesota		
Heiniger	Ryan	Ducks Unlimited - MN/IA		
Hickman	Don	Initiative Foundation	X	
Holland	Matt	Pheasants Forever - Minnesota		
Holman	Todd	The Nature Conservancy		
Holten	Cort			
Horner	Gabe	The Nature Conservancy		
Hunt	J	Barr Engineering Co.		
Jaschke	John	MN Board of Water and Soil Resources	X	
Johnson	Lucinda	U of MN - Duluth, Natural Resources Research Institute	X	
Karasov	Deborah	Great River Greening	X	
Kellet	Shawn	Muskies Inc.		
Kjeseth	Peder	Trout Unlimited- Minnesota	X	
Landwehr	Tom	The Nature Conservancy		
Larson	Kris	MN Land Trust	X	x
Lenczewski	John	Trout Unlimited- Minnesota	X	
Lenz	Matt	Trout Unlimited- Minnesota	X	
Lines	Kevin	MN Board of Water and Soil Resources	X	
Lynch	Peggy			
McGillivray	Bob	The Trust for Public Land	X	
Miller	Clint	The Conservation Fund	X	
Montgomery	Kent	The Nature Conservancy	X	
Myerchin	Sheldon	US Fish & Wildlife Service		
Nelson	Josh	Trout Unlimited- Minnesota	X	
Ness	Lance	FWLA	X	
Pederson	Kirk			
Peterson	Daryl	The Nature Conservancy	X	
Peterson	Mark	Audubon - Minnesota		
Proescholdt	Kevin	Isaak Walton League - Midwest Office		
Prohaska	Jane	MN Land Trust	X	
Rice	Brian	Rice Michels		
Roemhildt	Scott	Pheasants Forever	X	
Schmidt	Susan	The Trust for Public Land	X	x
Schneider	Jon	Ducks Unlimited		
Scripture	Burton	MN Agriculture Dept.		
Shreffler	Shelley	LCCMR	X	
Silesky	Nancy			
Snider	Michele			
Steward	Dan	MN Board of Water and Soil Resources		
Strommen	Sarah	MN Land Trust	X	
Underhill	John	Muskies Inc.	X	x
Wagner	Vern	Anglers for Habitat	X	x
Warburton	Dave	US Fish & Wildlife Service	X	

**Fish, Game and Wildlife Habitat
Outdoor Heritage Fund Collaborative**
Approved February 6, 2009

1. Participants should endorse this set of operating guidelines (or an amended version) by consensus.
2. Partners agree that current planning team will continue to coordinate the Collaborative for purposes of developing and submitting a FY10 proposal. Since procedures for submitting proposals in FY11 will likely be different, partners agree that the current proposal does not imply any precedent for future proposals.
3. Partners agree to provide information in a timely manner as requested by the Coordinator or lose the opportunity to participate on the proposal (by group consensus).
4. Total dollars available for FY10 is around \$65M (~\$78M anticipated revenue minus a \$5M Conservation Partners allocation and minus \$8M contingency, likely to be declared by Council). We agree to set a target of \$30 Million for the Fish, Game and Wildlife Habitat request.
5. All partners should develop programmatic requests (versus project-specific requests) on a standard form approved by the group.
6. Partners agree to not submit identical requests via multiple Outdoor Heritage Fund proposals.
7. No partner should request a disproportionate share of the funding unless unanimously agreed upon by other partners. Partner is any organization or agency (not a subdivision of same).
8. For programmatic requests less than \$100,000, partners should seriously consider applying for a Conservation Partners grant from LOHC as an alternative. Otherwise, any partner that can implement on-the-ground conservation should be welcome to participate. -
9. For FY10 proposal, partners should only request funding for those projects that can be completed quickly (e.g., for acquisition projects, more than 80% of funding spent by June 30, 2010, for restoration and enhancement projects, mostly completed by October 31, 2011).
10. A goal of the collaborative is to foster both public and private participation.
11. All other elements as laid out in Council guidelines (see: http://www.lohc.state.mn.us/materials/2009_rec_dev_proc.pdf) must be complied with or provided.
12. Partners agree to leverage additional funds from Clean Water Fund where possible and appropriate.

**Fish, Game and Wildlife Habitat Collaborative Request to LOHC
2009 Summary (PROPOSAL ORDER was SELECTED RANDOMLY)**

ID Number	Pages	PARTNER	PROGRAM	TYPE	FUNDING REQUESTED - original estimate	FUNDING REQUESTED - updated estimate
				(Fee Acquisition, Restoration/Enhancement)		
1	10 - 14	Minnesota Land Trust	Continue shoreland restoration program; urgency due to expiring tax incentives	A	\$970,000	\$970,000
2	15 -18	Pheasants Forever	Rock River WMA Expansion	A	\$240,000	\$240,000
3	19 - 23	DNR	ACUB - Camp Ripley	A	\$800,000	\$276,250
4	24 - 28	The Trust for Public Land	TPL's Cooperative Shoreland Protection Initiative 2010	A	\$6,300,000	\$3,800,000
5	29 - 33	Wright County Parks and City of Monticello	Bertram Chain of Lakes acquisition	A	\$5,000,000	\$1,100,000
6	34 - 38	TNC	Central MN Aquatic Protection	A	\$3,000,000	\$1,000,000
7	39 - 46	DNR	Aquatic Management Area (AMA) Acquisition	A	\$15,000,000	\$12,900,000
8	47 - 97	Metro Conservation Corridors c/o MN Land Trust	Metro Conservation Corridors (MeCC)	A & R/E	\$11,913,550	\$8,174,550
9	98 - 136	Metropolitan Regional Parks System Agencies	Metropolitan Habitat and Angler Access Improvement Program	A & R/E	\$13,731,300	\$9,723,300
10	137 - 141	DNR	River and Stream Habitat Restoration and Enhancement Program	R/E	\$2,450,000	\$1,250,000
11	142 - 146	St. Louis River Citizens Action Committee	River Habitat Plan/Knowlton Creek Watershed Rehabilitation Program	R/E	\$3,700,000	\$1,865,000
12	147 - 151	Shell Rock River Watershed District	Working together to improve water quality	R/E	\$900,000	\$966,000
13	152 - 158	Red River Basin Stream Restoration Initiative	Stream restoration with DNR and RIM Reserve	R/E	\$2,000,000	\$1,000,000
14	159 - 163	Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe	Monitoring and assessment of wild rice on LLR	R/E	\$87,012	\$87,012
15	164 - 167	USFWS	Rydell Lakes Restoration Project	R/E	\$315,000	\$288,650
16	168 - 171	USFWS	Little Bemidji Fish Passage	R/E	\$25,000	\$25,000
TOTAL					\$66,431,862	\$43,665,762

Total Withdrawn Proposals \$24,110,000
Initial Proposal Total **\$90,541,862**

Updated Total \$43,665,762

Outdoor Heritage Fund Proposal - 1

Fish, Game and Wildlife Habitat Group

Name: Kris Larson
Organization: Minnesota Land Trust
Mailing address: 2356 University Ave., Suite 240, St. Paul, MN 55114
Phone/fax number: 651-647-9590 (phone); 651-647-9769 (fax); 218-722-4641 (Duluth)
Email address: klarson@mnland.org

Program/project short name: Shoreland Protection Program

FY10 Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars requested: \$970,000

Additional funds leveraged and source: \$1,000,000

Expected outcomes at completion (e.g., XX acres protected, restored, enhanced):

7-9 Conservation Easements acquired on private lands with critical shoreline habitat covering 600-800 acres, some projects in collaboration with the Leech Lake Watershed Foundation.

Short narrative of program/project, location(s), timeline for completion and measures of success (100 words or less):

The Minnesota Land Trust proposes acquiring 6-8 conservation easements on private lands with significant shoreline habitat, for a total of approximately 600-800 acres and more than 7,000 feet of shoreline. Since 2001, the Land Trust has had a very successful Shoreland Protection Program which has helped protect more than 660,000 feet of critical shoreline habitat. The Land Trust proposes using this grant to secure easements on trout streams and lakeshore habitat, with an emphasis on areas not presently covered by other state funding sources, including the Wilderness Lakes Landscape near the Boundary Waters, the North Shore, and the Headwater Lakes region, as well as other important shoreline in the Southern Glacial Lakes and Blufflands landscapes.

Generalized budget:

Budget Item	Outdoor Heritage Fund \$\$	Other State Funds \$\$	Other Non-State Funds \$\$	Total Funds \$\$
Salaries/benefits	\$160,000			
Contracts and Transaction Costs	\$70,000			
Equipment (> \$5000)				
Materials, supplies	\$5,000			
Travel	\$5,000			
Easement Acquisition Costs	\$600,000			
Other (Easement Stewardship)	\$130,000			
<u>Total</u>	\$970,000		\$1,000,000	

Describe how long-term costs for sustaining project, monitoring and/or addressing property tax implications will be met:

These projects will be sustained long term through the Minnesota Land Trust accredited Conservation Easement Stewardship Program. The conservation easement properties will be monitored annually, appropriate easement management and record keeping conducted and any potential violations enforced as appropriate. Funds from this grant will be dedicated to the Land Trust's Stewardship Fund for this purpose. Additionally, land management plans will be required for protected properties as appropriate.

Describe how local governments will be involved/informed if relevant:

The Minnesota Land Trust has a history of working with local governments in throughout Minnesota to achieve mutual conservation objectives. Where appropriate, these local governments will be informed of the easement acquisitions, while simultaneously respecting issues of landowner confidentiality. The Land Trust routinely consults local plans when evaluating private conservation projects.

Describe how many Full Time Equivalent (FTE) jobs this will provide:

Minnesota Land Trust: 2 FTEs, spread throughout multiple staff to achieve the necessary tasks.
Contracts/others: Other jobs that will benefit are attorneys, appraisers, GIS specialists, resource professionals, title companies, and others.

Describe how this project will provide public access for hunting, fishing and other recreation:

Hunting, fishing and other low-impact recreation would be allowed uses within the terms of the easement and landowners can conduct these activities as desired. And while these will be private land conservation easements and public access will not be required, landowners could chose to allow public access if desired. Moreover, the protected shoreline habitat will directly benefits fish and other aquatic species and subsequently benefit the people fishing on these adjacent waters.

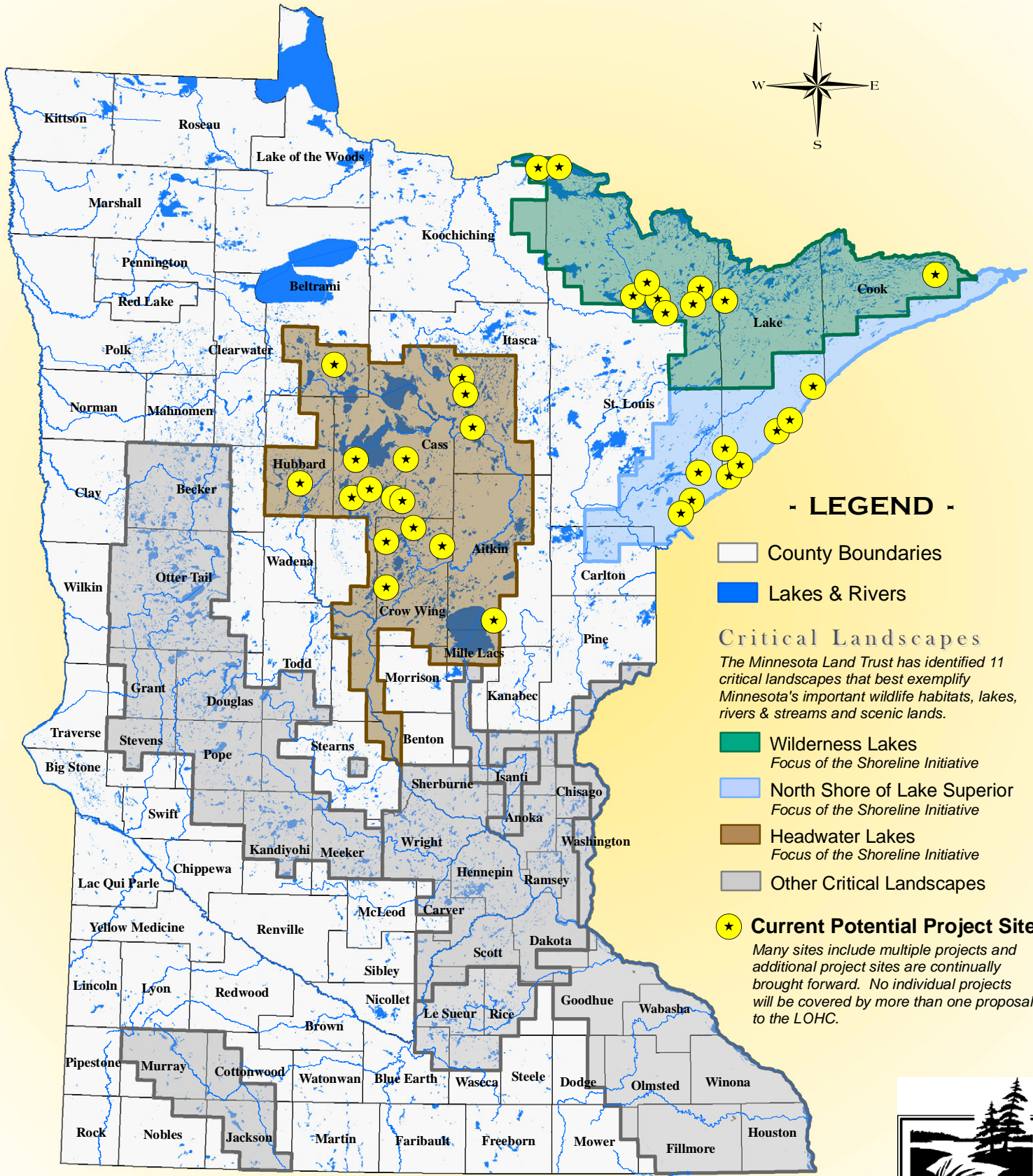
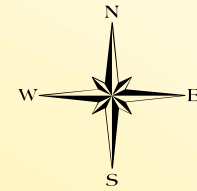
Other considerations:

Minnesota's waters and adjacent shorelines are perhaps its most celebrated natural feature. Numerous plans and programs call for the protection of this disappearing resource, which has multiple public benefits, from helping to maintain water quality and aquatic species habitat to moderating water temperature to harboring important scenic and recreational qualities. And yet, much of the remaining undeveloped shoreline is found on private lands. Therefore, conservation easements are one of the few effective tools to protect these important assets to Minnesota, as it is not always feasible or desirable to place all of these shorelines in public ownership.

Please also complete the attached information sheet as requested by the LOHC.

MINNESOTA LAND TRUST

Shoreline Protection Initiative



- **LEGEND** -

- County Boundaries
- Lakes & Rivers
- Critical Landscapes**
- The Minnesota Land Trust has identified 11 critical landscapes that best exemplify Minnesota's important wildlife habitats, lakes, rivers & streams and scenic lands.*
- Wilderness Lakes
Focus of the Shoreline Initiative
- North Shore of Lake Superior
Focus of the Shoreline Initiative
- Headwater Lakes
Focus of the Shoreline Initiative
- Other Critical Landscapes
- Current Potential Project Sites**
Many sites include multiple projects and additional project sites are continually brought forward. No individual projects will be covered by more than one proposal to the LOHC.



Additional Information Requested by LOHC

The proposal and organizational requirements listed below are provided by the LOHC (see: http://www.lohc.state.mn.us/materials/2009_rec_dev_proc.pdf). Please check the appropriate items where a space is provided to indicate your agreement, or provide a narrative answer where a response is required, and include with the previous form.

Organization: **Minnesota Land Trust**

Minimum Criteria For Funding Requests

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for appropriations from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider funding requests that:

are consistent with the uses of the OHF as specified in Article XI of the Minnesota Constitution and Minnesota Statutes 97A.056,.

show the ability to produce significant, measurable, and enduring resource and/or habitat outcomes.

- clearly identify specific resource and/or habitat outcomes, performance measures, and a plan for measuring, evaluating and publicly reporting these outcomes over time. **Please describe:**

Conservation easements have become an increasingly important and effective tool for habitat preservation, and the Land Trust has a long-history of working with willing landowners to identify and protect to most critical resources on their properties. The Land Trust has a very effective conservation easement stewardship program through which we will monitor all easements and the prairie components of the land, address any violations, and publically report on our stewardship activities as requested.

- reflect the best available science regarding resource and/or habitat enhancement, restoration, and protection. **Please reference any relevant plans or documents that support this:**

Many of the state's conservation plans encourage the protection of riparian habitat, including the Statewide Conservation Plans. Also, many local comprehensive plans and lake associations support the protection of remaining shoreline habitat, which is an increasingly rare habitat type in Minnesota.

where possible and appropriate uses native plant material.

restore or enhance resources only on property under permanent protection of fee ownership or conservation easement.

- have a plan to sustain the resource and/or habitat outcomes specified, including a plan to finance the necessary activities. **Please describe:**

The proposed budget includes the necessary funding for personnel, projects expenses, acquisition costs and long-term conservation easement stewardship. In addition, landowners and other donors will be contributing private funds and/or easement value to complete the

transactions. Thus, along with our general fund, the Land Trust will have the funding necessary to negotiate and complete the easements, finalize the necessary documentation and records, and monitor and defend the property as necessary.

- identify funding necessary to fully implement the project/programs(s). **Please provide any additional information not presented in the budget table on the previous sheet:**

limit the state's exposure for additional funding for the project.

have a process for ensuring transparency and accessibility in all stages of project/program implementation.

seek funding to supplement (not replace) customary or usual funding sources.

only acquire permanent easements, if proposing less than fee simple acquisition in real property.

ensure that land acquired by fee with money from the OHF is open to the public taking of fish and game during the open season unless otherwise provided by law.

commit to erect and maintain signage, to a standard to be adopted by the LOHC, crediting the OHF with support for protected, restored, or improved sites.

commit to replace OHF protected resources converted to a use other than that intended in the OHF appropriation on a ten replacement acres for one converted acre basis.

agree to not transfer the public interest in OHF fee and/or easement protected land without the written approval of the appropriate state of Minnesota authority.

Criteria To Be Met By Requesting Organizations

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for expenditures from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider requests from organization(s) that:

have a record of successful management and implementation of project/program(s) similar in scale, scope, and complexity to the project/program(s) being requested.

have demonstrated the ability to identify and establish the financial and managerial controls needed to successfully and fully implement the proposed project/program.

have an up-to-date external financial audit with no serious negative findings.

Outdoor Heritage Fund Proposal - 2

Fish, Game and Wildlife Habitat Group

Your name: Scott W. Roemhildt
Your organization: Pheasants Forever
Mailing address: 677 390th Ave., Janesville, MN 56048
Phone/fax number: 507-327-9785
Email address: sroemhildt@pheasantsforever.org

Program/project short name: Rock River WMA Expansion
FY10 Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars requested: \$240,000
Additional funds leveraged and source: \$65,000 – Rock Co PF, Luverne NWTF
Expected outcomes at completion (e.g., XX acres protected, restored, enhanced): 91 acres protected along the Rock River

Short narrative of program/project, location(s), timeline for completion and measures of success (100 words or less): The Rock River is named an “impaired water” by MPCA. This project would protect and restore 91 acres along the Rock River, while adding considerable acreage to the existing Rock River WMA. This project is close to Luverne and would provide significant public recreation opportunities. It would also protect critical habitat of the endangered Topeka Shiner as recognized by USFWS.

Generalized budget:

Budget Item	Outdoor Heritage Fund \$\$	Other State Funds \$\$	Other Non-State Funds \$\$	Total Funds \$\$
Salaries/benefits				
Contracts				
Equipment (> \$5000)				
Materials, supplies				
Travel				
Land (fee, easement)	240,000		65,000	305,000
Other (list)				
<u>Total</u>	240,000		65,000	305,000

Describe how long-term costs for sustaining project, monitoring and/or addressing property tax implications will be met: The parcel would be gifted to the MN DNR at their request and would be maintained as part of the existing Rock River WMA.

Describe how local governments will be involved/informed if relevant: The community of Luverne and Rock County both support this project as a way to enhance public land and protect the Rock River Watershed.

Describe how many Full Time Equivalent (FTE) jobs this will provide: Help protect existing DNR jobs.

Describe how this project will provide public access for hunting, fishing and other recreation: All 91 acres will be fully accessible to the public and will add to the existing 145 acres of the Rock River WMA.

Other: An appraisal has been completed and the landowner is willing to work with us. The DNR is prepared to accept the parcel. The project is shovel-ready as soon as funds are available.

Additional Information Requested by LOHC

The proposal and organizational requirements listed below are provided by the LOHC (see: http://www.lohc.state.mn.us/materials/2009_rec_dev_proc.pdf). Please check the appropriate items where a space is provided to indicate your agreement, or provide a narrative answer where a response is required, and include with the previous form.

Organization: **Pheasants Forever, Inc.**

Minimum Criteria For Funding Requests

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for appropriations from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider funding requests that:

are consistent with the uses of the OHF as specified in Article XI of the Minnesota Constitution and Minnesota Statutes 97A.056,.

show the ability to produce significant, measurable, and enduring resource and/or habitat outcomes.

- clearly identify specific resource and/or habitat outcomes, performance measures, and a plan for measuring, evaluating and publicly reporting these outcomes over time. **Please describe:**

A plan is being developed with the MN DNR to ensure the best development & use of the parcel.

- reflect the best available science regarding resource and/or habitat enhancement, restoration, and protection. **Please reference any relevant plans or documents that support this:**

Restoration/protection will be done using the resources and support of MN DNR.

where possible and appropriate uses native plant material.

restore or enhance resources only on property under permanent protection of fee ownership or conservation easement.

- have a plan to sustain the resource and/or habitat outcomes specified, including a plan to finance the necessary activities. **Please describe:**

Will gift to DNR & use chapter funds as needed.

- identify funding necessary to fully implement the project/programs(s). **Please provide any additional information not presented in the budget table on the previous sheet:**

limit the state's exposure for additional funding for the project.

have a process for ensuring transparency and accessibility in all stages of project/program implementation.

seek funding to supplement (not replace) customary or usual funding sources.

only acquire permanent easements, if proposing less than fee simple acquisition in real property.

ensure that land acquired by fee with money from the OHF is open to the public taking of fish and game during the open season unless otherwise provided by law.

commit to erect and maintain signage, to a standard to be adopted by the LOHC, crediting the OHF with support for protected, restored, or improved sites.

commit to replace OHF protected resources converted to a use other than that intended in the OHF appropriation on a ten replacement acres for one converted acre basis.

agree to not transfer the public interest in OHF fee and/or easement protected land without the written approval of the appropriate state of Minnesota authority.

Criteria To Be Met By Requesting Organizations

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for expenditures from the OHF, the LOHC will only

consider requests from organization(s) that:

- _x_ have a record of successful management and implementation of project/program(s) similar in scale, scope, and complexity to the project/program(s) being requested.
- _x_ have demonstrated the ability to identify and establish the financial and managerial controls needed to successfully and fully implement the proposed project/program.
- _x_ have an up-to-date external financial audit with no serious negative findings.

Outdoor Heritage Fund Proposal - 3

Fish, Game and Wildlife Habitat Group

Your name: Mark Hauck
Your organization: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Mailing address: 940 Industrial Drive South, #103, Sauk Rapids, MN 56379
Phone/fax number: 320-255-4279 x 236
Email address: mark.hauck@dnr.state.mn.us

Program/project short name: Army Compatible Use Buffer (ACUB)
FY10 Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars requested: \$ 276,250
Additional funds leveraged and source: \$ 828,750 cash from National Guard Bureau
 \$95,000 In-kind from The Nature Conservancy,
 Trust for Public Land, Department of Natural
 Resources, others
Total = 3.34 : 1 match

Expected outcomes at completion (e.g., XX acres protected, restored, enhanced): Minimum of 205 acres protected by fee title acquisition.

Short narrative of program/project, location(s), timeline for completion and measures of success (100 words or less):

The Army Compatible Use Buffer initiative (ACUB) program activities take place in a 3-mile wide buffer around Camp Ripley, a National Guard Bureau (NGB) training facility North of Little Falls. This proposal focuses on the Nokassippi Wildlife Management Area. Beginning in 2004, the DNR has entered into cooperative agreements with NGB that provided funds to purchase conservation easements and fee title. The program's success has been restricted by the availability of funds to match fee title purchases (25% match required). This proposal will succeed if 205 acres of habitat are protected. Already, 654 acres have been purchased in fee.

Generalized budget:

Budget Item	Outdoor Heritage Fund \$\$	Other State Funds \$\$	Other Non-State Funds \$\$	Total Funds \$\$
Salaries/benefits		\$65,000	\$37,500	\$102,500
Contracts				
Equipment (> \$5000)				
Materials, supplies				
Travel				
Land (fee, easement)	\$276,000		\$828,750	\$1,105,000
Other (list)				
Total	276,000	65,000	866,250	\$1,207,500

Describe how long-term costs for sustaining project, monitoring and/or addressing property tax implications will be met: The fee title acquisitions have been assigned to a management division within the Department of Natural Resources, e.g. Fisheries, Parks, Wildlife, Forestry. Costs and staffing for sustaining these properties are born by these management divisions.

Describe how local governments will be involved/informed if relevant: The program has worked diligently at maintaining a strong county and township partnership. All acquisitions in fee are submitted to the county and / or township for their approval.

Describe how many Full Time Equivalent (FTE) jobs this will provide: This proposal will not create new FTEs, however, it supports the equivalent of approximately one (1) FTE within the DNR and an unknown number of FTEs in the partners.

Describe how this project will provide public access for hunting, fishing and other recreation: The lands purchased through this proposal will be opened to public hunting, fishing and recreation through their designation as an Aquatic Management Area, Wildlife Management Area, State Park, or other public ownership designation. Past fee title program activities have resulted in Wildlife Management Areas, State Parks (including a trail alignment along the Mississippi River) and a City Park along the Mississippi River. All of these properties are now open for public use for either hunting, fishing, or recreation.

Other considerations:

The goal of the program is to reduce the number of potential homes surrounding Camp Ripley to ensure that the full range of training activities at the facility can continue into the future while at the same time developing a network of high quality fish and wildlife habitat surrounding the facility. The program has a fully developed system for project scoring and prioritization that has proven very successful – only the highest quality sites are selected for acquisition. This utilizes GIS mapping and data techniques developed in cooperation with St. Cloud State University. This has been used to generate the ACUB / DNR Acquisition Plan, which, in turn, has been used to guide acquisitions. This plan has identified approximately 1,920 acres of land offered in fee title, some of which has already been purchased.

Please also complete the attached information sheet as requested by the LOHC.

Additional Information Requested by LOHC

The proposal and organizational requirements listed below are provided by the LOHC (see: http://www.lohc.state.mn.us/materials/2009_rec_dev_proc.pdf). Please check the appropriate items where a space is provided to indicate your agreement, or provide a narrative answer where a response is required, and include with the previous form.

Organization: **Minnesota Department of Natural Resources**

Minimum Criteria For Funding Requests

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for appropriations from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider funding requests that:

X are consistent with the uses of the OHF as specified in Article XI of the Minnesota Constitution and Minnesota Statutes 97A.056,

X show the ability to produce significant, measurable, and enduring resource and/or habitat outcomes.

- clearly identify specific resource and/or habitat outcomes, performance measures, and a plan for measuring, evaluating and publicly reporting these outcomes over time. **Please describe:**

The program has proven to protect both riparian and non-riparian wildlife habitat landscapes. Of the 12 properties acquired to date, all have significant forest components, all but two touch or include a perennial stream or river, and only one had significant cropland, which was subsequently restored to native prairie. The program will be a success if 205 acres of property, offered by willing sellers, is purchased or optioned by 2010 and includes both riparian and non riparian properties. The collaborative has been aggressive at keeping the public informed by the personal connections, web site, community meetings and publicity throughout the program and this will continue for this proposal. All signage on sites that have been purchased through this proposal will prominently display the role of the Lessard Outdoor Heritage Funding.

- reflect the best available science regarding resource and/or habitat enhancement, restoration, and protection. **Please reference any relevant plans or documents that support this: Minnesota Conservation and Preservation Plan** – This proposal is supported by the following recommendations:

Habitat Recommendation 1: Protect Priority Land Habitats – This proposal is supported by the comprehensive mapping product (Figure H7, p. 44), showing the Camp Ripley area as scoring a medium high with regard to Integrated Terrestrial Value Score. This sets the area around Camp Ripley well ahead of many other areas of the state. The text in the plan that states that, “The State must further strengthen its leadership to coordinate and stimulate efforts for the protection of these critical land areas among current and potential partners. This activity would include identification of relevant landowners, identification of the most cost-effective measures for protection, restoration, and education on the importance of the area...”. The ACUB program is designed to help the State achieve this goal.

Habitat Recommendation 2: Protect critical shorelands of streams and lakes

Habitat Recommendation 2A: Acquire high-priority shorelands

- This proposal is supported by the Integrated Aquatic Habitat Quality Index map (figure H8, page 45) showing the Crow Wing, Mississippi and the Gull River flowages, among others, as higher scoring aquatic habitats.

Habitat Recommendation 3: Improve connectivity and access to outdoor recreation

Habitat Recommendation 7: Keep water on the landscape – This proposal protects the functions of rainwater infiltration by preventing conversion to impervious surface.

The plan also identifies strong correlations between “protecting priority land habitats” and the following benefits: Water Quality / Quantity, Terrestrial Habitat Quality, Soil / Land Quality, Biodiversity, Aquatic Community Health, Economic Health, Recreational / Cultural / Spiritual / Aesthetic Value and Climate Change Mitigation / Adaptation (Final Plan p.28).

FY 2008-2009 DNR ACUB Acquisition Plan - The fee acquisition of property within the three-mile ACUB boundary also called out in the FY 2008-2009 DNR ACUB Acquisition Plan throughout the document.

MN DNR, “Tomorrow’s Habitat for the Wild and Rare: An Action Plan for Minnesota Wildlife”, 2006 – Camp Ripley has been identified as an area important for Species of Greatest Conservation Need (page 172). In addition, this proposal is supported by the identification of habitat loss and habitat degradation in Minnesota as the problem most identified in the ecological subsections where the ACUB exists, which are the Hardwood Hills, Mille Lacs Uplands, Anoka Sand Plains, Pine Moraines & Outwash Plains. Statewide, the Species in Greatest Conservation Need are impacted greatly by the loss of habitat (76%) and degradation of habitat in Minnesota (83%) (page 38). Of all 25 Ecological Classification System ‘Subsections’ in the state, the four that touch Camp Ripley and the buffer have significant numbers of species in greatest conservation need. They rank #3, #6, #9, and #11 (page 31). The protection and restoration of habitat in the ACUB will protect and manage existing habitat and help restore other important habitats.

The Nature Conservancy, “Prairie – Forest Border Ecoregion: A Conservation Plan”, 2001 - This proposal is supported by the identification of the Mississippi and Crow Wing River corridors as “Ecologically Significant Areas of the Prairie Forest Border” (map 7A). “Land development for residential or commercial uses, incompatible agricultural practices, exotic species and fire exclusion were identified as the primary threats facing conservation targets throughout the ecoregion” (page 2). The region is also considered an ‘active landscape’ in separate documents showing much of the ACUB buffer a focus of TNCs work.

X where possible and appropriate uses native plant material.

X restore or enhance resources only on property under permanent protection of fee ownership or conservation easement.

- have a plan to sustain the resource and/or habitat outcomes specified, including a plan to finance the necessary activities. **Please describe:**

The program activities have been closely coordinated with the acquiring divisions and / or local unit of government. Existing funding streams that are used for property maintenance either within DNR divisions, or found within the budgets of local units of government have been used in the past

to provide maintenance. These acquisitions will continue to be closely coordinated with the managing organizations. The plan to finance ongoing ownership activities ultimately is the responsibility of the acquiring organization, which they are taking responsibility for when entering into an agreement to manage.

- identify funding necessary to fully implement the project/programs(s). **Please provide any additional information not presented in the budget table on the previous sheet:**

limit the state's exposure for additional funding for the project. **This project accelerates the acquisition of properties already found on the ACUB Acquisition Plan.**

have a process for ensuring transparency and accessibility in all stages of project/program implementation.

seek funding to supplement (not replace) customary or usual funding sources.

only acquire permanent easements, if proposing less than fee simple acquisition in real property. **N/A**

ensure that land acquired by fee with money from the OHF is open to the public taking of fish and game during the open season unless otherwise provided by law.

commit to erect and maintain signage, to a standard to be adopted by the LOHC, crediting the OHF with support for protected, restored, or improved sites.

commit to replace OHF protected resources converted to a use other than that intended in the OHF appropriation on a ten replacement acres for one converted acre basis.

agree to not transfer the public interest in OHF fee and/or easement protected land without the written approval of the appropriate state of Minnesota authority.

Criteria To Be Met By Requesting Organizations

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for expenditures from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider requests from organization(s) that:

have a record of successful management and implementation of project/program(s) similar in scale, scope, and complexity to the project/program(s) being requested.

have demonstrated the ability to identify and establish the financial and managerial controls needed to successfully and fully implement the proposed project/program.

have an up-to-date external financial audit with no serious negative findings. (At the time of this submission, I am unable to determine the existence or the findings of audit information. As the funds are administered by the DNR, all Federal and State accounting practices are adhered to and all regularly scheduled audits are completed.)

Outdoor Heritage Fund Proposal - 4

Fish, Game and Wildlife Habitat Group

Your name: Bob McGillivray

Your organization: The Trust for Public Land

Mailing address: 2610 University Ave. W., Suite 300, St. Paul, MN 55114

Phone/fax number: 651-999-5300

Email address: bob.mcgillivray@tpl.org

Program/project short name: TPL's Cooperative Shoreland Protection Initiative 2010

FY10 Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars requested: \$3,800,000

Additional funds leveraged and source: \$550,000 various: city, county, private.

Expected outcomes at completion (e.g., XX acres protected, restored, enhanced):

By June 30, 2010, approximately 34 acres of priority shoreland fish and wildlife habitat, and public access to high priority shoreland fish and wildlife habitat, will be secured in public ownership.

Short narrative of program/project, location(s), timeline for completion and measures of success (100 words or less): The Trust for Public Land works in partnership with public agencies from the local to the federal level to protect high priority lands for public use and enjoyment. TPL's Cooperative Shoreland Protection Initiative 2010 includes land protection efforts that are expedited because of landowner urgency for financial or other reasons. If not protected now, these tracts of land may be lost for conservation and public enjoyment. These prioritized tracts of land are located in the high-growth areas of Crow Wing County and Chisago County. Efforts will be successful when fee title has been transferred into protective ownership by June 30, 2010.

Generalized budget:

Budget Item	Outdoor Heritage Fund \$\$	Other Fund \$\$	Total Funds \$\$
Salaries/benefits			
Contracts			
Equipment (> \$5000)			
Materials, supplies			
Travel			
Land (fee, easement)			
Other (list)	3,800,000	550,000	4,350,000
<u>Total</u>	3,800,000	550,000	4,350,000

Describe how long-term costs for sustaining project, monitoring and/or addressing property tax implications will be met: The protection work within this program will be accomplished with help from The Trust for Public Land, which uses privately-raised funds to cover its acquisition activities including the due diligence costs associated with the transaction. The land will ultimately be conveyed to a public agency that will be responsible for making payments in lieu of taxes. TPL will work with the agencies to plan for funding of stewardship costs.

Describe how local governments will be involved/informed if relevant: The protection efforts included in this program have a range of involvement by local units of government. In some cases, the local unit of government has requested TPL's assistance in acquiring high priority lands, in

which case the local unit of government will be the long-term steward of the lands acquired and may be providing matching funds where possible. For any land acquisitions in which the ultimate landowner is the DNR, any required township notification will be made and county approval will be sought.

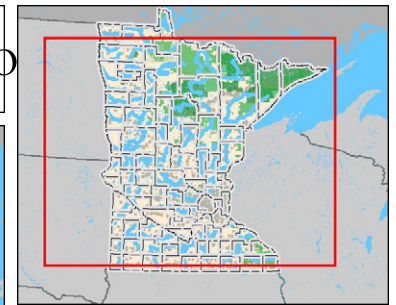
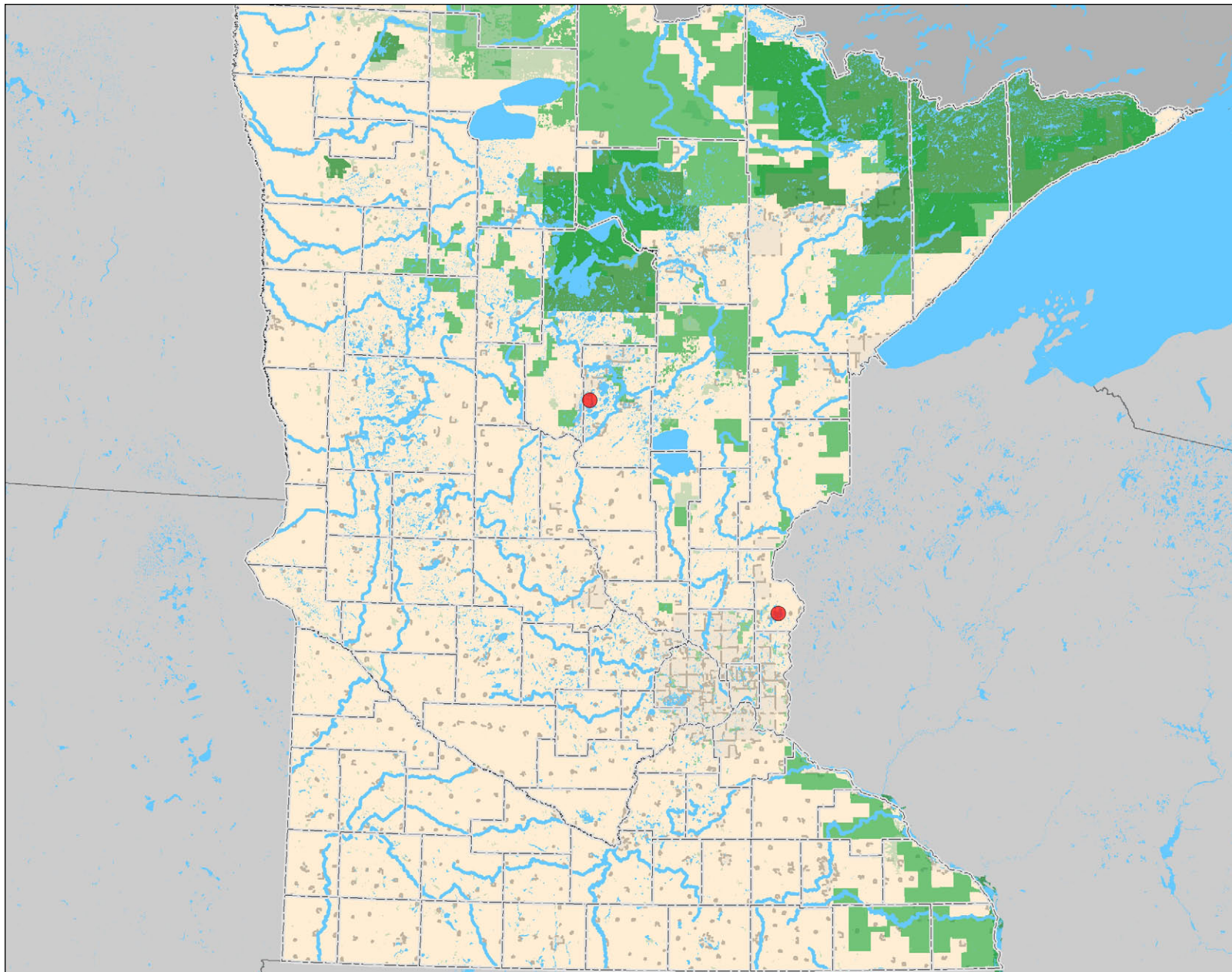
Describe how many Full Time Equivalent (FTE) jobs this will provide: Most recent data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics/Bureau of Economic Analysis states that for every \$1 million produced from a sale of property, 10.7 jobs are created or maintained. For protection efforts included in this program, TPL will use private funds to support the work of TPL staff and those who TPL would contract with including appraisers, surveyors, environmental consultants, and title companies. Landowners with whom we work will also likely be hiring attorneys and tax/financial consultants to advise them. Landowners will use revenue generated from the sale of their land to fund other investments, purchases, and in some cases in which landowner is a business, the funds will be used to pay operational expenses, including staff.

Describe how this project will provide public access for hunting, fishing and other recreation: All lands acquired through this program will be open to hunting, fishing, and other recreation unless otherwise provided by law. Several tracts include access to lakes that have excellent sport fisheries, including largemouth bass, walleye, and muskellunge.











Other considerations:

The Trust for Public Land is a nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting land for people. TPL works with public agencies from the local to the federal level in order to achieve communities' conservation goals through conservation finance and conservation real estate services. We rely on our legal, real estate, and finance expertise to successfully complete complicated conservation transactions that public agencies may not have the staff or resources to do themselves. We offer a professional and streamlined approach, and bring extra hands and minds to assist often over-extended government staff. Since TPL's founding 36 years ago, we have conserved over 2.4 million acres with a fair market value of approximately \$5.3 billion in over 3,600 separate conservation transactions across the United States. In Minnesota, we have protected over 84,000 acres of important conservation lands since 1986.

Please also complete the attached information sheet as requested by the LOHC.



Legend

-  County Boundary
-  Major Rivers
-  Major Waterbodies
-  Metro Parks
-  Wildlife Management Areas
-  State Forests
-  Scientific and Natural Areas
-  NWR-NFWS
-  National Forests
-  Municipal Boundaries

1: 3,416,437



107.8 0 53.92 107.8 Miles

This map is a user generated static output from an Internet mapping site and is for reference only. Data layers that appear on this map may or may not be accurate, current, or otherwise reliable.

THIS MAP IS NOT TO BE USED FOR NAVIGATION

Notes

2/13/09

Additional Information Requested by LOHC

The proposal and organizational requirements listed below are provided by the LOHC (see: http://www.lohc.state.mn.us/materials/2009_rec_dev_proc.pdf). Please check the appropriate items where a space is provided to indicate your agreement, or provide a narrative answer where a response is required, and include with the previous form.

Organization: **The Trust for Public Land (TPL)**

Minimum Criteria For Funding Requests

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for appropriations from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider funding requests that:

X are consistent with the uses of the OHF as specified in Article XI of the Minnesota Constitution and Minnesota Statutes 97A.056,.

X show the ability to produce significant, measurable, and enduring resource and/or habitat outcomes.

- clearly identify specific resource and/or habitat outcomes, performance measures, and a plan for measuring, evaluating and publicly reporting these outcomes over time. **Please describe:**

This request would fund the acquisition of approximately 34 acres of shoreline habitat by June 30, 2010 to be protected and made available for public use and enjoyment. When achieved, this outcome will be broadcast via email to TPL, Embrace Open Space, and public agency listserves. TPL will post project information on TPL's website, www.tpl.org , and will distribute press releases and include information in organization brochures and newsletters where appropriate. Land acquired will be posted and signs will be erected.

- reflect the best available science regarding resource and/or habitat enhancement, restoration, and protection. **Please reference any relevant plans or documents that support this:**

Lands to be protected within this program are supported by a number of plans, including city and county comprehensive plans, city and county parks plans, local watershed plans, *Minnesota Statewide Conservation and Preservation Plan*, Minnesota's Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy, *A 50 Year Vision: Conservation for Minnesota's Future*, and the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan.

X where possible and appropriate uses native plant material.

N/A restore or enhance resources only on property under permanent protection of fee ownership or conservation easement.

- have a plan to sustain the resource and/or habitat outcomes specified, including a plan to finance the necessary activities. **Please describe:**

This proposal would fund the cost of the land. The Trust for Public Land will provide real estate assistance, including payment of due diligence costs, which will be funded with privately-raised funds.

- identify funding necessary to fully implement the project/programs(s). **Please provide any additional information not presented in the budget table on the previous sheet:**

limit the state's exposure for additional funding for the project.

have a process for ensuring transparency and accessibility in all stages of project/program implementation.

seek funding to supplement (not replace) customary or usual funding sources.

N/A only acquire permanent easements, if proposing less than fee simple acquisition in real property.

ensure that land acquired by fee with money from the OHF is open to the public taking of fish and game during the open season unless otherwise provided by law.

commit to erect and maintain signage, to a standard to be adopted by the LOHC, crediting the OHF with support for protected, restored, or improved sites.

commit to replace OHF protected resources converted to a use other than that intended in the OHF appropriation on a ten replacement acres for one converted acre basis.

agree to not transfer the public interest in OHF fee and/or easement protected land without the written approval of the appropriate state of Minnesota authority.

Criteria To Be Met By Requesting Organizations

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for expenditures from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider requests from organization(s) that:

have a record of successful management and implementation of project/program(s) similar in scale, scope, and complexity to the project/program(s) being requested.

have demonstrated the ability to identify and establish the financial and managerial controls needed to successfully and fully implement the proposed project/program.

have an up-to-date external financial audit with no serious negative findings.

Outdoor Heritage Fund Proposal - 5

Fish, Game and Wildlife Habitat Group

Your name: Marc Mattice
Your organization: Wright County Parks and City of Monticello
Mailing address: 1901 Highway 25 North Buffalo, MN 55313
Phone/fax number: 763-682-7693 / 763-682-7313
Email address: marc.mattice@co.wright.mn.us

Program/project short name: Bertram Chain of Lakes Acquisition
FY10 Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars requested: \$1,100,000
Additional funds leveraged and source: \$1,223,750 Wright County and City of Monticello
Expected outcomes at completion:

Acquisition of 169 acres of land and water, including approximately 1.96 miles of lake shore, .5 mile of stream corridor, 96 acres of forest lands, 10 acres of lands to be restored to native plant communities, along with wetlands, and a rare geological feature called an *Esker Tunnel*.

Short narrative of program/project, location(s), timeline for completion and measures of success (100 words or less):

Bertram Chain of Lakes in Wright County is 1,200 acres, located within one mile of the Mississippi River and 4 miles from Pelican Lake a notable waterfowl area. With four undeveloped lakes, (5.75 miles of lake shore), forested areas, and grasslands, the area supports wildlife such as white-tailed deer, turkeys, trumpeter swans, waterfowl, and a variety of marshland inhabitants, as well as a variety of popular game fish. Protecting this property will provide quality nesting and wintering areas, preserve the water quality, support fishing opportunities, and provide future opportunities for habitat restorations.

The lands in this proposal will be purchased within 8 weeks from when the allocation is made.

The complete purchase of the entire 1200 acres parcel will be completed by December 2011 depending on funding from various programs as outlined in the proposed budget.

Generalized budget:

Budget Item	Outdoor Heritage Fund \$\$	Other State Funds \$\$	Other Non-State Funds \$\$	Total Funds \$\$
Salaries/benefits				
Contracts				
Equipment (> \$5000)				
Materials, supplies				
Travel				
Land (fee, easement)	\$1,100,000		\$1,223,750	2,323,750
Other (list)				
<u>Total</u>	\$1,100,000		\$1,223,750	\$2,323,750

Describe how long-term costs for sustaining project, monitoring and/or addressing property tax implications will be met: Future long term costs for operation and maintenance of the area will be handled

thru a partnership between Wright County and the City of Monticello. This partnership has already committed \$11.5 million to match any grant funds appropriated to the purchase. Future habitat restoration projects may apply for funding thru the proper programs and all funds matched accordingly to any grant guidelines will be made by this partnership. Currently the property is owned by the YMCA of Metropolitan Minneapolis and the property is not on the tax rolls.

Describe how local governments will be involved/informed if relevant: Currently the Bertram Chain of Lakes acquisition project has a task force consisting of County, City, and Township elected officials and staff members. This task force meets on a regular basis and is updated with current events.

Describe how many Full Time Equivalent (FTE) jobs this will provide: At this point it is difficult to describe how many jobs this project will immediately affect, during the acquisition stages current full time staff from the City and County will be needed to take care of a variety of tasks including property boundary signage, invasive species controls, security, and routine maintenance. Once the purchase is complete there will be opportunities for job creation through contracted services, numerous professional and technical staff will be needed from the private for such activities such as refuse removal, facilities construction, and habitat restorations. Other job creations will include increasing staff numbers for operations management, maintenance and for seasonal employment.

Describe how this project will provide public access for hunting, fishing and other recreation: Once the overall purchase is completed public access for fishing will be allowed on each of the four undeveloped lakes that are within the boundaries of this area. Currently no public access for fishing is allowed. A master plan is being developed that will include public input, and consider the possibility of offering public hunting opportunities. Possibilities that have been discussed include youth hunts, heritage hunting opportunities, waterfowl hunting, and archery hunts.

Other considerations: This project began as a \$20.5 million acquisition. The acquisition has been broken down into phases, with phase one being completed in 2008 at a cost of \$3.6 million, leaving a balance of \$16.9 million. The following is a proposed funding/budget outline to secure the remaining funds needed to make this project a reality.

Funding Year 2009

- Lessard Outdoor Heritage Funding Request (Purchase Parcel #7 See Map) \$1.1 Million
- LCCMR Request Denied \$0.00
- Request From Parks and Trails Fund Legacy Amendment (Purchase Parcel #1 & #2) \$1 Million
- County and City Partnership Contribution \$2,336,250
- **TOTAL FUNDS FOR 2009** **\$4,436,250**

For Funding Year 2010

- 2010 State Bonding Request For Allocation (Purchase Parcels #'s 9,10,12) \$1 Million
- LCCMR Request For Funding (Purchase Parcel #5) \$500,000
- Lessard Outdoor Heritage Fund Request (Purchase Parcel #5) \$900,000
- Request From Parks and Trails Fund Legacy Amendment (Purchase Parcel #8) \$1 Million
- County and City Partnership Contribution \$3,782,500
- **TOTAL FUNDS FOR 2010** **\$7,182,500**

For Funding Year 2011

- Lessard Outdoor Heritage Council Request (Purchase Parcel 4) \$1 Million
- LCCMR Request For Funding (Purchase Parcel 4) \$500,000
- Request From Parks and Trails Fund Legacy Amendment (Purchase Parcel #3) \$1 Million
- County and City Partnership Contribution \$2,781,250
- **TOTAL FUNDS FOR 2011** **\$5,281,250**

Additional Information Requested by LOHC

The proposal and organizational requirements listed below are provided by the LOHC (see: http://www.lohc.state.mn.us/materials/2009_rec_dev_proc.pdf). Please check the appropriate items where a space is provided to indicate your agreement, or provide a narrative answer where a response is required, and include with the previous form.

Organization: **Wright County Parks and City of Monticello**

Minimum Criteria For Funding Requests

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for appropriations from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider funding requests that:

YES are consistent with the uses of the OHF as specified in Article XI of the Minnesota Constitution and Minnesota Statutes 97A.056,.

YES show the ability to produce significant, measurable, and enduring resource and/or habitat outcomes.

- clearly identify specific resource and/or habitat outcomes, performance measures, and a plan for measuring, evaluating and publicly reporting these outcomes over time. **Please describe:**

At this point the project is acquisition. Once that process is completed, Wright County and the City of Monticello will work towards completing habitat restorations using proven practices and following BMP's for each native plant community and or habitat that is restored on the property. Monitoring activities will include test plots for plant species, identifying standard plots, percent of cover, species present and documentation of any invasive or non-native species.

- reflect the best available science regarding resource and/or habitat enhancement, restoration, and protection. **Please reference any relevant plans or documents that support this:**

In 2008 a natural resources Inventory was conducted on this site. Using that data along with information gathered through the County Biological Survey and Pre-settlement Land Cover Maps the County and City will work toward resource and habitat enhancements. Wright County has been very successful with native prairie restorations, direct hardwood seeding, and shoreline restoration projects over the past years; by using highly qualified individuals and agencies we will continue to use the best available restoration methods.

YES where possible and appropriate uses native plant material.

YES restore or enhance resources only on property under permanent protection of fee ownership or conservation easement.

- Have a plan to sustain the resource and/or habitat outcomes specified, including a plan to finance the necessary activities. **Please describe:**

Management of *Bertram Chain of Lakes* natural resources is necessary in order to enhance and maintain the site's natural value. The current *Natural Resource Inventory and Assessment* will be used to guide the future master plan.

Further site review and basic stewardship, including attempts to identify invasive species and feasible controls, will have a positive impact toward the goals of the area. The following are proposed management activities for the property purchased. As future purchases are secured, these goals will be reviewed and implemented as needed.

Short Term Natural Resource Management Goals (1-5 years)

- Maintain the ecological condition of the large wetland complex that is noted in the *Natural Resource Inventory* #1752.
- Develop *Regional Park Master Plan*.

- Locate and identify areas of invasive species on the property.
- Contain or reduce the extent of invasive species on the property.
- Develop and maintain partnerships for the enhancement and management of the natural resources, including partnerships with MnDNR, USFW, School Districts, Soil and Water Conservation District, non-profit groups, and citizen volunteers.

Long Term Natural Resource Management Goals (5 + Years)

- Plan restoration of native plant communities on agricultural grounds.
- Implement and manage restoration of native plant communities.
- Buffer existing high quality natural resources areas.
- Develop partnerships with adjacent landowners to promote and implement water quality management on private lands.
- Protect and enhance wildlife habitat.
- Continue invasive species controls.
- Establish volunteer projects.
- Establish environmental education signage and interpretation.
- Begin implementation of *Regional Park Master Plan*.
- Manage diseased and hazard trees.

To achieve these goals the City and County will join together with appropriate non-profit groups and other agencies to secure funding for proper management and enhancements to the area natural resources.

YES limit the state's exposure for additional funding for the project.

YES have a process for ensuring transparency and accessibility in all stages of project/program implementation.

YES seek funding to supplement (not replace) customary or usual funding sources.

YES only acquire permanent easements, if proposing less than fee simple acquisition in real property.

YES Fish ? Game is being considered as part of a area master plan... ensure that land acquired by fee with money from the OHF is open to the public taking of fish and game during the open season unless otherwise provided by law.

YES commit to erect and maintain signage, to a standard to be adopted by the LOHC, crediting the OHF with support for protected, restored, or improved sites.

YES commit to replace OHF protected resources converted to a use other than that intended in the OHF appropriation on a ten replacement acres for one converted acre basis.

YES agree to not transfer the public interest in OHF fee and/or easement protected land without the written approval of the appropriate state of Minnesota authority.

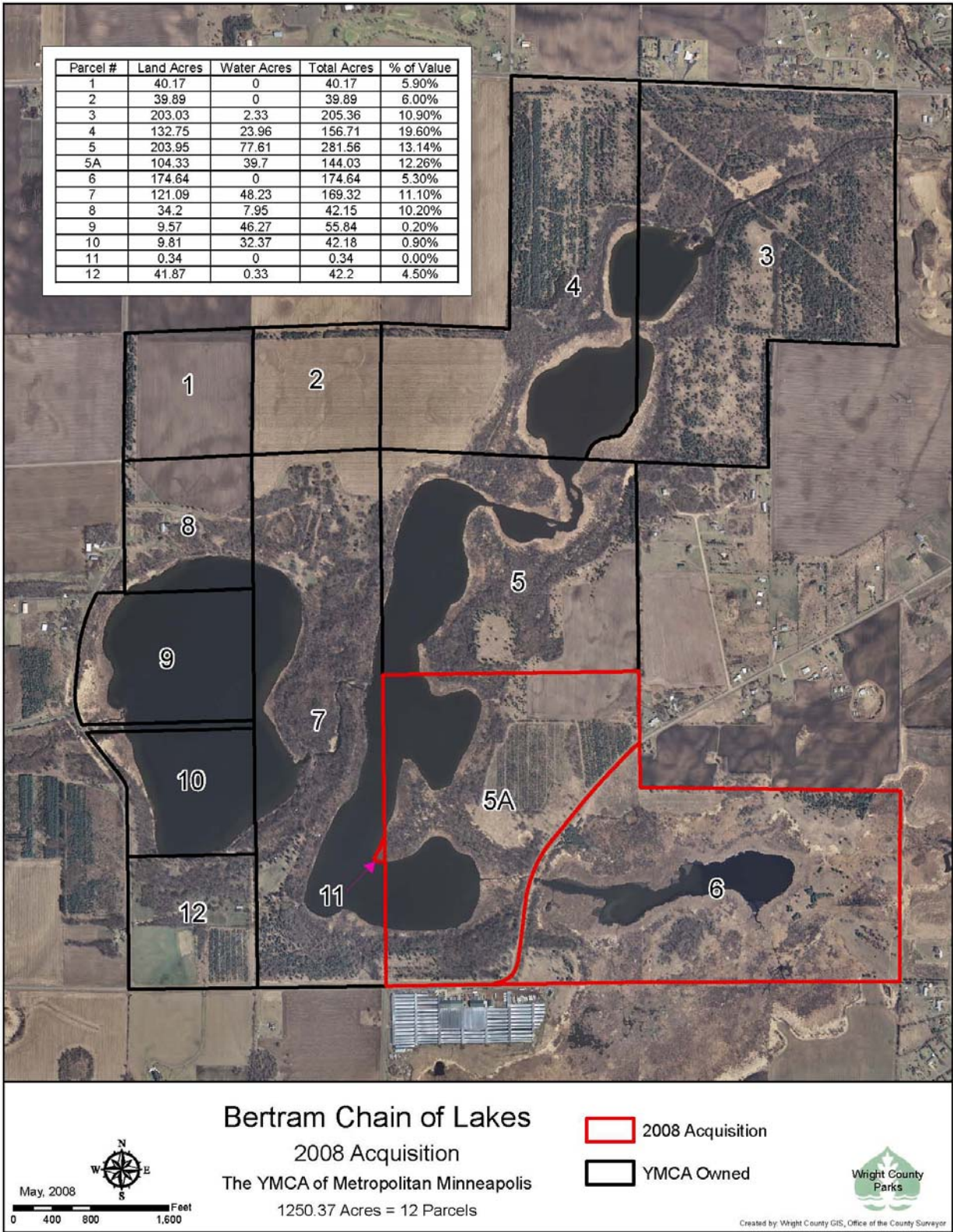
Criteria To Be Met By Requesting Organizations

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for expenditures from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider requests from organization(s) that:

YES have a record of successful management and implementation of project/program(s) similar in scale, scope, and complexity to the project/program(s) being requested.

YES have demonstrated the ability to identify and establish the financial and managerial controls needed to successfully and fully implement the proposed project/program.

YES have an up-to-date external financial audit with no serious negative findings.



Outdoor Heritage Fund Proposal - 6

Fish, Game and Wildlife Habitat Group

Your name: Kent Montgomery

Your organization: The Nature Conservancy

Mailing address: 7163 Bear Road, Cushing, MN 56443

Phone/fax number: (218) 575-3032 ext. 14

Email address: kmontgomery@tnc.org

Program/project short name: Central Minnesota Aquatic Protection

FY10 Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars requested: \$1,000,000

Additional funds leveraged and source: \$250,000

Expected outcomes at completion (e.g., XX acres protected, restored, enhanced):

Approximately 319 acres will be protected in fee-title status, directly affecting more than 1.2 miles of shoreline on four priority lakes defined by a statewide scientific, assessment by The Nature Conservancy. This acquisition is part of an long-term program of freshwater protection in central Minnesota and across Minnesota.

Short narrative of program/project, location(s), timeline for completion and measures of success (100 words or less):

The Nature Conservancy, an international, non-profit organization, is working to protect 10% of the aquatic diversity in central Minnesota. This request represents the acquisition of parcels within this landscape that can be completed within an twelve month window and protect priority lakes identified through a statewide, scientific assessment (*Identifying Lake Conservation Priorities for The Nature Conservancy in Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota; Blann and Cornett 2008*). The fee-title acquisition of these properties will protect critical shoreline on four shallow littoral/small-medium, deep lake targets.

Generalized budget:

Budget Item	Outdoor Heritage Fund \$\$	Other State Funds \$\$	Other Non-State Funds \$\$	Total Funds \$\$
Salaries/benefits				
Contracts				
Equipment (> \$5000)				
Materials, supplies				
Travel				
Land (fee, easement)	\$1,000,000		\$250,000	\$1,250,000
Other (list)				
<u>Total</u>	\$1,000,000		\$250,000	\$1,250,000

Describe how long-term costs for sustaining project, monitoring and/or addressing property tax implications will be met: The property is currently in pristine condition, requiring no

restoration activities. Ownership of these parcels will be transferred to the MN DNR or Crow Wing County upon completion of the transaction. Restrictive language sale, regarding subdivision, development, and resource management on the property will be attached prior to transfer to our resource management partners.

Describe how local governments will be involved/informed if relevant: Local units of government (e.g., township and county government) will be informed and allowed to comment on the protection of these properties and their conversion from tax-generating parcels to sites of public access, hunting, fishing, and recreation.

Describe how many Full Time Equivalent (FTE) jobs this will provide: Directly no FTE will be created. The Nature Conservancy has existing staff capacity to complete the property transactions. Indirectly, however, this acquisition will contribute to the area's ability to generate recreation-based revenues, which contribute to the area's economy and employment.

Describe how this project will provide public access for hunting, fishing and other recreation: Public hunting and fishing will be allowed as directed by state agency on the parcels, within any additional guidelines set forth by the managing entity (e.g., restrictions on permanent hunting stands). Access roads currently exist at two different locations on the property.

Other considerations:

The Minnesota Chapter of the Nature Conservancy has protected more than 400,000 acres in Minnesota in its fifty year history and actively manages more than 70,000 of these acres. The Nature Conservancy is a private, non-profit organization that works internationally to protect plants, animals, and natural communities and the places they need to survive.

Please also complete the attached information sheet as requested by the LOHC.



Additional Information Requested by LOHC

The proposal and organizational requirements listed below are provided by the LOHC (see: http://www.lohc.state.mn.us/materials/2009_rec_dev_proc.pdf). Please check the appropriate items where a space is provided to indicate your agreement, or provide a narrative answer where a response is required, and include with the previous form.

Organization: **The Nature Conservancy**

Minimum Criteria For Funding Requests

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for appropriations from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider funding requests that:

are consistent with the uses of the OHF as specified in Article XI of the Minnesota Constitution and Minnesota Statutes 97A.056,.

show the ability to produce significant, measurable, and enduring resource and/or habitat outcomes.

- clearly identify specific resource and/or habitat outcomes, performance measures, and a plan for measuring, evaluating and publicly reporting these outcomes over time. **Please describe:**
- reflect the best available science regarding resource and/or habitat enhancement, restoration, and protection. **Please reference any relevant plans or documents that support this:**

Identifying Lake Conservation Priorities for The Nature Conservancy in Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota; Blann and Cornett 2008 in addition to other state (e.g., DNR) planning documents

where possible and appropriate uses native plant material.

restore or enhance resources only on property under permanent protection of fee ownership or conservation easement.

- have a plan to sustain the resource and/or habitat outcomes specified, including a plan to finance the necessary activities. **Please describe:**

Proposed acquisitions are in an undeveloped state and require no restoration activities. Any necessary long-term management of these parcels may be achieved through natural resources partners (e.g., MN DNR or Crow Wing County) who will ultimately acquire these properties and own and manage adjacent properties.

- identify funding necessary to fully implement the project/programs(s). **Please provide any additional information not presented in the budget table on the previous sheet:**

limit the state's exposure for additional funding for the project.

have a process for ensuring transparency and accessibility in all stages of project/program implementation.

seek funding to supplement (not replace) customary or usual funding sources.

only acquire permanent easements, if proposing less than fee simple acquisition in real property.

ensure that land acquired by fee with money from the OHF is open to the public taking of fish and game during the open season unless otherwise provided by law.

commit to erect and maintain signage, to a standard to be adopted by the LOHC, crediting the OHF with support for protected, restored, or improved sites.

commit to replace OHF protected resources converted to a use other than that intended in the OHF appropriation on a ten replacement acres for one converted acre basis.

agree to not transfer the public interest in OHF fee and/or easement protected land without the written approval of the appropriate state of Minnesota authority.

Criteria To Be Met By Requesting Organizations

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for expenditures from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider requests from organization(s) that:

have a record of successful management and implementation of project/program(s) similar in scale, scope, and complexity to the project/program(s) being requested.

have demonstrated the ability to identify and establish the financial and managerial controls needed to successfully and fully implement the proposed project/program.

have an up-to-date external financial audit with no serious negative findings.

Outdoor Heritage Fund Proposal - 7

Fish, Game and Wildlife Habitat Group

Your name: Mike Halverson

Your organization: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources - Fish and Wildlife Division

Mailing address: 500 Lafayette Road

Phone/fax number: 651 259-5209

Email address: mike.halverson@dnr.state.mn.us

Program/project short name: Aquatic Management Area (AMA) Acquisition

FY10 Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars requested: \$12,900,000

Additional funds leveraged and source: \$3,500,000 through partnerships, fundraising, and donation of land value; \$,850,000 in other State dollars, including RIM-CHM

Expected outcomes at completion (e.g., XX acres protected, restored, enhanced): This project will secure approximately 2,780 acres (20-miles) of lake and warmwater stream shoreline through fee title and permanent easement acquisition. This project will also secure 120 Acres (7-miles) of permanent habitat management easements that include angler access on designated trout streams.

Short narrative of program/project, location(s), timeline for completion and measures of success (100 words or less): Project dollars will secure fee title or permanent easements on approximately 2,050 acres (14 ¾ -miles) of lake and warmwater stream shoreline, and leverage about 730 acres (5 ¼ -miles) of similar acquisition through partner funds. This project will also secure 120 acres (7-miles) of permanent habitat management easements that include angler access on designated trout streams, primarily in the Southeast and Northeast areas of the state. Overall priority will be given to acquiring regionally significant fish and wildlife habitat that will build on existing shoreline habitat and provide angler and hunter access. Projects may occur anywhere within the state, depending on priorities, risk of development, and potential partners. Collaborative partnerships will be promoted in order to acquire key lands. Project money is expected to generate additional non-state funded acres and shoreline miles, for a grand total of 2,900 acres (27 miles) of critical shoreline habitat each year.

Generalized budget:

Budget Item	Outdoor Heritage Fund \$\$	Other State Funds \$\$	Other Non-State Funds \$\$	Total Funds \$\$
Salaries/benefits				
Land (fee, easement)	\$12,190,000	\$803,800	\$3,500,000	\$16,493,800
Professional Services*	\$645,000	\$42,000		\$687,000
AMA Improvement**	65,000	\$4,200		\$69,200
Total	\$12,900,000	\$850,000	\$3,500,000	\$17,250,000

* Professional service costs include: staff time for the Division of Lands and Minerals and the Attorney General's Office, survey costs, appraisal and review costs, recording and abstracting fees, deed tax, and any property taxes due the subsequent year following conveyance to the DNR. The total cost to process and complete the estimated land conveyances to the DNR under this program is approximately 5% of the total value of these acquisitions.

** AMA improvements include: conversion of tillable acres to fish and wildlife habitat.

Describe how long-term costs for sustaining project, monitoring and/or addressing property tax implications will be met: Projects will be designated as Aquatic Management Areas. Management and monitoring will be done on a regular basis by local Area Fish and Wildlife Staff. Conservation Easements will be monitored according to established AMA monitoring protocol. Property taxes will be paid by the State via Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT)

Describe how local governments will be involved/informed if relevant: Department policy is to notify County and Township governments when acquiring AMA's. Local support for AMA acquisition is usually substantial, and local groups commonly offer to help raise funds.

Describe how many Full Time Equivalent (FTE) jobs this will provide: Since impacts to the job market are broad, the exact number of additional jobs through AMA acquisition is difficult to predict. However Jobs are essential in order to acquire land successfully. These jobs employ highly trained professionals with expertise vital for Minnesota's economy. Additional acquisition dollars mean additional needs for professional services, both in the public and private sectors. Examples are negotiator, attorneys, project managers, fundraisers, environmental engineers, title reviewers, appraisers, surveyors, title insurers, mapping staff, photographers, etc. In Minnesota, spending by hunters and anglers directly supports 55,000 jobs, which puts \$16 billion worth of paychecks into pockets of working residents around the state. Additional Public land means additional opportunities for spending by users of the Outdoor Recreations System.

Describe how this project will provide public access for hunting, fishing and other recreation: AMA's are open to angling and other light use activities, and also open to hunting and trapping where local ordinance allows.

Other considerations: Aquatic Management Areas were established to protect, develop, and manage lakes, rivers, streams, and adjacent wetlands and lands that are critical for fish and other aquatic life, for water quality, and for the intrinsic biological value, public fishing, or other compatible outdoor recreational uses. AMAs provide angler or management access; protect fish spawning, rearing, or other unique habitat; protect aquatic wildlife feeding and nesting areas; and protect critical shoreline habitat, among other purposes authorized by Minnesota Statutes 86A.05, Subdivision 14.

Minnesota's AMA Acquisition Plan 2008-2033

The DNR's AMA Acquisition Plan calls for shoreline acquisition to ensure shoreline habitat protection, water quality maintenance, and angler access for present and future generations. This plan envisions acquisition of 3,428 miles of lake and stream habitat during the next 25 years. This funding proposal would further that goal.

Please also complete the attached information sheet as requested by the LOHC.

AMA Projects Started or Ready To Go (Includes Projects with Fact Sheets and Projects "In the Works")

02/09/09 Fisheries - Pending Lake & Stream Acquisition Priorities for FY09-10

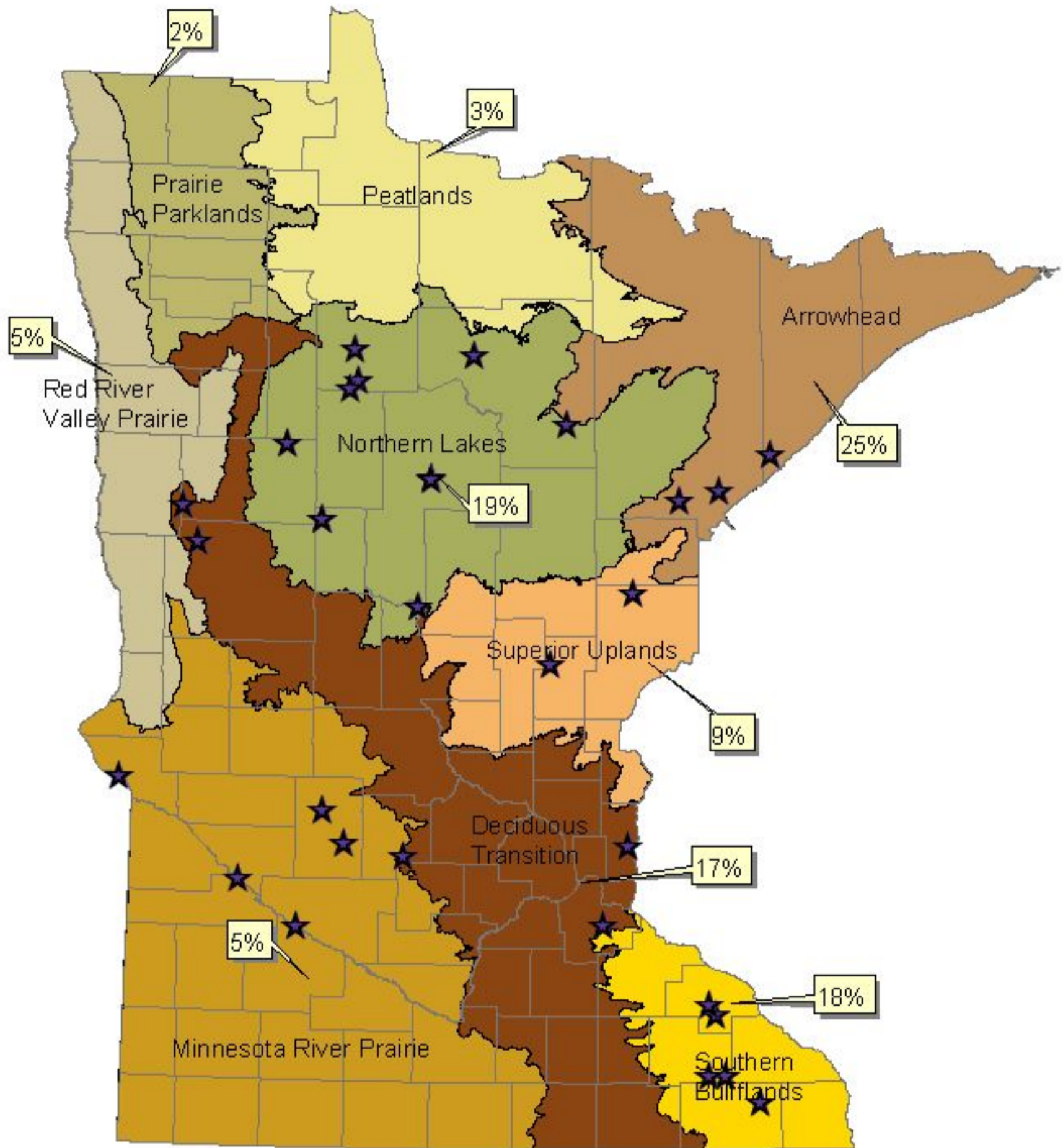
Project Name	Lake/Stream	County	Shore Ft	Acres	Anticipated Value	Anticipated Donation / Partner Funding	Critical Habitat	Proximity Oth Hab	Donation Potential	Partners Involved	Public Access	Willing Seller	Window of Op	Project Fruition	Available Dollars	Total	Partners
Woman Lake AMA, P5	Woman Lake	Cass	4,000	25	\$150,000	\$100,000	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	26	Landowner, Camp
Camp Miller AMA	Sturgeon Lake	Pine	5,910	338	\$1,200,000	\$500,000	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	25	Landowner, Cons Fund
Big Too Much Lake AMA, P2	Big Too Much Lake, P1	Itasca	130	1	\$50,000	\$50,000	3	2	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	25	Donation by owner
Eagle Lake AMA, P1	Eagle Lake	Itasca	1,030	33	\$200,000	\$200,000	3	2	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	25	Trails and Waterways
Woman Lake AMA, P7	Woman Lake	Cass	200	4	\$270,000	\$100,000	3	3	2	2	3	3	3	3	2	24	LLAWF, Fundraising
Woman Lake AMA, P6	Woman Lake	Cass	300	4	\$510,000	\$200,000	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	2	2	24	LLAWF, Lake Orgaization
Big Stone Lake AMA, P1	Big Stone Lake	Big Stone	400	2.5	\$100,000	\$100,000	3	2	3	3	3	3	2	2	3	24	Landowner
Little Knife AMA, P1	Little Knife	Kanabec	7,165	257	\$800,000	\$300,000	3	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	2	24	Landowner
Florida Lake AMA, P1	Florida Lake	Kandiyohi	950	4.6	\$900,000	\$450,000	3	3	2	2	3	3	3	2	2	23	Landowner, Trust
White Pine FPO	Mississippi River	Morrison	1,570	19	\$300,000	\$300,000	3	2	2	3	1	3	3	3	3	23	ACUB
Greenleaf AMA	Greenleaf	Meeker	5,415	51	\$200,000	\$100,000	3	3	2	2	3	3	3	2	2	23	Parks Council
Bemidji AMA	Bemidji	Beltrami	3,000	21	\$1,000,000	\$400,000	3	3	2	2	2	3	3	3	2	23	City, T&W
Preece Point AMA	Marquette Lake	Bletrami	1,700	15	\$400,000	\$100,000	3	2	2	2	3	3	3	2	2	22	Landowner
Bad Medicine Lake AMA	Bad Medicine	Becker	5,700	9	\$850,000	\$400,000	3	2	2	2	3	3	3	2	2	22	Landowner
Whispering Ridge AMA	Minnesota River	Redwood	4,778	178	\$500,000	\$250,000	3	2	2	2	3	3	3	2	2	22	Green
Lizzie Lake	Lizzie Lake	Otter Tail	935	3.1	\$155,000	\$10,000	3	2	2	2	3	3	3	2	2	22	landowner
Pokegama Lake AMA, P3	Pokegama Lake	Itasca	3,600	9	\$200,000	\$100,000	3	2	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	22	Lake Association
Kasota/Minnetoga AMA	Kasota	Kandiyohi	480	3.8	\$100,000	\$70,000	3	3	2	3	3	2	2	2	2	22	TAW, landowner
Little Sand AMA, P1	Little Sand	Itasca	330	77	\$400,000	\$250,000	3	2	3	2	3	3	2	2	2	22	Landowner Donation
Woman Lake AMA, P8 Broadwater	Woman Lake	Cass	1,000	10	\$800,000	\$400,000	3	3	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	21	LLAWF, Landowner
Woman Lake AMA, P9 Broadwater	Woman Lake	Cass	940	14	\$800,000	\$400,000	3	3	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	21	LLAWF, Landowner
Little Woman AMA	Little Woman	Cass	1,090	11	\$450,000	\$100,000	3	3	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	21	LLAWF, Landowner
Upper Cormorant Lk AMA, P7	Upper Cormorant	Becker	1,800	19.7	\$200,000	\$0	3	3	1	1	3	3	3	2	2	21	Landowner
Wegdahl Bottoms AMA	Minnesota River	Chippewa	332	336	\$600,000	\$0	3	2	2	2	3	3	2	2	2	21	Fundraising
Little Grand AMA	Little Grand Lake	St. Louis	620	3	\$70,000	\$35,000	3	3	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	21	Fundraising & Landowner
Bad Medicine Lake AMA, P4	Bad Medicine	Becker	775	8	\$300,000	\$100,000	3	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	20	Landowner & Lake Org

Little Turtle Lake AMA	Little Turtle	Beltrami	2,500	12.2	\$90,000	\$0	3	2	1	1	3	3	3	2	2	20	
Browns Creek AMA	Browns Creek	Washington	0	5	\$150,000	\$0	3	3	1	1	3	3	2	2	2	20	
Vermillion River AMA, P5	Vermillion River	Dakota	1,750	60	\$350,000	\$100,000	3	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	20	County
Miss River, Cons Easement	Mississippi River	Crow Wing	4,200	240	\$1,200,000	\$800,000	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	20	Landowner, ACUB
Spring Brook AMA	Spring Brook	Rice	2,400	35	\$280,000	\$75,000	3	3	2	2	3	2	2	2	1	20	Fundraising & Landowner
Bird's Eye Lake AMA	Bird's Eye	Itasca	5,300	163	\$200,000	\$100,000	3	3	2	2	3	3	1	1	2	20	LLAWF
Trout Stream Easements	Statewide	Primarily SE	36,960	120	\$700,000	\$0	3	3	1	1	2	3	3	2	2	20	
Cedar Lake AMA	Cedar	Crow Wing	7,050	210	\$2,500,000	\$500,000	3	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	1	19	LLAWF, Landowner
Cuyuna Scout Camp AMA, P4	Goodrich Lake	Crow Wing	3,350	125	\$1,300,000	\$100,000	3	3	2	3	2	3	1	1	1	19	Fundraising & Landowner
Snowshoe Lake AMA, P3	Snowshoe Lake	Cass	435	3	\$350,000	\$50,000	3	3	2	2	3	2	2	1	1	19	Landowner
Spirit Lake AMA	Spirit	Wadena	1,560	51	\$386,100	\$100,000	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	19	Fundraising
Star Lake Church Camp AMA	Little Star and 3 others	Crow Wing	24,200	420	\$1,200,000	\$450,000	3	2	2	3	2	3	1	1	1	18	Landowner
			Shore Ft	Acres	Value	Value										0	
Totals			143,855	2,901	\$20,211,100	\$7,290,000											

Miles = 27.2

State Dollars \$12,921,100

AMA Acquisition by Ecological Section* Acquisitions with Fact Sheets and "In The Works"



* Based on AMA acquisition goal recommendations by ecological section in the Aquatic Management Area Acquisition Planning Committee Report entitled "Minnesota's Aquatic Management Area Acquisition Plan 2008 - 2033"

Additional Information Requested by LOHC

The proposal and organizational requirements listed below are provided by the LOHC (see: http://www.lohc.state.mn.us/materials/2009_rec_dev_proc.pdf). Please check the appropriate items where a space is provided to indicate your agreement, or provide a narrative answer where a response is required, and include with the previous form.

Organization: **Minnesota Department of Natural Resources – Fish and Wildlife Division**

Minimum Criteria For Funding Requests

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for appropriations from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider funding requests that:

√ are consistent with the uses of the OHF as specified in Article XI of the Minnesota Constitution and Minnesota Statutes 97A.056,.

√ show the ability to produce significant, measurable, and enduring resource and/or habitat outcomes.

- clearly identify specific resource and/or habitat outcomes, performance measures, and a plan for measuring, evaluating and publicly reporting these outcomes over time. **Please describe:** Annual reports are generated annually:

MNDNR Strategic Conservation Agenda Update:

Meets the criteria of conservation in the Mission Statement, ‘work with citizens to conserve and manage the state’s natural resources, and goals for: Conservation of natural lands, maintenance of open spaces, conservation of stable and healthy fish and wildlife habitats, reduce loss of stable and healthy fish and wildlife habitats, provide additional access to public land, stabilize land ownership trends along lakeshore, and conservation of natural lakeshore and parts of lake watersheds.

- reflect the best available science regarding resource and/or habitat enhancement, restoration, and protection. **Please reference any relevant plans or documents that support this:** There are a number of plans in place that pertain to AMA acquisition, including:

Minnesota Conservation and Preservation Plan

Habitat Recommendation 2 (p. 67) includes fee acquisition and conservation easements among tools needed for protection of critical shorelines of streams and lakes. Acquiring the highest-priority shorelines “is one essential component of a multi-strategy approach to preserving the clean water legacy that Minnesota’s citizens and visitors are used to experiencing. (p.69)” Benefits include protection of critical shoreline habitats from degradation, public angler access, and providing areas for education and research.

Minnesota’s AMA Acquisition Plan 2008-2033

The DNR’s AMA Acquisition Plan calls for shoreline acquisition to ensure shoreline habitat protection, water quality maintenance, and angler access for present and future generations. This plan envisions acquisition of 3,428 miles of lake and stream habitat during the next 25 years. This funding proposal would further that goal.

Fisheries AMA Acquisition Biennial Spending Plan

Continue to acquire fee title and conservation easements on lakes and warmwater streams, as parcels with critical habitat become available, as partnership opportunities arise, and as funding becomes available.

 √ where possible and appropriate uses native plant material.

 √ restore or enhance resources only on property under permanent protection of fee ownership or conservation easement.

- have a plan to sustain the resource and/or habitat outcomes specified, including a plan to finance the necessary activities. **Please describe:**

Statewide Fish and Wildlife staff are prepared to manage and monitor AMAs.

- identify funding necessary to fully implement the project/programs(s). **Please provide any additional information not presented in the budget table on the previous sheet:**

Staff and funding are in place.

 √ limit the state's exposure for additional funding for the project.

 √ have a process for ensuring transparency and accessibility in all stages of project/program implementation.

 √ seek funding to supplement (not replace) customary or usual funding sources.

 √ only acquire permanent easements, if proposing less than fee simple acquisition in real property.

 √ ensure that land acquired by fee with money from the OHF is open to the public taking of fish and game during the open season unless otherwise provided by law.

 √ commit to erect and maintain signage, to a standard to be adopted by the LOHC, crediting the OHF with support for protected, restored, or improved sites.

 √ commit to replace OHF protected resources converted to a use other than that intended in the OHF appropriation on a ten replacement acres for one converted acre basis.

 √ agree to not transfer the public interest in OHF fee and/or easement protected land without the written approval of the appropriate state of Minnesota authority.

Criteria To Be Met By Requesting Organizations

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for expenditures from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider requests from organization(s) that:

 √ have a record of successful management and implementation of project/program(s) similar in

scale, scope, and complexity to the project/program(s) being requested.

 ✓ have demonstrated the ability to identify and establish the financial and managerial controls needed to successfully and fully implement the proposed project/program.

 ✓ have an up-to-date external financial audit with no serious negative findings.

Outdoor Heritage Fund Proposal – 8 (Summary)

Fish, Game and Wildlife Habitat – Metro Conservation Corridors Overall

Your name: Sarah Strommen
Your organization: Metro Conservation Corridors c/o Minnesota Land Trust
Mailing address: 2356 University Avenue W., Suite 240
Phone/fax number: 651-647-9590 (phone); 651-647-9769 (fax)
Email address: sstrommen@mnland.org

Program/project short name: Metro Conservation Corridors (MeCC)
FY10 Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars requested: \$8,174,550
Additional funds leveraged and source: \$12,125,000
Expected outcomes at completion: 1,636 acres protected; 675 acres restored; 565 acres enhanced

Short narrative of program/project, location(s), timeline for completion and measures of success:

This program will advance the acquisition and restoration of a natural habitat network in the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area to protect and improve the health of fish and wildlife species. Specifically, MeCC partners will work collaboratively to protect through fee and conservation easement acquisition 1,791 acres, restore 675 acres, and enhance 565 acres of significant habitat, guided by ecological and other selected criteria. All protection and restoration projects are located within a network of wildlife corridors (please see attached map), which were established by mapping DNR-identified Regionally Significant Ecological Areas. The collaborative nature of this partnership enhances the impact of what each individual partner could do alone by building upon prior investments in public lands, leveraging private and public partners and resources, and providing cost-effective conservation efforts through coordination. It is anticipated that partners will leverage an additional \$12,000,000 of additional funding.

Generalized budget:

Budget Item	Outdoor Heritage Fund \$\$	Other State Funds \$\$	Other Non-State Funds \$\$	Total Funds \$\$
Salaries/benefits	309,500			
Contracts	422,500			
Equipment (> \$5000)	13,700			
Materials, supplies	198,200			
Travel	5,750			
Land (fee, easement)	7,110,000			
Other (list)	114,900			
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$8,174,550</u>	<u>\$527,000</u>	<u>\$11,598,000</u>	<u>\$20,299,550</u>

Describe how long-term costs for sustaining project, monitoring and/or addressing property tax implications will be met:

Please see individual proposals.

Describe how local governments will be involved/informed if relevant:

The Metro Conservation Corridors partnership has a history of working with local governments in greater Twin Cities Metro area to achieve mutual conservation objectives, and in fact, our partnership includes two local governmental units. Where appropriate, local governments will be informed of acquisition and restoration activities.

Describe how many Full Time Equivalent (FTE) jobs this will provide:

Please see individual proposals.

Describe how this project will provide public access for hunting, fishing and other recreation:

The fish and wildlife habitat network advanced through this program helps create and preserve hunting, fishing, bird-watching and other outdoor recreational opportunities close to Minnesota's major population center, thereby ensuring accessibility to a diversity of Minnesotans.

Other considerations:

Metro Conservation Corridors partners have an excellent track record of completing protection and restoration of high quality habitat throughout the greater Twin Cities Metropolitan Area, which includes portions of 16 counties. To-date, MeCC partners have protected more than 5,200 acres of land, including 8.2 miles of shoreline and restored more than 4,300 acres of land, including two miles of shoreline. Because we have worked as a partnership since 2003, we already have identified acquisition and restoration projects that are ready to go and can be implemented to demonstrate on-the-ground, visible results.

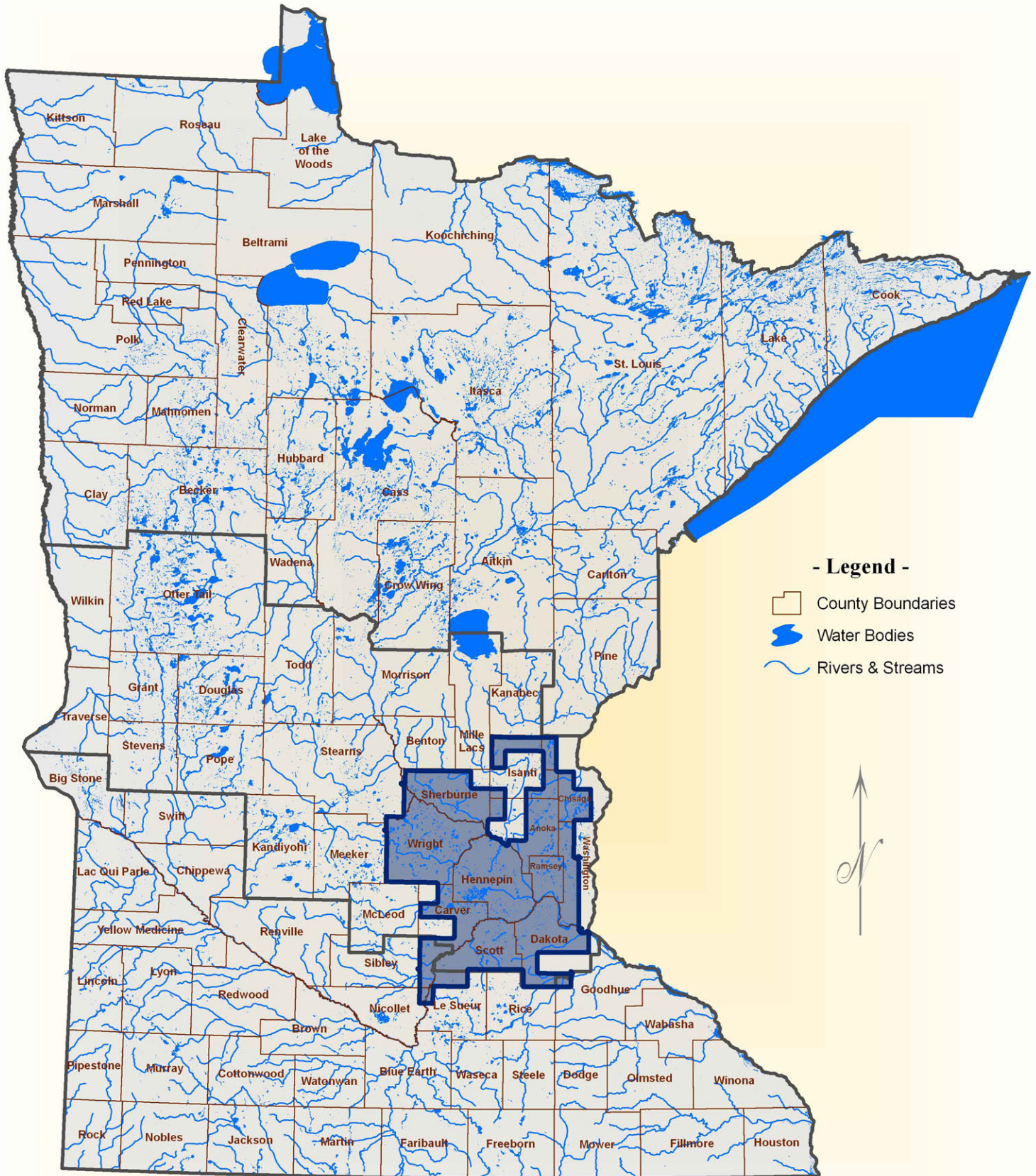
We believe a Metro-focused habitat program is an essential element for Minnesota's Outdoor Heritage Fund in order to provide close-to-home opportunities for our state's major population center. Our work is targeted within a network of science-based corridors and also is guided by the Minnesota Conservation and Preservation Plan, the State Wildlife Action Plan (Tomorrow's Habitat), as well as numerous resource-specific plans.

The pressure on the Twin Cities region's remaining natural lands is intensifying, with one million more people coming to the area by 2030. The recent slump in the housing market has given communities and landowners time to think proactively about conservation options rather than merely reacting to development. Additionally, delaying restoration on lands already or to be protected can increase the cost of future restoration significantly. With such a short window of opportunity, the Metro Conservation Corridors program is well-positioned to act efficiently and effectively to help protect and restore a network of remaining critical habitat and natural areas.

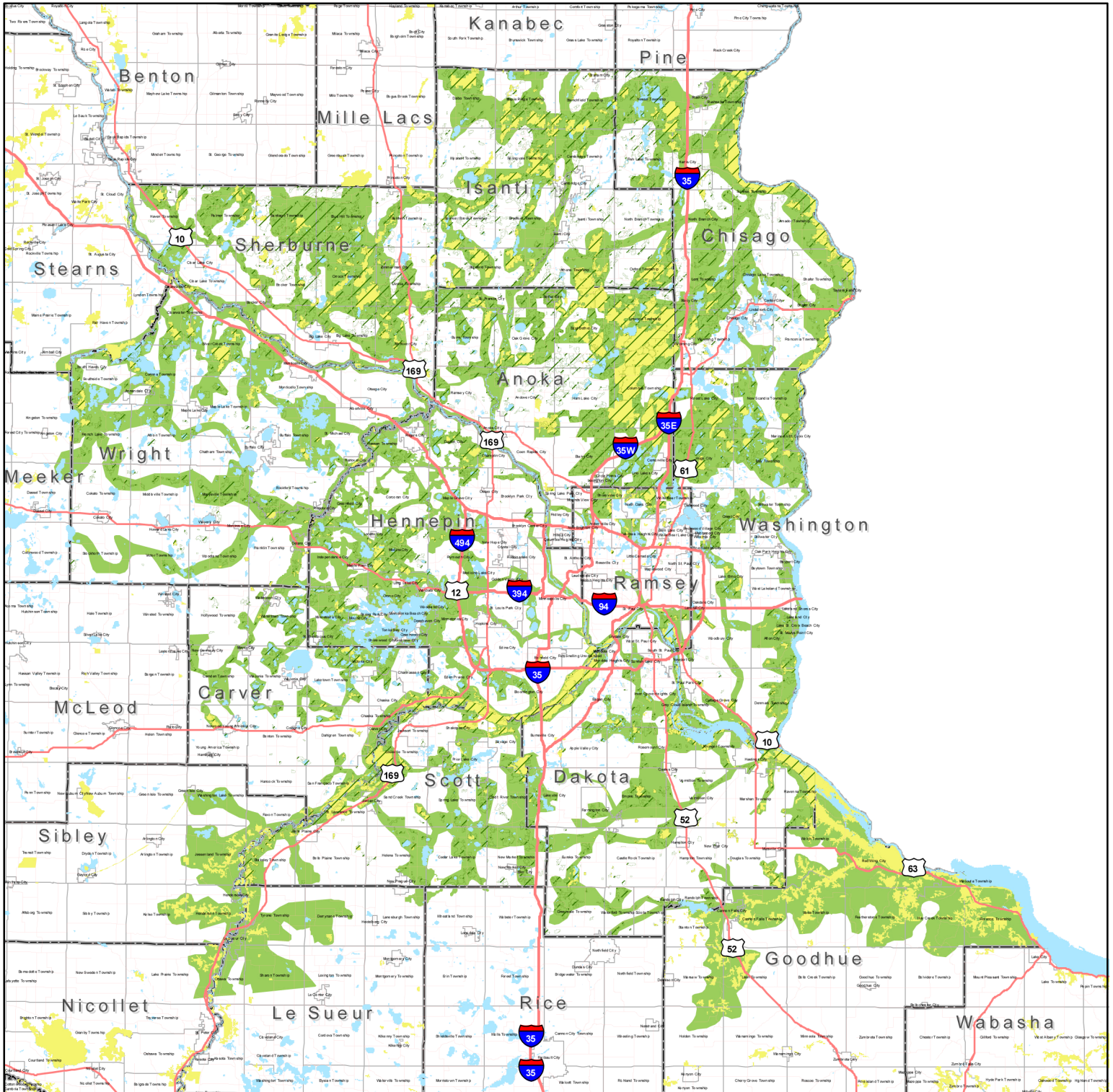
Please also complete the attached information sheet as requested by the LOHC:









Please see attached individual proposals.

Metro Conservation Corridors



Metro Conservation Corridors



-  Metro Conservation Corridors
-  Regionally Significant Ecological Areas
-  MCBS Sites of Biodiversity Significance
-  Lake, Pond, Stream, River
-  Interstate Highways
-  Secondary Highways
-  County Roads
-  County Boundaries



Outdoor Heritage Fund Proposal – 8 (continued)

Fish, Game and Wildlife Habitat Group – Metro Conservation Corridors

Your name: Peggy Booth (for Steve Hirsch)
Your organization: DNR Division of Ecological Resources
Mailing address: 500 Lafayette Rd, Box 25, St Paul, MN 55155-4025
Phone/fax number: 651-259-5088
Email address: peggy.booth@dnr.state.mn.us

Program/project short name: Scientific & Natural Area Restoration & Enhancement within Metro Corridors

FY10 Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars requested: \$120,000

Additional funds leveraged and source: N/A

Expected outcomes at completion:

Prairie, forest & savanna reconstruction: 20 acres

Woody encroachment removal: 60 acres

RESTORATION TOTAL ACRES: 80 acres

Prescribed burning: 330 acres

Other land management (e.g. non-woody invasive, exotics control): 30 acres

ENHANCEMENT TOTAL ACRES: 330 acres

Short narrative of program/project, location(s), timeline for completion and measures of success:

Restoration and enhancement will be done on state Scientific and Natural Areas (SNAs) within mapped Metro Conservation Corridors to improve ecological function of native fens, prairie, savanna, and forest and to reconstruct native communities as needed. This will provide habitat for wildlife, including Species in Greatest Conservation Need, and other rare species. Restoration activities will include prairie/savanna reconstruction (i.e. seed collection, site preparation, planting, and post-seeding management) and woody encroachment removal. Enhancement activities will include prescribed burning and non-woody invasive exotic species control.

Generalized budget:

RESTORATION

Budget Item	Outdoor Heritage Fund \$\$	Other State Funds \$\$	Other Non-State Funds \$\$	Total Funds \$\$
Salaries/benefits – 0.7 FTE for 1.5 yr	48,000			48,000
Contracts				
Equipment (Fleet Charges)	4,500			4,500
Materials, supplies	3,000			3,000
Travel	500			500
Other: Indirect costs (Dept, Div, Region)	6,000			6,000
Total	\$62,000			\$62,000

ENHANCEMENT

Budget Item	Outdoor Heritage Fund \$\$	Other State Funds \$\$	Other Non-State Funds \$\$	Total Funds \$\$
Salaries/benefits – 0.7 FTE for 1.5 yr	46,000			46,000
Contracts				
Equipment (Fleet Charges)	4,000			4,000
Materials, supplies	2,000			2,000
Travel	1,000			1,000
Other: Indirect costs (Dept, Div, Region)	5,000			5,000
<u>Total</u>	\$58,000			\$58,000

Describe how long-term costs for sustaining project, monitoring and/or addressing property tax implications will be met:

Ongoing monitoring and management of SNAs is the responsibility of the DNR Division of Ecological Resources. Basic property oversight is accomplished by base-funded DNR staff. But, all restoration and enhancement work is achieved through non-regular project funding (e.g. bonding, LCCMR, RIM Critical Habitat, federal funds, etc). The State makes PILT (payment in lieu of taxes) payments for all state-owned SNAs and the private landowners with NPB easements are responsible for any local property taxes.

Describe how local governments will be involved/informed if relevant: N/A

Describe how many Full Time Equivalent (FTE) jobs this will provide:

1.4 FTEs of DNR positions over the 18-month project period – these would be region-based SNA project crews (classified and unclassified paid almost exclusively with special project funds) and seasonal burn crews.

Describe how this project will provide public access for hunting, fishing and other recreation:

SNAs have public access and are open to hunting if compatible with resource protection goals.

Other considerations:

SNAs are established to protect and perpetuate in an undisturbed natural state as state Scientific and Natural Area those natural features that possess exceptional scientific or education value. These sites include areas of outstanding and high biodiversity with mapped native plant communities as identified by the Minnesota County Biological Survey and often contain rare animal and plant species. All restoration will use seeds or plants of a local ecotype, collected whenever possible from onsite or within 25 miles.

Additional Information Requested by LOHC

The proposal and organizational requirements listed below are provided by the LOHC (see: http://www.lohc.state.mn.us/materials/2009_rec_dev_proc.pdf). Please check the appropriate items where a space is provided to indicate your agreement, or provide a narrative answer where a response is required, and include with the previous form.

Organization: **DNR Division of Ecological Resources**

Minimum Criteria For Funding Requests

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for appropriations from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider funding requests that:

are consistent with the uses of the OHF as specified in Article XI of the Minnesota Constitution and Minnesota Statutes 97A.056,.

show the ability to produce significant, measurable, and enduring resource and/or habitat outcomes.

- clearly identify specific resource and/or habitat outcomes, performance measures, and a plan for measuring, evaluating and publicly reporting these outcomes over time. **Please describe:**
- reflect the best available science regarding resource and/or habitat enhancement, restoration, and protection. **Please reference any relevant plans or documents that support this:**
Tomorrow's Habitat (State Wildlife Action Plan), DNR Conservation Agenda, LCCMR Conservation & Preservation Plan, SNA Long Range Plan

where possible and appropriate uses native plant material. – only native plant material would be used.

restore or enhance resources only on property under permanent protection of fee ownership or conservation easement. – all work to be done on DNR (orTNC) owned designated SNAs or on NPB's with DNR-held permanent conservation easements.

- have a plan to sustain the resource and/or habitat outcomes specified, including a plan to finance the necessary activities. **Please describe:**
Ongoing monitoring and management of NPBs and SNAs is the responsibility of the DNR Division of Ecological Resources. Basic property oversight is accomplished by base-funded DNR staff. But, all restoration and enhancement work is achieved through non-regular project funding (e.g. bonding, LCCMR, RIM Critical Habitat, federal funds, etc).
- identify funding necessary to fully implement the project/programs(s). **Please provide any additional information not presented in the budget table on the previous sheet:** NA

limit the state's exposure for additional funding for the project.

have a process for ensuring transparency and accessibility in all stages of project/program implementation.

seek funding to supplement (not replace) customary or usual funding sources.

only acquire permanent easements, if proposing less than fee simple acquisition in real property.

ensure that land acquired by fee with money from the OHF is open to the public taking of fish and game during the open season unless otherwise provided by law.

commit to erect and maintain signage, to a standard to be adopted by the LOHC, crediting the OHF with support for protected, restored, or improved sites.

commit to replace OHF protected resources converted to a use other than that intended in the OHF appropriation on a ten replacement acres for one converted acre basis.

agree to not transfer the public interest in OHF fee and/or easement protected land without the written approval of the appropriate state of Minnesota authority.

Criteria To Be Met By Requesting Organizations

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for expenditures from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider requests from organization(s) that:

have a record of successful management and implementation of project/program(s) similar in scale, scope, and complexity to the project/program(s) being requested.

have demonstrated the ability to identify and establish the financial and managerial controls needed to successfully and fully implement the proposed project/program.

have an up-to-date external financial audit with no serious negative findings.

Outdoor Heritage Fund Proposal – 8 (continued)
Fish, Game and Wildlife Habitat – Metro Conservation Corridors

Your name: Peggy Booth (for Steve Hirsch)
Your organization: DNR Division of Ecological Resources
Mailing address: 500 Lafayette Rd, Box 25, St Paul, MN 55155-4025
Phone/fax number: 651-259-5088
Email address: peggy.booth@dnr.state.mn.us

Program/project short name: Scientific & Natural Area Protection within Metro Corridors
FY10 Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars requested: \$246,000

Additional funds leveraged and source: N/A

Expected outcomes at completion: Acquisition & SNA designation: about 21 acres

Short narrative of program/project, location(s), timeline for completion and measures of success:

This project would protect and perpetuate in an undisturbed natural state as designated Scientific and Natural Area those natural features that possess exceptional scientific or education value. Specifically, about 21 acres of high quality native habitat within the Metro Corridors mapped corridors will be acquired and designated as Scientific and Natural Area (SNA). This will protect rare and endangered plant and animal species, habitat for wildlife Species in Greatest Conservation Need, undisturbed plant communities, and geological features, and provide for their public use for scientific study, education, and nature observation.

Generalized budget:

Budget Item	Outdoor Heritage Fund \$\$	Other State Funds \$\$	Other Non-State Funds \$\$	Total Funds \$\$
Salaries/benefits – 0.07 FTE for 1 yr	4,200			
Contracts				
Equipment (Fleet Charges)	200			
Materials, supplies	200			
Travel				
Land (fee, easement)	214,000			
Other:				
Real estate transaction (negotiator, survey, AG etc)	5,000			
Indirect costs (Dept, Div, & Region)	22,400			
<u>Total</u>	\$246,000			

Describe how long-term costs for sustaining project, monitoring and/or addressing property tax implications will be met:

This funding would cover full costs for acquisition by the DNR of the targeted land and the restoration-enhancement LOHC request or other currently appropriated funding would be used to bring the site up to minimum standards determined by the Commissioner of Natural Resources. Ongoing monitoring and management of SNAs is the responsibility of the DNR Division of

Ecological Resources. Basic property oversight is accomplished by base-funded DNR staff. But, all restoration and enhancement work is achieved through non-regular project funding (e.g. bonding, LCCMR, RIM Critical Habitat, federal funds, etc). The State makes PILT (payment in lieu of taxes) payments for all state-owned SNAs and the private landowners with NPB easements are responsible for any local property taxes.

Describe how local governments will be involved/informed if relevant:

The project will be presented to the County Board who must approve the acquisition before the state commits to acquire the site.

Describe how many Full Time Equivalent (FTE) jobs this will provide:

.07 FTE of an unclassified acquisition specialist. In addition, about \$7,000 in real estate transaction costs goes primarily to pay for the time of the negotiator, appraiser, attorneys, surveyors, etc. within state service or through contract or 3rd party work.

Describe how this project will provide public access for hunting, fishing and other recreation:

SNAs are within the State Outdoor Recreation System with public access and are open to hunting and fishing if compatible with resource protection goals. The primary site targeted for this acquisition funding - Seminary Fen SNA - is open to archery hunting as permitted by city ordinance and is open to public fishing.

Other considerations:

Through this funding, all or part of a site would be protected at estimated costs of \$8,000 to \$12,000/acre (not counting transaction and other departmental costs) depending on appraised land values in the location being acquired. These funds would be targeted at sites that will not be protected through currently available LCCMR and bonding funds within the Metro Conservation Corridors mapped corridors. The current, most urgent need for this funding is an addition to existing Seminary Fen SNA that is currently for sale, has been approved for SNA acquisition, and is in the appraisal process.

Very high priority parcels within sites of biodiversity significance that are targeted for protection as SNA have been identified by the Minnesota County Biological Survey, approved as qualifying as SNA by the Commissioners Advisory Committee, are critical to meeting the SNA Long Range Plan, and which help fulfill Habitat Recommendations 1 and 3 of the Statewide Conservation and Preservation Plan (SCPP). Project sites are selected using two sets of criteria a) importance of site for protecting the rare features (e.g. its rareness on national or state scale; its quality and genetic diversity; degree of threat; and protection status in subsection) and b) practical considerations (e.g. feasibility of managing site; landowner willingness; funding for protection and management; and use for research and education).

Additional Information Requested by LOHC

The proposal and organizational requirements listed below are provided by the LOHC (see: http://www.lohc.state.mn.us/materials/2009_rec_dev_proc.pdf). Please check the appropriate items where a space is provided to indicate your agreement, or provide a narrative answer where a response is required, and include with the previous form.

Organization: **DNR Division of Ecological Resources**

Minimum Criteria For Funding Requests

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for appropriations from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider funding requests that:

are consistent with the uses of the OHF as specified in Article XI of the Minnesota Constitution and Minnesota Statutes 97A.056,.

show the ability to produce significant, measurable, and enduring resource and/or habitat outcomes.

- clearly identify specific resource and/or habitat outcomes, performance measures, and a plan for measuring, evaluating and publicly reporting these outcomes over time. **Please describe:**
- reflect the best available science regarding resource and/or habitat enhancement, restoration, and protection. **Please reference any relevant plans or documents that support this:**
Tomorrow's Habitat (State Wildlife Action Plan), DNR Conservation Agenda, LCCMR Conservation & Preservation Plan, SNA Long Range Plan

where possible and appropriate uses native plant material.

restore or enhance resources only on property under permanent protection of fee ownership or conservation easement.

- have a plan to sustain the resource and/or habitat outcomes specified, including a plan to finance the necessary activities. **Please describe:**
Ongoing monitoring and management of SNAs is the responsibility of the DNR Division of Ecological Resources. Basic property oversight is accomplished by base-funded DNR staff. But, all restoration and enhancement work is achieved through non-regular project funding (e.g. bonding, LCCMR, RIM Critical Habitat, federal funds, etc).
- identify funding necessary to fully implement the project/programs(s). **Please provide any additional information not presented in the budget table on the previous sheet:** see above

limit the state's exposure for additional funding for the project.

have a process for ensuring transparency and accessibility in all stages of project/program implementation.

seek funding to supplement (not replace) customary or usual funding sources.

NA only acquire permanent easements, if proposing less than fee simple acquisition in real property.

ensure that land acquired by fee with money from the OHF is open to the public taking of fish and game during the open season unless otherwise provided by law.

commit to erect and maintain signage, to a standard to be adopted by the LOHC, crediting the OHF with support for protected, restored, or improved sites.

commit to replace OHF protected resources converted to a use other than that intended in the OHF appropriation on a ten replacement acres for one converted acre basis.

agree to not transfer the public interest in OHF fee and/or easement protected land without the written approval of the appropriate state of Minnesota authority.

Criteria To Be Met By Requesting Organizations

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for expenditures from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider requests from organization(s) that:

have a record of successful management and implementation of project/program(s) similar in scale, scope, and complexity to the project/program(s) being requested.

have demonstrated the ability to identify and establish the financial and managerial controls needed to successfully and fully implement the proposed project/program.

have an up-to-date external financial audit with no serious negative findings.

Outdoor Heritage Fund Proposal – 8 (continued)

Fish, Game and Wildlife Habitat Group – Metro Conservation Corridors

Your name: Mike Halverson
Your organization: MN DNR - Fish and Wildlife
Mailing address: 500 Lafayette Road
Phone/fax number: 651 259-5209
Email address: mike.halverson@dnr.state.mn.us

Program/project short name: Aquatic Management Area (AMA) Acquisition

FY10 Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars requested: \$250,000

Additional funds leveraged and source: \$25,000 through partnerships, fundraising, and donation of land value; \$25,000 in other State dollars, including RIM-CHM

Expected outcomes at completion: This project will secure approximately 75 acres (1.5 miles of shoreline) through fee title and permanent easement acquisition.

Short narrative of program/project, location(s), timeline for completion and measures of success:

This project will secure fee title or easements on approximately 63 acres and leverage about 12 acres of acquisition through partner funds. Priority will be given to acquiring regionally significant fish and wildlife habitat that will both build on the existing shoreline habitat and provide angler and hunter access. Projects may occur anywhere within the mapped corridors, depending on priorities, risk of development, and potential partners. Collaborative partnerships will be promoted in order to acquire key lands. Project money is expected to generate additional non-state funded acres and shoreline miles, for a grand total of 75 acres and 1.5 miles of critical shoreline habitat.

Generalized budget:

Budget Item	Outdoor Heritage Fund \$\$	Other State Funds \$\$	Other Non-State Funds \$\$	Total Funds \$\$
Salaries/benefits				
Land (fee, easement)	236,000	23,750	25,000	284,750
Professional Services*	12,500	1,250		13,750
AMA Improvement**	1,500	0		1,500
Total	\$250,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$300,000

* Professional service costs include: staff time for the Division of Lands and Minerals and the Attorney General's Office, survey costs, appraisal and review costs, recording and abstracting fees, deed tax, and any property taxes due the subsequent year following conveyance to the DNR. The total cost to process and complete the estimated land conveyances to the DNR under this program is approximately 5% of the total value of these acquisitions.

** AMA improvements include: conversion of tillable acres to fish and wildlife native habitat.

Describe how long-term costs for sustaining project, monitoring and/or addressing property tax implications will be met:

Projects will be designated as Aquatic Management Areas. Management and monitoring will be done on a regular basis by local Area Fish and Wildlife Staff. Conservation Easements will be

monitored according to established AMA monitoring protocol. Property taxes will be paid by the State via Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT)

Describe how local governments will be involved/informed if relevant:

Department policy is to notify County and Township governments when acquiring AMA's. Local support for AMA acquisition is usually substantial, and local groups commonly offer to help raise funds.

Describe how many Full Time Equivalent (FTE) jobs this will provide:

Since impacts to the job market are broad, the exact number of additional jobs through AMA acquisition is difficult to predict. However Jobs are essential in order to acquire land successfully. These jobs employ highly trained professionals with expertise vital for Minnesota's economy. Additional acquisition dollars mean additional needs for professional services, both in the public and private sectors. Examples are negotiator, attorneys, project managers, fundraisers, environmental engineers, title reviewers, appraisers, surveyors, title insurers, mapping staff, photographers, etc. In Minnesota, spending by hunters and anglers directly supports 55,000 jobs, which puts \$16 billion worth of paychecks into pockets of working residents around the state. Additional public land means additional opportunities for spending by users of the Outdoor Recreations System.

Describe how this project will provide public access for hunting, fishing and other recreation:

AMA's are open to angling and other light use activities, and also open to hunting and trapping where local ordinance allows.

Other considerations:

Aquatic Management Areas are established to protect, develop, and manage lakes, rivers, streams, and adjacent wetlands and lands that are critical for fish and other aquatic life, for water quality, and for the intrinsic biological value, public fishing, or other compatible outdoor recreational uses. AMAs provide angler or management access; protect fish spawning, rearing, or other unique habitat; protect aquatic wildlife feeding and nesting areas; and protect critical shoreline habitat, among other purposes authorized by Minnesota Statutes 86A.05, Subdivision 14.

Minnesota's AMA Acquisition Plan 2008-2033

The DNR's AMA Acquisition Plan calls for shoreline acquisition to ensure shoreline habitat protection, water quality maintenance, and angler access for present and future generations. This plan envisions acquisition of 3,428 miles of lake and stream habitat during the next 25 years. This funding proposal would further that goal.

Additional Information Requested by LOHC

The proposal and organizational requirements listed below are provided by the LOHC (see: http://www.lohc.state.mn.us/materials/2009_rec_dev_proc.pdf). Please check the appropriate items where a space is provided to indicate your agreement, or provide a narrative answer where a response is required, and include with the previous form.

Organization: **MN DNR – Fish and Wildlife**

Minimum Criteria For Funding Requests

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for appropriations from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider funding requests that:

- are consistent with the uses of the OHF as specified in Article XI of the Minnesota Constitution and Minnesota Statutes 97A.056.
- show the ability to produce significant, measurable, and enduring resource and/or habitat outcomes.
- clearly identify specific resource and/or habitat outcomes, performance measures, and a plan for measuring, evaluating and publicly reporting these outcomes over time. **Please describe:** Annual reports are generated annually:

MNDNR Strategic Conservation Agenda Update:

Meets the criteria of conservation in the Mission Statement, ‘work with citizens to conserve and manage the state’s natural resources, and goals for: Conservation of natural lands, maintenance of open spaces, conservation of stable and healthy fish and wildlife habitats, reduce loss of stable and healthy fish and wildlife habitats, provide additional access to public land, stabilize land ownership trends along lakeshore, and conservation of natural lakeshore and parts of lake watersheds.

- Reflect the best available science regarding resource and/or habitat enhancement, restoration, and protection. **Please reference any relevant plans or documents that support this:** There are a number of plans in place that pertain to AMA acquisition, including:

Minnesota Conservation and Preservation Plan

Habitat Recommendation 2 (p. 67) includes fee acquisition and conservation easements among tools needed for protection of critical shorelines of streams and lakes. Acquiring the highest-priority shorelines “is one essential component of a multi-strategy approach to preserving the clean water legacy that Minnesota’s citizens and visitors are used to experiencing. (p.69)” Benefits include protection of critical shoreline habitats from degradation, public angler access, and providing areas for education and research.

Minnesota’s AMA Acquisition Plan 2008-2033

The DNR’s AMA Acquisition Plan calls for shoreline acquisition to ensure shoreline habitat protection, water quality maintenance, and angler access for present and future generations. This plan envisions acquisition of 3,428 miles of lake and stream habitat during the next 25 years. This funding proposal would further that goal.

Fisheries AMA Acquisition Biennial Spending Plan

Continue to acquire fee title and conservation easements on lakes and warmwater streams, as parcels with critical habitat become available, as partnership opportunities arise, and as funding becomes available.

where possible and appropriate uses native plant material.

restore or enhance resources only on property under permanent protection of fee ownership or conservation easement.

- have a plan to sustain the resource and/or habitat outcomes specified, including a plan to finance the necessary activities. **Please describe:** Statewide Fish and Wildlife staff are prepared to manage and monitor AMAs.
- identify funding necessary to fully implement the project/programs(s). **Please provide any additional information not presented in the budget table on the previous sheet:** Staff and funding are in place.

limit the state's exposure for additional funding for the project.

have a process for ensuring transparency and accessibility in all stages of project/program implementation.

seek funding to supplement (not replace) customary or usual funding sources.

only acquire permanent easements, if proposing less than fee simple acquisition in real property.

ensure that land acquired by fee with money from the OHF is open to the public taking of fish and game during the open season unless otherwise provided by law.

commit to erect and maintain signage, to a standard to be adopted by the LOHC, crediting the OHF with support for protected, restored, or improved sites.

commit to replace OHF protected resources converted to a use other than that intended in the OHF appropriation on a ten replacement acres for one converted acre basis.

agree to not transfer the public interest in OHF fee and/or easement protected land without the written approval of the appropriate state of Minnesota authority.

Criteria To Be Met By Requesting Organizations

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for expenditures from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider requests from organization(s) that:

have a record of successful management and implementation of project/program(s) similar in scale, scope, and complexity to the project/program(s) being requested.

√ have demonstrated the ability to identify and establish the financial and managerial controls needed to successfully and fully implement the proposed project/program.

√ have an up-to-date external financial audit with no serious negative findings.

Outdoor Heritage Fund Proposal – 8 (continued)

Fish, Game and Wildlife Habitat Group – Metro Conservation Corridors

Your name: Tom Lewanski
Your organization: Friends of the Mississippi River
Mailing address: 360 North Robert Street, Suite 400. St. Paul Minnesota 55101
Phone/fax number: 651-222-2193 (phone); 651-222-6005 (fax)
Email address: tlewanski@fmr.org

Program/project short name: Wildlife Habitat Restoration and Enhancement Project
FY10 Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars requested: \$143,000
Additional funds leveraged and source: \$10,000-FMR, \$5,000-landowners, \$5,000 LGUs.
Expected outcomes at completion: FMR will conduct restoration and enhancement activities on 120 acres of wildlife habitat on public land or permanently protected private land.

Short narrative of program/project, location(s), timeline for completion and measures of success:

FMR will conduct habitat restoration and enhancement activities in Dakota, Washington, Goodhue, and Ramsey Counties. These activities will take place on public land and private land that is permanently protected through conservation easements. Specific habitat types that may be restored and/or enhanced include prairie, oak savanna, deciduous forest and/or wetland communities. Techniques that will be employed to restore and enhance these areas will be based on the specific requirements of each project site to be chosen, but may include: soil preparation (spraying, burning, disking, dragging), seed drilling or broadcasting, mowing, prescribed burning, spot spraying, installation of native plants, and removal of invasive plant species. Work would commence in the Fall of 2009 and be completed by June 30, 2011. Measures of success of this project will be site specific and will include the number of acres burned, acres of exotic invasive plant removal, acres of prairie installed.

Generalized budget:

Budget Item	Outdoor Heritage Fund \$\$	Other State Funds \$\$	Other Non-State Funds \$\$	Total Funds \$\$
Salaries/benefits	28,300		6,000	34,300
Contracts	109,000		10,000	119,000
Equipment (> \$5000)				
Materials, supplies	6,000		4,000	10,000
Travel	250			250
Land (fee, easement)				
Other (list)				
Total	\$143,550		\$20,000	\$163,550

Describe how long-term costs for sustaining project, monitoring and/or addressing property tax implications will be met:

FMR is focused very specifically on the Mississippi River Watershed in the Twin Cities Metro Area. Our aim is to build strong, long-term relationships with landowners and the important habitat that they own. By focusing in a specific location and on staying engaged with habitat owners, we are involved in all aspects of protection and restoration projects. We assist landowners in developing management plans and applying for available programs, serve as lead in restoration activities and form trustful partnerships with the landowners. FMR does fundraising from private sources and many landowners contribute funds to these restoration projects.

Describe how local governments will be involved/informed if relevant:

FMR works closely with counties and cities on conservation projects. We have partnered with local units to develop greenway plans that not only directs the effective and efficient use of resources but also establishes local involvement and buy-in, which is crucial to the success of many projects. FMR also engages the local community in restoration activities, providing an educational and hands-on experience that will have long-term stewardship results.

Describe how many Full Time Equivalent (FTE) jobs this will provide:

This funding will provide approximately a .22 FTE at FMR and approximately a 1.5 FTE for private contractors. In addition, FMR will be hiring contractors to conduct much of the restoration activities. The restoration and enhancement activities funded through this project will have a positive ripple effect on the economy. Contractors hired to complete the activities pay worker's salaries, and purchase equipment and supplies.

Describe how this project will provide public access for hunting, fishing and other recreation:

Because this project focuses on the restoration and enhancement of wildlife habitat, it does not provide public access per se. However, providing and increasing high quality habitat helps to ensure that both game and non-game species continue to be available for people to enjoy in the landscape.

Other considerations:

Both Washington and Dakota Counties, the main focus area for our project, have made considerable investments in protecting land that has both habitat and water quality benefits. This project will support them in improving these areas and help them to ensure that these protected areas continue to provide high quality habitat long into the future.

Additional Information Requested by LOHC

The proposal and organizational requirements listed below are provided by the LOHC (see: http://www.lohc.state.mn.us/materials/2009_rec_dev_proc.pdf). Please check the appropriate items where a space is provided to indicate your agreement, or provide a narrative answer where a response is required, and include with the previous form.

Organization: **Friends of the Mississippi River**

Minimum Criteria For Funding Requests

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for appropriations from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider funding requests that:

- are consistent with the uses of the OHF as specified in Article XI of the Minnesota Constitution and Minnesota Statutes 97A.056.
- show the ability to produce significant, measurable, and enduring resource and/or habitat outcomes.
- clearly identify specific resource and/or habitat outcomes, performance measures, and a plan for measuring, evaluating and publicly reporting these outcomes over time. **Please describe:**
The specific sites that FMR has chosen, on which to conduct these restoration and enhancements activities, are all located within local or regional greenway plans and thus contribute to an interconnected system of wildlife habitat areas. As such they each contain important habitat. This project will increase the habitat value of the sites by removing exotic invasive species, restoring natural communities, and reintroducing natural processes, such as fire. Outcomes that will be measured and reported include the number of acres of invasive plant removal, acres burned, and acres seeded or planted. FMR will evaluate each treatment to ascertain if it had the desired affect. Because our goal is to stay engaged, long-term, in these projects we will commit to monitoring each site to not only track the land's response to the treatment applied, but also to be able to quickly respond to issues when they first appear. We will photo document the site, treatment/activity, and the results of these activities. FMR will occasionally publish stories regarding this project on our website, in our electronic and hardcopy newsletters and work with various media to have stories published in other places as well.
- reflect the best available science regarding resource and/or habitat enhancement, restoration, and protection. **Please reference any relevant plans or documents that support this:**
The private lands that we will be working on have Natural Resource Management Plans (NRMP) in place. For projects on public land, either full NRMPs or management briefs are in place or will be completed before restoration/enhancement activities begin. These documents provide information on restoration/management goals, activities required to reach those goals and management issues that need to be addressed. The sites will be managed for species in greatest conservation need. Tomorrow's Habitat (State Wildlife Action Plan) is another guiding document.

where possible and appropriate uses native plant material.

X restore or enhance resources only on property under permanent protection of fee ownership or conservation easement.

- have a plan to sustain the resource and/or habitat outcomes specified, including a plan to finance the necessary activities. **Please describe:**

Because of our approach to land conservation, we are committed to protecting the ecological and habitat value of the projects we take on for the long-term. We do not finish a project and then move to another portion of the state, leaving the project site's future in question. We will continue to work with the landowner, public or private to ensure that the improved habitat obtained through this project will be maintained. FMR conducts fundraising activities, both from private and public sources, to sustain our projects.

- identify funding necessary to fully implement the project/programs(s). **Please provide any additional information not presented in the budget table on the previous sheet:**

Because of changes that have occurred over time to both the ground cover and to natural processes, many habitat areas require a long-term commitment. Without this long-term commitment and engagement, the ecological and habitat values improved, could degrade once again, over time. While FMR is confident that the budget presented will greatly improve the habitat values of the sites chosen, FMR's goal is to protect this public investment by continuing to conduct the necessary restoration and enhancement activities over time. FMR will continue to evaluate site-specific needs and work to secure the necessary funds to conduct these activities. This may mean submitting future proposals to the LOHC for funding.

X limit the state's exposure for additional funding for the project. FMR will continue to seek the required funding to ensure the long-term habitat values of these sites. Possible future funding may include both public and private sources.

X have a process for ensuring transparency and accessibility in all stages of project/program implementation.

X seek funding to supplement (not replace) customary or usual funding sources.

X only acquire permanent easements, if proposing less than fee simple acquisition in real property.

X ensure that land acquired by fee with money from the OHF is open to the public taking of fish and game during the open season unless otherwise provided by law.

X commit to erect and maintain signage, to a standard to be adopted by the LOHC, crediting the OHF with support for protected, restored, or improved sites.

X commit to replace OHF protected resources converted to a use other than that intended in the OHF appropriation on a ten replacement acres for one converted acre basis.

X agree to not transfer the public interest in OHF fee and/or easement protected land without the written approval of the appropriate state of Minnesota authority.

Criteria To Be Met By Requesting Organizations

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for expenditures from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider requests from organization(s) that:

X have a record of successful management and implementation of project/program(s) similar in scale, scope, and complexity to the project/program(s) being requested.

X have demonstrated the ability to identify and establish the financial and managerial controls needed to successfully and fully implement the proposed project/program.

X have an up-to-date external financial audit with no serious negative findings.

Friends of the Mississippi River (FMR) has conducted an external audit each year since 1999, and every year received a clean report, with our internal systems and processes aligned with best financial management practices. The active Finance Committee of our Board of Directors includes two Certified Public Accountants from the firm Larson Allen, one with a concentration in non-profit auditing and one a partner in the firm who is also a tax attorney. The organization has a board-approved investment policy.

FMR has received the mark of approval from the Charities Review Council, meeting or exceeding all standards of accountability for disclosure, governance, financial activity and fundraising.

Outdoor Heritage Fund Proposal – 8 (continued)

Fish, Game and Wildlife Habitat Group – Metro Conservation Corridors

Your name: Joseph Pavelko
Your organization: Friends of the Minnesota Valley
Mailing address: 10800 Lyndale Avenue South, Suite 120, Bloomington, MN 55420
Phone/fax number: 612-532-3800 (cell) / 952-881-3174 (fax)
Email address: jpavelko@friendsofminnvalley.org

Program/project short name: Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Restoration and Enhancement Project

FY10 Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars requested: \$375,000

Additional funds leveraged and source: \$90,000 (Friends of the MN Valley, USFWS, Others)

Expected outcomes at completion: 310 acres restored; 180 acres enhanced

Short narrative of program/project, location(s), timeline for completion and measures of success:

Restore and enhance at least 490 acres of wetland, oak savanna, grassland, and floodplain forest habitat along the Minnesota River within the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge. Restoration highlights include the restoration of a 210 acre wetland and the enhancement on a 180 acre wetland within the Louisville Swamp unit of the MN Valley National Wildlife Refuge. Both wetlands are directly adjacent to the Minnesota River. All restoration and enhancement work will be protected, monitored, and managed in perpetuity by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Restoration and enhancement work will be completed by October 31st, 2011.

Generalized budget:

Budget Item	Outdoor Heritage Fund \$\$	Other State Funds \$\$	Other Non-State Funds \$\$	Total Funds \$\$
Salaries/benefits	30,000			30,000
Contracts	195,000	20,000	30,000	245,000
Equipment (> \$5000)				
Materials, supplies	150,000	25,000	13,000	188,000
Travel			2,000	2,000
Land (fee, easement)				
Other (list)				
Total	\$375,000	\$45,000	\$45,000	\$465,000

Describe how long-term costs for sustaining project, monitoring and/or addressing property tax implications will be met:

USFWS will be responsible for monitoring, ongoing habitat management, and completion of restoration and enhancement work. All restoration activities will be completed on lands within the

MN Valley National Wildlife Refuge. MN Valley National Wildlife Refuge makes payments to counties and municipalities in lieu of taxes under authority of the Refuge Revenue Sharing Act.

Describe how local governments will be involved / informed if relevant:

The Minnesota Valley NWR and Friends of the Minnesota Valley work with and meet all administrative and legal requirements of the local units of government throughout the restoration and enhancement process.

Describe how many Full Time Equivalent (FTE) jobs this will provide:

This project will help us retain 1 FTE.

Describe how this project will provide public access for hunting, fishing and other recreation:

The restoration and enhancement activities of this proposal are contained within the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge which is managed for and open to wildlife-dependent recreation, including hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, photography, interpretation and environmental education.

Other considerations:

The project will restore and enhance significant ecological habitats along the Minnesota River that will be permanently protected and managed within the MN Valley National Wildlife Refuge. The project will play an important role in linking habitats along the Minnesota River corridor.

Additional Information Requested by LOHC

The proposal and organizational requirements listed below are provided by the LOHC (see: http://www.lohc.state.mn.us/materials/2009_rec_dev_proc.pdf). Please check the appropriate items where a space is provided to indicate your agreement, or provide a narrative answer where a response is required, and include with the previous form.

Organization: **Friends of the Minnesota Valley**

Minimum Criteria For Funding Requests

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for appropriations from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider funding requests that:

are consistent with the uses of the OHF as specified in Article XI of the Minnesota Constitution and Minnesota Statutes 97A.056,.

show the ability to produce significant, measurable, and enduring resource and/or habitat outcomes.

clearly identify specific resource and/or habitat outcomes, performance measures, and a plan for measuring, evaluating and publicly reporting these outcomes over time. **Please describe:**

This project will restore and enhance significant ecological communities including riverine wetlands, oak savanna, and floodplain forest within the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge.

reflect the best available science regarding resource and/or habitat enhancement, restoration, and protection. **Please reference any relevant plans or documents that support this:** Comprehensive Conservation Plan for the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge

where possible and appropriate uses native plant material.

restore or enhance resources only on property under permanent protection of fee ownership or conservation easement.

have a plan to sustain the resource and/or habitat outcomes specified, including a plan to finance the necessary activities. **Please describe:** Long-term management will be conducted by the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge (USFWS).

identify funding necessary to fully implement the project/programs(s). **Please provide any additional information not presented in the budget table on the previous sheet:**

limit the state's exposure for additional funding for the project.

have a process for ensuring transparency and accessibility in all stages of project/program implementation.

seek funding to supplement (not replace) customary or usual funding sources.

only acquire permanent easements, if proposing less than fee simple acquisition in real

property.

NA ensure that land acquired by fee with money from the OHF is open to the public taking of fish and game during the open season unless otherwise provided by law.

X commit to erect and maintain signage, to a standard to be adopted by the LOHC, crediting the OHF with support for protected, restored, or improved sites.

X commit to replace OHF protected resources converted to a use other than that intended in the OHF appropriation on a ten replacement acres for one converted acre basis.

X agree to not transfer the public interest in OHF fee and/or easement protected land without the written approval of the appropriate state of Minnesota authority.

Criteria To Be Met By Requesting Organizations

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for expenditures from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider requests from organization(s) that:

X have a record of successful management and implementation of project/program(s) similar in scale, scope, and complexity to the project/program(s) being requested.

X have demonstrated the ability to identify and establish the financial and managerial controls needed to successfully and fully implement the proposed project/program.

X have an up-to-date external financial audit with no serious negative findings.

Outdoor Heritage Fund Proposal – 8 (continued)

Fish, Game and Wildlife Habitat Group – Metro Conservation Corridors

Your name: Wiley Buck
Your organization: Great River Greening
Mailing address: 35 W. Water St., St. Paul MN 55107
Phone/fax number: 651-665-9500; 651-665-9409
Email address: wbuck@greatrivergreening.org

Program/project short name: Big Woods and Big Rivers Habitat, Restoration and Enhancement
FY10 Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars requested: \$140,000

Additional funds leveraged and source: \$28,000 Federal, Municipal, Volunteers, Private, Foundation; \$7,000 State

Expected outcomes at completion: 105 acres restored, 15 acres enhanced, 200’ of shoreline restored

Short narrative of program/project, location(s), timeline for completion and measures of success:

Great River Greening will restore/enhance 120 acres and 200’ of shoreline on high quality state, municipal, and one private natural area with St. Croix riverfront under permanent DNR easement. Restoration sites are either in Big River valleys (Minnesota, Mississippi or St. Croix), or are Big Woods. Restoration/ enhancement activities will include: site prep, collection and/or purchase of native grass, forb, shrub, and tree seed, woody encroachment removal, shoreline planting, and invasive species control.

Our private land project will include shoreline habitat for the St. Croix fishery. Big River valleys are major habitat corridors and are some of the larger blocks of habitat for migratory and resident fish and wildlife. Quality Big Woods habitat hosts SGCN species. These metro projects have high visibility and high visitation for active and passive recreation. Volunteer participation will be a strong component to our restoration and enhancement activities.

Our project aligns with the SSCP Category II recommendation, and will advance the H3, H5, H6, and H7 goals. Several sites rate very highly in terms of needs/opportunities for SGCN, and align with the recommended SGCN habitat measures. All the sites are located within the mapped Metro Conservation Corridors, a network of remaining critical habitat and natural areas that are currently being protected and restored to high quality native habitat. The Big Rivers sites are within the St Croix River Bluffs IBA and Mississippi River IBA.

Generalized budget:

Budget Item	Outdoor Heritage Fund \$\$	Other State Funds \$\$	Other Non-State Funds \$\$	Total Funds \$\$
Salaries/benefits	73,000		24,000	97,000
Contracts	46,000			46,000
Equipment (> \$5000)	5,000	2,000	2,000	9,000
Materials, supplies	15,000			15,000

Travel	1,000			1,000
Land (fee, easement)				
Other (list) LCCMR-approved volunteer event expenses		5,000	2,000	7,000
<u>Total</u>	\$140,000	\$7,000	\$28,000	\$175,000

Describe how long-term costs for sustaining project, monitoring and/or addressing property tax implications will be met:

A 10 year landowner agreement outlining maintenance and monitoring commitments are a minimum requirement of Great River Greening projects.

Describe how local governments will be involved/informed if relevant:

Many of Great River Greening’s projects are in partnership with local government units.

Describe how many Full Time Equivalent (FTE) jobs this will provide:

2 FTEs, direct personnel expenditures.

≥0.8 FTEs, indirect through contract, supplies, equipment purchases (local and labor intensive services and purchases)

Describe how this project will provide public access for hunting, fishing and other recreation:

Our private land project will include shoreline habitat for the St. Croix fishery. Big River valleys are a major conduit and habitat for migratory and resident game and non-game species. Quality Big Woods habitat hosts SGCN species. These metro projects have high visibility and high visitation for active and passive recreation. Volunteer participation will be a strong component to our restorations and enhancements.

Other considerations:

Great River Greening is a non-profit conservation organization that leads and promotes community-based restoration of natural areas and open spaces. Our team of experienced ecologists and landscape ecologists brings over 50 years combined experience managing and restoring native habitats, conducting natural resource inventories, fundraising for restoration projects on public lands, and engaging over 21,000 volunteers.

Additional Information Requested by LOHC

The proposal and organizational requirements listed below are provided by the LOHC (see: http://www.lohc.state.mn.us/materials/2009_rec_dev_proc.pdf). Please check the appropriate items where a space is provided to indicate your agreement, or provide a narrative answer where a response is required, and include with the previous form.

Organization: **Great River Greening**

Minimum Criteria For Funding Requests

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for appropriations from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider funding requests that:

X are consistent with the uses of the OHF as specified in Article XI of the Minnesota Constitution and Minnesota Statutes 97A.056,.

X show the ability to produce significant, measurable, and enduring resource and/or habitat outcomes.

- clearly identify specific resource and/or habitat outcomes, performance measures, and a plan for measuring, evaluating and publicly reporting these outcomes over time. **Please describe:**
We clearly report our results according to activities, acres, and shorelines. Very experienced in wide variety of state, federal, and foundation reporting formats.

Great River Greening has an internal and external reporting structure for accomplishments. We distribute this information to our vast partnership network, monthly e-newsletter (circ. ~3000), semi annual news letter (circ. ~ 4000), website www.greatrivergreening.org, at volunteer events, our volunteer recruitment efforts (~2000 volunteers/yr), fundraising events, and in fundraising proposals.

- reflect the best available science regarding resource and/or habitat enhancement, restoration, and protection. **Please reference any relevant plans or documents that support this:**

We have a sample of 10 management plans posted on our website <http://www.greatrivergreening.org/publications.asp#plans> demonstrating our expertise.

X where possible and appropriate uses native plant material.

Already experienced and following BWSR/LCCMR local ecotype guidelines.

X restore or enhance resources only on property under permanent protection of fee ownership or conservation easement.

- have a plan to sustain the resource and/or habitat outcomes specified, including a plan to finance the necessary activities. **Please describe:**
Great River Greening requires at a minimum a 10 year plan, and has a very successful track record in working with partners to raise funds necessary to complete and maintain projects.
- identify funding necessary to fully implement the project/programs(s). **Please provide any additional information not presented in the budget table on the previous sheet:**

limit the state's exposure for additional funding for the project.

have a process for ensuring transparency and accessibility in all stages of project/program implementation.

seek funding to supplement (not replace) customary or usual funding sources.

only acquire permanent easements, if proposing less than fee simple acquisition in real property.

ensure that land acquired by fee with money from the OHF is open to the public taking of fish and game during the open season unless otherwise provided by law.

commit to erect and maintain signage, to a standard to be adopted by the LOHC, crediting the OHF with support for protected, restored, or improved sites.

commit to replace OHF protected resources converted to a use other than that intended in the OHF appropriation on a ten replacement acres for one converted acre basis.

agree to not transfer the public interest in OHF fee and/or easement protected land without the written approval of the appropriate state of Minnesota authority.

Criteria To Be Met By Requesting Organizations

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for expenditures from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider requests from organization(s) that:

have a record of successful management and implementation of project/program(s) similar in scale, scope, and complexity to the project/program(s) being requested.

A repeat recipient of LCCMR funds, NFWF and other federal funds, and long term funding from local government, corporate, and private funds, in addition to engaging community volunteers in the stewardship of restoration sites.

have demonstrated the ability to identify and establish the financial and managerial controls needed to successfully and fully implement the proposed project/program.

have an up-to-date external financial audit with no serious negative findings.

Outdoor Heritage Fund Proposal – 8 (continued)

Fish, Game and Wildlife Habitat Group- Metro Conservation Corridors

Your name: Sarah Strommen
Your organization: Minnesota Land Trust
Mailing address: 2356 University Ave. W., Suite 240, St. Paul, MN 55114
Phone/fax number: 651-647-9590 (phone); 651-647-9769 (fax)
Email address: sstrommen@mnland.org

Program/project short name: Metro Habitat Protection Initiative

FY10 Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars requested: \$700,000

Additional funds leveraged and source: \$700,000 in donated easement value and other private contributions.

Expected outcomes at completion: Up to 150-300 acres of fish and wildlife habitat protected through 3-5 conservation easements.

Short narrative of program/project, location(s), timeline for completion and measures of success:

This initiative's goal is to protect important fish, game and wildlife habitat in the greater Twin Cities Metro area from additional fragmentation and development through the use of conservation easements on private lands. The Land Trust proposes to complete 3-5 projects in this first year, concentrating its activity within the Land Trust's St. Croix and Rum River critical landscapes. The Land Trust has already identified several priority sites within these landscapes that contain important habitat resources, including Valley Creek, a state-designated trout stream. Valley Creek projects will be in partnership with the Belwin Conservancy and Washington County. Protection of these lands will provide important fish and wildlife habitat as well as other public benefits.

Generalized budget:

Budget Item	Outdoor Heritage Fund \$\$	Other State Funds \$\$	Other Non-State Funds \$\$	Total Funds \$\$
Salaries/benefits	\$80,000			
Contracts and Acquisition transaction costs	\$40,000			
Equipment (> \$5000)				
Materials, supplies	\$2,000			
Travel	\$3,000			
Land (fee, easement)	\$500,000			
Other (conservation easement stewardship)	\$75,000			
Total	\$700,000		\$700,000*	\$1,400,000

**Includes donated conservation easement value and other private contributions*

Describe how long-term costs for sustaining project, monitoring and/or addressing property tax implications will be met:

These projects will be sustained long term through the Minnesota Land Trust accredited Conservation Easement Stewardship Program. The conservation easement properties will be monitored annually, appropriate easement management and record keeping conducted and any potential violations enforced as appropriate. Funds from this grant will be dedicated to the Land Trust's Stewardship Fund for this purpose. Additionally, habitat management plans will be required for protected properties as appropriate.

Describe how local governments will be involved/informed if relevant:

The Minnesota Land Trust has a history of working with local governments in greater Twin Cities Metro area to achieve mutual conservation objectives. Specifically, the Land Trust has a strong partnership with Washington County. Where appropriate, these local governments will be informed of the easement acquisitions, while simultaneously respecting issues of landowner confidentiality. The Land Trust routinely consults local plans when evaluating private conservation projects.

Describe how many Full Time Equivalent (FTE) jobs this will provide:

Minnesota Land Trust: 1 FTE including new and existing staff.

Contracts/others: Other jobs that will benefit are attorneys, appraisers, GIS specialists, resource professionals, title companies, and others.

Describe how this project will provide public access for hunting, fishing and other recreation:

Hunting, fishing and other low-impact recreation would be allowed uses within the terms of the easement and landowners can conduct these activities as desired and allowed by law. And while these will be private land conservation easements and public access will not be required, landowners could chose to allow public access if desired.

Other considerations:

The Minnesota Land Trust has worked extensively in the greater Twin Cities area since 1992 to permanently protect natural and scenic land with an emphasis on using conservation easements. This strategy has been acknowledged by a variety of stakeholders, and the Statewide Conservation and Preservation Plan, as one of the key tools necessary to achieve land conservation goals in a metropolitan area where escalating land values prohibit fee title acquisition of all priority lands.

Please also complete the attached information sheet as requested by the LOHC.

Additional Information Requested by LOHC

The proposal and organizational requirements listed below are provided by the LOHC (see: http://www.lohc.state.mn.us/materials/2009_rec_dev_proc.pdf). Please check the appropriate items where a space is provided to indicate your agreement, or provide a narrative answer where a response is required, and include with the previous form.

Organization: **Minnesota Land Trust**

Minimum Criteria For Funding Requests

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for appropriations from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider funding requests that:

are consistent with the uses of the OHF as specified in Article XI of the Minnesota Constitution and Minnesota Statutes 97A.056.

show the ability to produce significant, measurable, and enduring resource and/or habitat outcomes.

- clearly identify specific resource and/or habitat outcomes, performance measures, and a plan for measuring, evaluating and publicly reporting these outcomes over time. **Please describe:**
Conservation easements have become an increasingly important and effective tool for habitat preservation, and the Land Trust has a long-history of working with willing landowners to identify and protect to most critical resources on their properties. The Land Trust has a very effective conservation easement stewardship program through which we will monitor all easements and the prairie components of the land, address any violations, and publically report on our stewardship activities as requested.
- reflect the best available science regarding resource and/or habitat enhancement, restoration, and protection. **Please reference any relevant plans or documents that support this:**
Private land protection is well supported in many existing plans, including the Statewide Conservation Plan and Minnesota's Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy. This program also is guided by the Metro Conservation Corridors map, which is based on a DNR analysis of Regionally Significant Ecological Areas.

where possible and appropriate uses native plant material.

restore or enhance resources only on property under permanent protection of fee ownership or conservation easement.

- have a plan to sustain the resource and/or habitat outcomes specified, including a plan to finance the necessary activities. **Please describe:**
The proposed budget includes the necessary funding for personnel, projects expenses, acquisition costs and long-term conservation easement stewardship. In addition, landowners and other donors will be contributing private funds and/or easement value to complete the transactions. Thus, along with our general fund, the Land Trust will have the funding necessary to negotiate and complete the easements, finalize the necessary documentation and records, and monitor and defend the property as necessary.

- identify funding necessary to fully implement the project/programs(s). **Please provide any additional information not presented in the budget table on the previous sheet:**

The Land Trust has the demonstrated ability to complete the transactions as outlined, and it has a long history of successfully securing, managing and defending the conservation easements it holds.

limit the state's exposure for additional funding for the project.

have a process for ensuring transparency and accessibility in all stages of project/program implementation.

seek funding to supplement (not replace) customary or usual funding sources.

only acquire permanent easements, if proposing less than fee simple acquisition in real property.

ensure that land acquired by fee with money from the OHF is open to the public taking of fish and game during the open season unless otherwise provided by law.

commit to erect and maintain signage, to a standard to be adopted by the LOHC, crediting the OHF with support for protected, restored, or improved sites.

commit to replace OHF protected resources converted to a use other than that intended in the OHF appropriation on a ten replacement acres for one converted acre basis.

agree to not transfer the public interest in OHF fee and/or easement protected land without the written approval of the appropriate state of Minnesota authority.

Criteria To Be Met By Requesting Organizations

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for expenditures from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider requests from organization(s) that:

have a record of successful management and implementation of project/program(s) similar in scale, scope, and complexity to the project/program(s) being requested.

have demonstrated the ability to identify and establish the financial and managerial controls needed to successfully and fully implement the proposed project/program.

have an up-to-date external financial audit with no serious negative findings.

Outdoor Heritage Fund Proposal – 8 (continued)

Fish, Game and Wildlife Habitat Group– Metro Conservation Corridors

Your name: Deborah Loon
Your organization: Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Trust, Inc.
Mailing address: 2312 Seabury Avenue, Minneapolis MN 55406
Phone/fax number: 612-801-1935 (cell) / 612-728-0700 (fax)
Email address: DebLoon@comcast.net

Program/project short name: Expansion of the MN Valley National Wildlife Refuge
FY10 Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars requested: \$1.2 million
Additional funds leveraged and source: \$1.2 million (MN Valley Trust funds)
Expected outcomes at completion: 685 acres protected through fee title acquisition

Short narrative of program/project, location(s), timeline for completion and measures of success:

Protect through fee title acquisition at least 685 acres of wetland, grassland and river floodplain forest habitat along the Minnesota River in Scott and/or Sibley Counties. After restoration and enhancement, all lands will be donated to the USFWS in fee title for perpetual management as unit(s) of the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge. The lands will be open to wildlife-dependent recreation, including hunting, fishing, observation, interpretation, photography and education.

Acquisitions will be completed or, at a minimum, obligated by June 30, 2010. Property to be acquired is identified and landowners are willing sellers.

Generalized budget:

Budget Item	Outdoor Heritage Fund \$\$	Other State Funds \$\$	Other Non-State Funds \$\$	Total Funds \$\$
Salaries/benefits				
Contracts				
Equipment (> \$5000)				
Materials, supplies				
Travel				
Land (fee, easement)	1,200,000		1,200,000	2,400,000
Other (list)				
<u>Total</u>	<u>1,200,000</u>		<u>1,200,000</u>	<u>2,400,000</u>

Describe how long-term costs for sustaining project, monitoring and/or addressing property tax implications will be met:

USFWS will be responsible for ongoing habitat management, monitoring and enforcement after the land has been donated to the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge. USFWS makes payments to local units of government in lieu of property taxes under the Refuge Revenue Sharing Act.

Describe how local governments will be involved / informed if relevant:

MN Valley Trust and MN Valley National Wildlife Refuge work closely with local units of government during planning of a project and comply with all administrative and legal requirements. Following acquisition and restoration activities the property will be donated to the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge. The Refuge will maintain an informative and working relationship with local units of government.

Describe how many Full Time Equivalent (FTE) jobs this will provide:

This project will help us retain 1 FTE.

Describe how this project will provide public access for hunting, fishing and other recreation:

These units of the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge will be managed for and open to wildlife-dependent recreation, including hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, photography, interpretation and environmental education.

Other considerations:

The Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Trust, Inc. has an excellent track record of completing fee title acquisition and restoration of high quality habitat for expansion of the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge and Wetland Management District. In just the last few years, the Trust has completed land acquisition deals with 26 willing sellers, for a total of over 2,800 acres for the Refuge and Wetland Management District. All properties have been restored or are in the process of being restored.

Additional Information Requested by LOHC

The proposal and organizational requirements listed below are provided by the LOHC (see: http://www.lohc.state.mn.us/materials/2009_rec_dev_proc.pdf). Please check the appropriate items where a space is provided to indicate your agreement, or provide a narrative answer where a response is required, and include with the previous form.

Organization: **Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Trust, Inc.**

Minimum Criteria For Funding Requests

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for appropriations from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider funding requests that:

are consistent with the uses of the OHF as specified in Article XI of the Minnesota Constitution and Minnesota Statutes 97A.056,.

show the ability to produce significant, measurable, and enduring resource and/or habitat outcomes.

clearly identify specific resource and/or habitat outcomes, performance measures, and a plan for measuring, evaluating and publicly reporting these outcomes over time. **Please describe:**

This project will connect floodplain forest and prairie habitat in the Minnesota River bottoms, benefiting many species of wildlife including wood ducks, mallards, bald eagles, grassland nesting birds as well as numerous resident game species such as turkeys and deer. Vegetative communities are wet meadow, shrub carr and flood plain forest.

reflect the best available science regarding resource and/or habitat enhancement, restoration, and protection. **Please reference any relevant plans or documents that support this:**

The Land Protection Plan of the Comprehensive Conservation Plan for the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge identifies the land to be acquired and restored for the Refuge under this project.

where possible and appropriate uses native plant material.

restore or enhance resources only on property under permanent protection of fee ownership or conservation easement.

have a plan to sustain the resource and/or habitat outcomes specified, including a plan to finance the necessary activities. **Please describe:** Long-term management will be conducted by the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge (USFWS).

identify funding necessary to fully implement the project/programs(s). **Please provide any additional information not presented in the budget table on the previous sheet:** Complete funding is identified to fully implement the projects.

limit the state's exposure for additional funding for the project.

X have a process for ensuring transparency and accessibility in all stages of project/program implementation.

X seek funding to supplement (not replace) customary or usual funding sources.

NA only acquire permanent easements, if proposing less than fee simple acquisition in real property.

X ensure that land acquired by fee with money from the OHF is open to the public taking of fish and game during the open season unless otherwise provided by law.

X commit to erect and maintain signage, to a standard to be adopted by the LOHC, crediting the OHF with support for protected, restored, or improved sites.

X commit to replace OHF protected resources converted to a use other than that intended in the OHF appropriation on a ten replacement acres for one converted acre basis.

X agree to not transfer the public interest in OHF fee and/or easement protected land without the written approval of the appropriate state of Minnesota authority.

Criteria To Be Met By Requesting Organizations

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for expenditures from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider requests from organization(s) that:

X have a record of successful management and implementation of project/program(s) similar in scale, scope, and complexity to the project/program(s) being requested.

X have demonstrated the ability to identify and establish the financial and managerial controls needed to successfully and fully implement the proposed project/program.

X have an up-to-date external financial audit with no serious negative findings.

Outdoor Heritage Fund Proposal – 8 (continued)

Fish, Game and Wildlife Habitat Group – Metro Conservation Corridors

Your name: Bob McGillivray
Your organization: The Trust for Public Land
Mailing address: 2610 University Ave. W., Suite 300, St. Paul, MN 55114
Phone/fax number: 651-999-5300
Email address: bob.mcgillivray@tpl.org

Program/project short name: TPL’s Metro Conservation Corridors 2010 Initiative

FY10 Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars requested: \$2,000,000

Additional funds leveraged and source: \$400,000

Expected outcomes at completion: By June 30, 2010, approximately 56 acres of lakeshore habitat in the metropolitan area will be protected in public ownership for public use and enjoyment.

Short narrative of program/project, location(s), timeline for completion and measures of success:

TPL’s Metro Conservation Corridors 2010 Initiative includes land protection efforts that are being expedited due to landowner urgency for financial or other reasons. These tracts have been prioritized because:

1. They would protect lands and waters within targeted parts of defined corridors along streams, rivers, and lakes to create connected habitat that facilitates the movement of wildlife;
2. They contain regionally significant ecological areas; and
3. They contain rare species or plant communities.

At the same time, these tracts of land would provide surface and ground water benefits and would provide close-to-home opportunities for hunting, fishing, bird-watching, and other outdoor experiences for Minnesotans living in the greater metro area—the largest concentration of residents in the state.

Generalized budget:

Budget Item	Outdoor Heritage Fund \$\$	Other Non-State Funds \$\$	Total Funds \$\$
Salaries/benefits			
Contracts			
Equipment (> \$5000)			
Materials, supplies			
Travel			
Land (fee)	2,000,000	400,000	2,400,000
Other (list)			
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$2,000,000</u>	<u>\$400,000</u>	<u>\$2,400,000</u>

Describe how long-term costs for sustaining project, monitoring and/or addressing property tax implications will be met:

The protection work within this program will be accomplished with help from The Trust for Public Land, which uses privately-raised funds to cover its acquisition activities including the due diligence costs associated with the transaction. The land will ultimately be conveyed to a public agency that will be responsible for making payments in lieu of taxes. TPL will work with the agency to plan for funding of stewardship costs.

Describe how local governments will be involved/informed if relevant:

The protection efforts included in this program have a range of involvement by local units of government. In some cases, the local unit of government has requested TPL's assistance in acquiring high priority lands, in which case the local unit of government will be the long-term steward of the lands acquired and may be providing matching funds where possible. For any land acquisitions in which the ultimate landowner is the DNR, any required township notification will be made and County approval will be sought.

Describe how many Full Time Equivalent (FTE) jobs this will provide:

Most recent data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics/Bureau of Economic Analysis states that for every \$1 million produced from a sale of property, 10.7 jobs are created or maintained. For protection efforts included in this program, TPL will use private funds to support the work of TPL staff and those who TPL would contract with including appraisers, surveyors, environmental consultants, and title companies. Landowners with whom we work will also likely be hiring attorneys and tax/financial consultants to advise them. Landowners will use revenue generated from the sale of their land to fund other investments, purchases, and in some cases in which landowner is a business, the funds will be used to pay operational expenses, including staff.

Describe how this project will provide public access for hunting, fishing and other recreation:

Lands protected in this program will provide close-to-home opportunities for hunting, fishing, bird-watching, and other outdoor experiences for Minnesotans living in the greater metro area—which is the largest concentration of residents in the state.

Other considerations:

The Trust for Public Land is a nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting land for people. TPL works to achieve communities' conservation goals through conservation finance and conservation real estate services. We rely on our legal, real estate, and finance expertise to successfully complete complicated conservation transactions that public agencies may not have the staff or resources to do themselves. We offer a professional and streamlined approach, and bring extra hands and minds to assist often over-extended government staff. Since TPL's founding 36 years ago, we have conserved over 2.4 million acres with a fair market value of approximately \$5.3 billion in over 3,600 separate conservation transactions across the United States. In Minnesota, we have protected over 84,000 acres of important conservation lands since 1986.

Additional Information Requested by LOHC

The proposal and organizational requirements listed below are provided by the LOHC (see: http://www.lohc.state.mn.us/materials/2009_rec_dev_proc.pdf). Please check the appropriate items where a space is provided to indicate your agreement, or provide a narrative answer where a response is required, and include with the previous form.

Organization: **The Trust for Public Land (TPL)**

Minimum Criteria For Funding Requests

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for appropriations from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider funding requests that:

X are consistent with the uses of the OHF as specified in Article XI of the Minnesota Constitution and Minnesota Statutes 97A.056,.

X show the ability to produce significant, measurable, and enduring resource and/or habitat outcomes.

- clearly identify specific resource and/or habitat outcomes, performance measures, and a plan for measuring, evaluating and publicly reporting these outcomes over time. **Please describe:**
This request would fund the acquisition of approximately 56 acres of lakeshore habitat by June 30, 2010 to be protected and made available for public use and enjoyment. When achieved, this outcome will be broadcast via email to TPL, Embrace Open Space, and public agency listserves. TPL will post project information on TPL's website, www.tpl.org , and will distribute press releases and include information in organization brochures and newsletters where appropriate. Land acquired will be posted and signs will be erected.

- reflect the best available science regarding resource and/or habitat enhancement, restoration, and protection. **Please reference any relevant plans or documents that support this:**

Lands to be protected within this program are located within the Metro Conservation Corridors, which were established by mapping Regionally Significant Ecological Areas and by providing opportunity for public review for consistency with area plans and documents. Supporting plans include: City and County Comprehensive Plans, City and County Parks Plans, local watershed plans, *Minnesota Statewide Conservation and Preservation Plan*, Minnesota's Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy, *A 50 Year Vision: Conservation for Minnesota's Future*, and the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan.

N/A where possible and appropriate uses native plant material.

N/A restore or enhance resources only on property under permanent protection of fee ownership or conservation easement.

- have a plan to sustain the resource and/or habitat outcomes specified, including a plan to finance the necessary activities. **Please describe:**
This proposal would fund the cost of the land. The Trust for Public Land will provide real estate assistance, including payment of due diligence costs, which will be funded with privately-raised funds.

- identify funding necessary to fully implement the project/programs(s). **Please provide any additional information not presented in the budget table on the previous sheet:**

limit the state's exposure for additional funding for the project.

have a process for ensuring transparency and accessibility in all stages of project/program implementation.

seek funding to supplement (not replace) customary or usual funding sources.

N/A only acquire permanent easements, if proposing less than fee simple acquisition in real property.

ensure that land acquired by fee with money from the OHF is open to the public taking of fish and game during the open season unless otherwise provided by law.

commit to erect and maintain signage, to a standard to be adopted by the LOHC, crediting the OHF with support for protected, restored, or improved sites.

commit to replace OHF protected resources converted to a use other than that intended in the OHF appropriation on a ten replacement acres for one converted acre basis.

agree to not transfer the public interest in OHF fee and/or easement protected land without the written approval of the appropriate state of Minnesota authority.

Criteria To Be Met By Requesting Organizations

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for expenditures from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider requests from organization(s) that:

have a record of successful management and implementation of project/program(s) similar in scale, scope, and complexity to the project/program(s) being requested.

have demonstrated the ability to identify and establish the financial and managerial controls needed to successfully and fully implement the proposed project/program.

have an up-to-date external financial audit with no serious negative findings.

Outdoor Heritage Fund Proposal – 8 (continued)

Fish, Game, and Wildlife Habitat Group- Metro Conservation Corridors

Your name: Jane Harper
Your organization: Washington County
Mailing address: 14949 62nd Street North, Stillwater, MN 55082
Phone/fax number: 651-430-6011 / 651-430-6017
Email address: Jane.Harper@co.washington.mn.us

Program/project short name: Land and Water Legacy Program (LWLP)

FY10 Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars requested: \$2,000,000

Additional funds leveraged and source: \$5,300,000

Expected outcomes at completion: Completion of 3-5 projects will protect 300 acres of outstanding natural habitat along the St. Croix River and its tributaries. Along with other county projects these acres will create a permanently protected 3-mile continuous corridor of forested bluff land and ravines along the St. Croix River; will avoid additional negative impacts to Lake St. Croix, a PCA-designated impaired water; and will provide for a new 2.5- mile recreational trail along the St. Croix River. These projects would contribute significantly to long-term protection and public enjoyment of the St. Croix River.

Short narrative of program, including location(s), timeline for completion and measures of success:

Washington County began its LWLP in 2007 after voters approved a \$20 million referendum to acquire interests in property for the preservation of water quality, woodlands and other natural areas. The Washington County Board chose an initial set of high priority projects after a careful review of proposals that involved technical evaluation and ranking, local government comment, and review and recommendation by a citizen advisory committee. The owners of each parcel are willing sellers. The county purchases perpetual conservation easements and fee title. With receipt of the state funds, the projects could be completed within 12-18 months. The county’s high-priority projects include lands with one mile of frontage along the St. Croix River and 1.5 miles of frontage along tributaries to the St. Croix River and lands in areas with high risk for groundwater contamination.

Generalized budget:

Budget Item	Outdoor Heritage Fund \$\$	State Funds	Non-State Funds	Total Funds \$\$
<u>Land (fee, easement)</u>	\$2,000,000	\$250,000	\$5,050,000	\$7,300,000

Describe how long-term costs for sustaining project, monitoring and/or addressing property tax implications will be met:

Washington County will hold the interests in the land that are acquired. The conservation easements are perpetual. The county follows the standards and practices of the Minnesota Land Trust and the National Land Trust Alliance, thus ensuring long-lasting conservation easements. The county monitors each of its conservation easements annually. The county attorney enforces the county-held conservation easements. The county makes payments in lieu of taxes when there is a

taxable use of land such as farming or house rental on lands acquired in fee. The conservation easements on these properties require the landowner to prepare and follow a natural resources management plan approved by the county. These plans identify opportunities to restore natural communities to some of the disturbed areas and to improve the quality of other areas.

Describe how local governments will be involved/informed if relevant:

Local governments are asked to comment on each landowner application and are eligible to submit proposals.

Describe how many Full Time Equivalent (FTE) jobs this will provide:

No direct jobs will be created through these projects. However, to complete the acquisitions about \$50,000 in real estate transaction costs will pay for the negotiator, appraiser, attorneys, surveyors, etc. through contract or 3rd party work.

Describe how this project will provide public access for hunting, fishing and other recreation:

Hunting and fishing will be considered on properties acquired in fee subject to local ordinance restrictions. Opportunities on conservation easements may be available but will be subject to negotiation with the private landowner.

Describe the goals, policies, or recommendations from relevant conservation plans (Statewide Conservation and Preservation Plan, Campaign for Conservation Fifty Year Vision, State wildlife action plan - Tomorrow's Habitat for the Wild and Rare, etc.) that are met through this program/project:

Other considerations:

With the voter-approved bond funds, Washington County is poised to leverage the state's investment in protecting these lands that serve citizens of the entire state. The projects have received broad support; the county has received formal letters of support from the following organizations: National Park Service, Parks and Trails Council of Minnesota, St. Croix River Association, St. Croix Scenic Byway, St. Croix Scenic Coalition, and Carpenter St. Croix Valley Nature Center.

Additional Information Requested by LOHC

The proposal and organizational requirements listed below are provided by the LOHC (see: http://www.lohc.state.mn.us/materials/2009_rec_dev_proc.pdf). Please check the appropriate items where a space is provided to indicate your agreement, or provide a narrative answer where a response is required, and include with the previous form.

Organization: **Washington County**

Minimum Criteria For Funding Requests

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for appropriations from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider funding requests that:

X are consistent with the uses of the OHF as specified in Article XI of the Minnesota Constitution and Minnesota Statutes 97A.056,.

X show the ability to produce significant, measurable, and enduring resource and/or habitat outcomes.

- clearly identify specific resource and/or habitat outcomes, performance measures, and a plan for measuring, evaluating and publicly reporting these outcomes over time. **Please describe:**

Protection of 300 acres of outstanding natural habitat along the St. Croix River and its tributaries will, along with other county projects, create a permanently protected 3-mile continuous corridor of forested bluff land and ravines along the St. Croix River; avoid additional negative impacts to the Lake St. Croix, a PCA-designated impaired water; and provide for a new 2.5- mile recreational trail along the St. Croix River. Regular progress reports on all active projects in the Land and Water Legacy Program is posted on the program's webpage. These reports automatically are sent to nearly 1000 people who have subscribed to the webpage. A fact sheet for each completed project is prepared and posted on the webpage.

- reflect the best available science regarding resource and/or habitat enhancement, restoration, and protection. **Please reference any relevant plans or documents that support this:**

These properties have been identified in many published landscape-scale conservation plans as being critical natural areas and as having significant native land cover worthy of protection. The proposed conservation easement and fee acquisitions will preserve and protect in perpetuity the conservation values identified through these public policies.

- The properties are located within the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway District, a unit of the National Park Service, established by Congress in 1972 to protect the scenery, water quality and other riverway values and jointly managed by the federal and state governments in accordance with a riverway management plan and zoning ordinance.
- The properties are located within the published Metro Conservation Corridors, a network of remaining critical habitat and natural areas that, if protected, would improve the health of native vegetation, fish and wildlife species.
- The properties are within a Regionally Significant Ecological Area identified by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources as having the following

characteristics: natural areas of sufficient size and shape to provide habitat for a spectrum of wildlife; areas that connect to other natural areas; and areas with the most intact native plant communities as identified by the Minnesota County Biological Survey.

- The properties include habitat for a variety of species in greatest conservation need as established by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources in Tomorrow's Habitat for the Wild and the Rare: An Action Plan for Minnesota's Wildlife, Minnesota's Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy, 2006.
- These projects address two recommendations in the Statewide Conservation and Preservation Plan: Habitat Recommendation #1. Protect priority land habitats - the St. Croix River valley was identified in the plan as having high conservation priority; and Habitat Recommendation #2. Protect Critical Shorelands of Streams and Lakes – suggested to be done through acquisition of high priority shorelands and protection of private shorelands via economic incentives and other tools (e.g. conservation easements).
- These projects will help to implement the Conservation Campaign's 50-Year Vision for the Twin Cities Metropolitan Region that states, in part, “Natural shorelands will be retained for the Big Rivers of the Metro: Minnesota, St. Croix and Mississippi.”

where possible and appropriate uses native plant material.

restore or enhance resources only on property under permanent protection of fee ownership or conservation easement.

- have a plan to sustain the resource and/or habitat outcomes specified, including a plan to finance the necessary activities. **Please describe:**
Washington County will hold the interests in the land that are acquired. The conservation easements are perpetual. The county follows the standards and practices of the Minnesota Land Trust and the National Land Trust Alliance, thus ensuring long-lasting conservation easements. The county monitors each of its conservation easements annually. The county attorney enforces the county-held conservation easements. The county makes payments in lieu of taxes when there is a taxable use of land such as farming or house rental on lands acquired in fee. The conservation easements on these properties require the landowner to prepare and follow a natural resources management plan approved by the county. These plans identify opportunities to restore natural communities to some of the disturbed areas and to improve the quality of other areas.

- identify funding necessary to fully implement the project/programs(s). **Please provide any additional information not presented in the budget table on the previous sheet:**

limit the state's exposure for additional funding for the project.

have a process for ensuring transparency and accessibility in all stages of project/program implementation.

seek funding to supplement (not replace) customary or usual funding sources.

X only acquire permanent easements, if proposing less than fee simple acquisition in real property.

X ensure that land acquired by fee with money from the OHF is open to the public taking of fish and game during the open season unless otherwise provided by law.

X commit to erect and maintain signage, to a standard to be adopted by the LOHC, crediting the OHF with support for protected, restored, or improved sites.

X commit to replace OHF protected resources converted to a use other than that intended in the OHF appropriation on a ten replacement acres for one converted acre basis.

X agree to not transfer the public interest in OHF fee and/or easement protected land without the written approval of the appropriate state of Minnesota authority.

Criteria To Be Met By Requesting Organizations

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for expenditures from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider requests from organization(s) that:

X have a record of successful management and implementation of project/program(s) similar in scale, scope, and complexity to the project/program(s) being requested.

X have demonstrated the ability to identify and establish the financial and managerial controls needed to successfully and fully implement the proposed project/program.

X have an up-to-date external financial audit with no serious negative findings.

Outdoor Heritage Fund Proposal – 8 (continued)

Fish, Game and Wildlife Habitat Group – Metro Conservation Corridors

Your name: Alan Singer
Your organization: Dakota County
Mailing address: 14955 Galaxie Avenue, Apple Valley, MN 55124
Phone/fax number: 952-891-7001/952-891-7031
Email address: al.singer@co.dakota.mn.us

Program/project short name: Dakota County Habitat Protection
FY10 Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars requested: \$1,000,000
Additional funds leveraged and source: \$4,130,000 from County and state funds and landowner donation
Expected outcomes at completion : 349 acres protected with management plans and priority restoration activities underway for each project totaling 80 acres.

Short narrative of program/project, location(s), timeline for completion and measures of success:

Dakota County has been actively involved in habitat protection projects with continued expansion of the 6,000-acre regional park system. Since 2003, nearly \$15 million of the \$20 million Farmland and Natural Areas Program referendum funds has been expended or committed to 58 projects protecting over 6,100 acres. Proposed habitat protection projects include:

Permanent Easements

110 acres along Chub Creek and adjacent to the Chub Lake WMA
 83 acres (1.5 miles) along Chub Creek
 36 acres (1mile) along the Cannon River
 70 acres on Marcott Lakes in Inver Grove Heights
50 acres in Inver Grove Heights
 349 acres

Easement acquisitions will be completed by June 30, 2010. Jointly developed natural resource management plans, work plans and priority restoration activities will be underway for each project prior to June 30, 2011.

Generalized budget:

Budget Item	Outdoor Heritage Fund \$\$	Other State Funds \$\$	Other Non-State Funds \$\$	Total Funds \$\$
Salaries/benefits	0	0	10,000	10,000
Contracts	20,000	0	10,000	30,000
Equipment (> \$5000)	0	0	0	0
Materials, supplies	20,000	0	10,000	30,000
Travel	0	0	0	0
Land (fee, easement)	960,000	200,000	4,100,000	5,260,000
Other (list)	0	0	0	0

<u>Total</u>	\$1,000,000	\$200,000	\$4,130,000	\$5,330,000
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Describe how long-term costs for sustaining project, monitoring and/or addressing property tax implications will be met:

Dakota County has a forty year history of acquiring, managing, restoring and monitoring land for natural resource protection and outdoor recreation. The County Board has accelerated these activities in recent years and recently approved an ambitious and cutting-edge approach to protecting and connecting lands for a variety of public purposes. Dakota County was the first county in the state to pass a bond referendum for protecting farmland and natural areas and still has \$5 million of the \$20 million available. Up to 8% of the acquisition cost is available for initial restoration costs. The County contracts the local Soil and Water Conservation District and utilizes staff to monitor easements with a commitment of the County Attorney’s Office to provide enforcement services. The County provides the township or city compensation for the loss of property tax revenue for any private land acquired by the County for park purposes. Significant portions of land in the County are already enrolled in Green Acres or the Metropolitan Agricultural Preserves Program so easements will have little impact on property tax assessments.

Describe how local governments will be involved/informed if relevant:

There are a variety of projects involving local government. All of the projects will involve citizen Advisory Committee review and County Board approval. The townships are involved in reviewing the easements. Each of the projects involves County funding. The County will hold each of the proposed easements, require development and initial implementation of natural resource management plans, and conduct annual monitoring.

Describe how many Full Time Equivalent (FTE) jobs this will provide:

This work will involve approximately a .5 FTE

Describe how this project will provide public access for hunting, fishing and other recreation:

The proposed land protection projects will result in habitat protection that directly and indirectly benefits hunting, fishing and other recreation. The majority of projects are located adjacent to a stream, rivers and a lake. Despite these easements being on private land, they will allow public access from the river/stream for angling and recreation purposes. The lake easement is in conjunction with a nature center where the land will be open to the public for educational experiences.

Other considerations:

The County strongly believes that true habitat protection only occurs when there is active natural resource management which is incorporated into all projects.

Additional Information Requested by LOHC

The proposal and organizational requirements listed below are provided by the LOHC (see: http://www.lohc.state.mn.us/materials/2009_rec_dev_proc.pdf). Please check the appropriate items where a space is provided to indicate your agreement, or provide a narrative answer where a response is required, and include with the previous form.

Organization: **Dakota County**

Minimum Criteria For Funding Requests

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for appropriations from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider funding requests that:

are consistent with the uses of the OHF as specified in Article XI of the Minnesota Constitution and Minnesota Statutes 97A.056.

show the ability to produce significant, measurable, and enduring resource and/or habitat outcomes.

- clearly identify specific resource and/or habitat outcomes, performance measures, and a plan for measuring, evaluating and publicly reporting these outcomes over time. **Please describe:**
These activities are included in a County Board goal with monthly measures and an end-of-year report. The County has on-going communication mechanisms through our web page, press releases, County newsletter and other means.

- reflect the best available science regarding resource and/or habitat enhancement, restoration, and protection. **Please reference any relevant plans or documents that support this:**
These projects are included in the Metro Conservation Corridors Plan and the adopted, award-winning Farmland and Natural Areas Protection Plan.

where possible and appropriate uses native plant material.

restore or enhance resources only on property under permanent protection of fee ownership or conservation easement.

- have a plan to sustain the resource and/or habitat outcomes specified, including a plan to finance the necessary activities. **Please describe:**
All of the County projects require a natural resource management plan and initial work plan. The County provides some matching incentive funds for the landowners to conduct more management over time. The County is committed to monitoring and enforcing easements and natural resource management compliance.

- identify funding necessary to fully implement the project/programs(s). **Please provide any additional information not presented in the budget table on the previous sheet:**

limit the state's exposure for additional funding for the project.

have a process for ensuring transparency and accessibility in all stages of project/program implementation.

- seek funding to supplement (not replace) customary or usual funding sources.
- only acquire permanent easements, if proposing less than fee simple acquisition in real property.
- ensure that land acquired by fee with money from the OHF is open to the public taking of fish and game during the open season unless otherwise provided by law.
- commit to erect and maintain signage, to a standard to be adopted by the LOHC, crediting the OHF with support for protected, restored, or improved sites.
- commit to replace OHF protected resources converted to a use other than that intended in the OHF appropriation on a ten replacement acres for one converted acre basis.
- agree to not transfer the public interest in OHF fee and/or easement protected land without the written approval of the appropriate state of Minnesota authority.

Criteria To Be Met By Requesting Organizations

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for expenditures from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider requests from organization(s) that:

- have a record of successful management and implementation of project/program(s) similar in scale, scope, and complexity to the project/program(s) being requested.
- have demonstrated the ability to identify and establish the financial and managerial controls needed to successfully and fully implement the proposed project/program.
- have an up-to-date external financial audit with no serious negative findings.

Outdoor Heritage Fund Proposal – 9 (Summary)

Fish, Game and Wildlife Habitat Group

Your name: Boe Carlson

Your organization: Metropolitan Regional Parks System Agencies

Mailing address: 3000 Xenium Lane N., Plymouth MN, 55441

Phone/fax number: (763)559-6761

Email address: bcarlson@threeriversparkdistrict.org

Program/project short name: Metropolitan Habitat and Angler Access Improvement Program

FY10 Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars requested: \$ 1,201,500 in Habitat Restoration

\$ 7,386,800 in Acquisitions

\$ 1,135,000 in Access Improvements

Additional funds leveraged and source: \$ 1,395,400 Metropolitan Council dollars and local funds

Expected outcomes at completion (e.g., XX acres protected, restored, enhanced): Replacement of one boat launch, creation of 8 new fishing piers, protection of over 3 miles of trout habitat, 12,650 linear feet of shoreline and restoration of over 25 acres of land reducing erosion and water quality degradation. Acquisition, restoration, and preservation of 299 acres of habitat and lake access

Short narrative of program/project, location(s), timeline for completion and measures of success (100 words or less): In 1974 the State of Minnesota and the Metropolitan Council created the Metropolitan Regional Parks system. Currently over 57,000 acres of land are operated by 10 park agencies. The Metropolitan Regional Park System is a natural resourced based system that protects the most important natural resource and habitat areas in the seven-county metropolitan area. In addition, the regional park system provides the majority of public water accesses, including the Mississippi River, the Minneapolis Chain of Lakes, the Ramsey County lake systems, and others. Proposals protect important natural resource and habitat areas and will create opportunities for access and improvement to fishing habitat in the metropolitan area as guided by the Metropolitan Regional Parks Policy Plan, local agency natural resource plans, and in park Master Plans.

Generalized budget:

****Dollars for Access Projects Not Included

Budget Item	Outdoor Heritage Fund \$\$	Other State Funds \$\$	Other Non-State Funds \$\$	Total Funds \$\$
Salaries/benefits		\$5,000	\$175,000	\$180,000
Contracts	\$911,500	\$252,000	\$55,000	\$1,218,500
Equipment (> \$5000)			\$20,000	\$20,000
Materials, supplies	\$310,000		\$15,000	\$325,000
Travel				
Land (fee, easement)	\$7,366,800	\$1,053,200		\$8,420,000

Other (list)			\$40,000	
Total	\$8,588,300	\$1,310,200	\$305,000	\$10,203,500

Describe how long-term costs for sustaining project, monitoring and/or addressing property tax implications will be met: All projects are proposed through the Metropolitan Regional Parks system and would be administered through the respective implementing agency. Long term maintenance costs will be funded through implementing agency operations and maintenance funding.

Describe how local governments will be involved/informed if relevant: Metropolitan Regional Parks Agencies will both administer the projects and work with local government in their implementation. The Implementing Agencies will administer project funding, coordinate restoration projects, and hold title to land acquisitions.

Describe how many Full Time Equivalent (FTE) jobs this will provide: These proposals will provide over 20 FTE's.

Describe how this project will provide public access for hunting, fishing and other recreation: These projects will improve public fishing opportunities and access as well improving habitat and restoration of resources.

Other considerations:

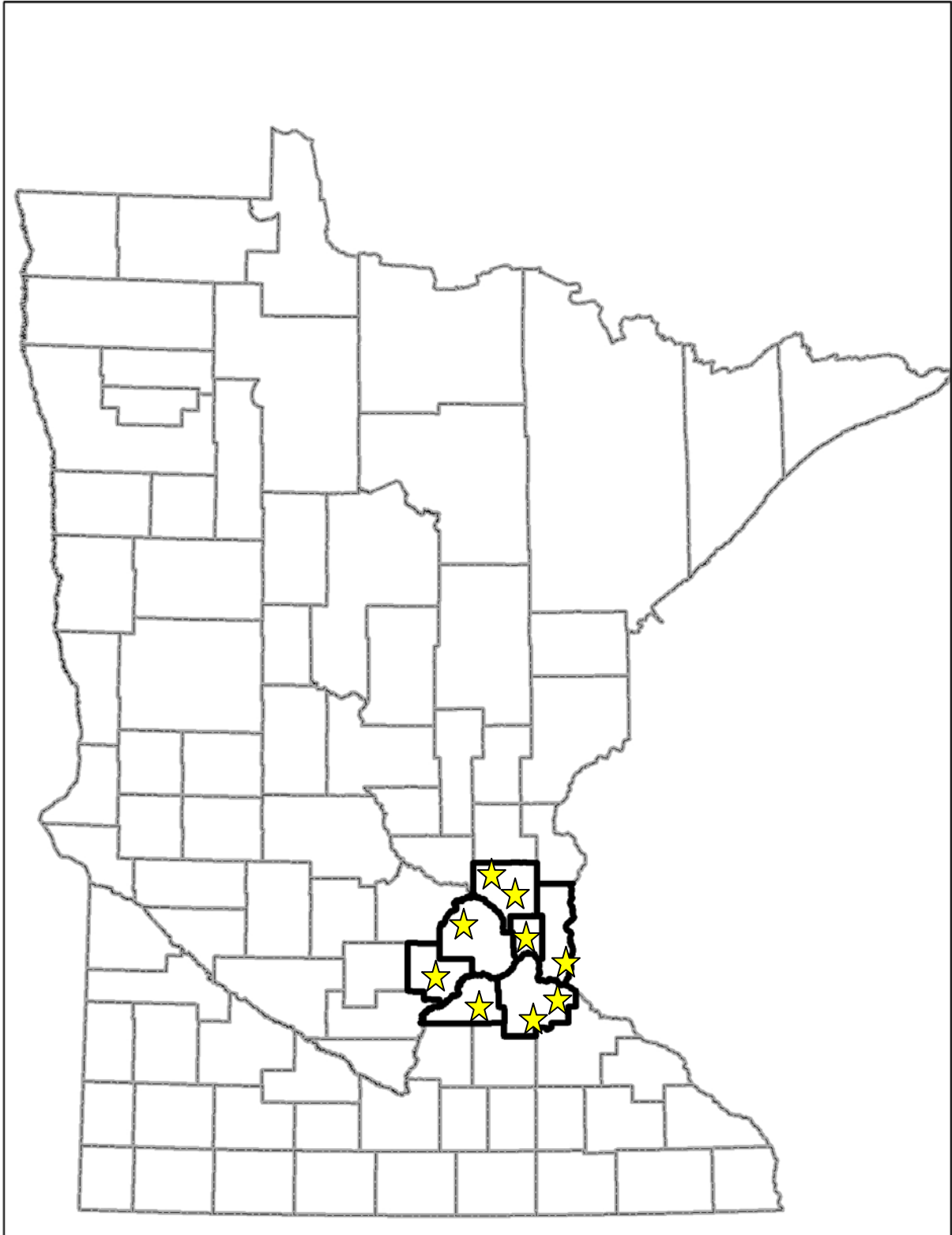
Guiding Plans - The 2030 Regional Development Framework, adopted in 2004 by the Metropolitan Council is a guide to development and protection of resources in the Metropolitan Area. The Framework identifies resources for each of the 10 regional park partners to protect and preserve as part of the regional system.

Fishing Access Projects

This proposal requests guidance from the Council on funding fishing access improvements. In addition to the primary funding requests for acquisition and restoration, there are approximately \$1.1 million in fishing access projects for boat launches and fishing piers. The Metropolitan Regional Park System provides extensive fishing access opportunities throughout the metropolitan area, and past funding for access projects has not met demand. Generalized budget for access program:

Budget Item	Outdoor Heritage Fund \$\$	Other State Funds \$\$	Other Non-State Funds \$\$	Total Funds \$\$
Salaries/benefits	\$10,000		\$8,000	\$18,000
Contracts	\$1,074,000			\$1,074,000
Equipment (> \$5000)			\$17,000	\$17,000
Materials, supplies	\$50,000		\$5,000	\$55,000
Travel	\$1,000			\$1,000
Land (fee, easement)				
Other (list)				
Total	\$1,135,000		\$30,000	\$1,165,000

Metropolitan Regional Park System Habitat Improvement Program



Outdoor Heritage Fund Proposal – 9 (continued)
Fish, Game and Wildlife Habitat Group – Metro Regional Parks

Your name: John VonDeLinde
Your organization: Anoka County
Mailing address: 550 Bunker Lake Blvd., Andover, MN 55304
Phone/fax number: 763-767-2860 / 763-755-0230
Email address: john.vondelinde@co.anoka.mn.us

Program/project short name: Lake George Fishing Access Improvement

FY10 Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars requested: \$50,000

Additional funds leveraged and source: \$10,000

Expected outcomes at completion (e.g., XX acres protected, restored, enhanced):

The expected outcome is an easily accessible fishing pier with shoreline and habitat restoration along Lake George in the city of Oak Grove.

Short narrative of program/project, location(s), timeline for completion and measures of success (100 words or less):

The project will include the installation of a fishing pier as well as shoreline and habitat restoration along Lake George within Lake George Regional Park in the city of Oak Grove. Currently there is no pier on the lake and public shoreline fishing is limited due to very shallow water. Anglers often fish off the jetties at the boat access, but the addition of a fishing pier would allow for better fishing and additional opportunities. The shoreline and habitat restoration will include the removal of invasive aquatic plant species and the planting of native species. The fishing pier will be located in close proximity to park trails and parking. The demand for public fishing access in this area is quite high and a pier would provide a quick solution to the demand.

Generalized budget:

Budget Item	Outdoor Heritage Fund \$\$	Other State Funds \$\$	Other Non-State Funds \$\$	Total Funds \$\$
Salaries/benefits			\$3,000	\$3,000
Contracts				
Equipment (> \$5000)			\$7,000	\$7,000
Materials, supplies	\$50,000			\$50,000
Travel				
Land (fee, easement)				
Other (list)				
Total	\$50,000		\$10,000	\$60,000

Describe how long-term costs for sustaining project, monitoring and/or addressing property tax implications will be met:

Long-term monitoring and maintenance costs for the fishing pier and restoration will be funded through the County's Annual Operations and Maintenance Budget.

Describe how local governments will be involved/informed if relevant:

If awarded funding, the city of Oak Grove will be informed of the County's proposal as will any other regulatory agency that may have jurisdiction over this project.

Describe how many Full Time Equivalent (FTE) jobs this will provide:

This project will support approximately 2.0 FTE's during construction and approximately .5 FTE after construction.

Describe how this project will provide public access for hunting, fishing and other recreation:

By constructing a fishing pier and improving the shoreline habitat along Lake George, public fishing opportunities in the area will be significantly increased. Since this access area is within the Lake George Regional Park, many other recreation opportunities, such as boating, hiking, swimming and wildlife observation exist as well.

Other considerations:

1. Lake George has a reputation as a good bass lake. Good water quality and abundant cover provide great opportunities for bass anglers.
2. Northern pike are also common, but occasional larger pike are encountered by anglers. Sunfish are common as well. Following is a list of popular game species found in the lake:
 - a. **Walleye:** low abundance; average size (walleye was first stocked in 2001)
 - Northern Pike:** above average abundance, average size but some larger pike.
 - Largemouth Bass:** average abundance, all sizes present including some trophies.
 - Bluegill:** above average abundance, average size.
 - Crappie:** above average abundance, average size.

Additional Information Requested by LOHC

The proposal and organizational requirements listed below are provided by the LOHC (see: http://www.lohc.state.mn.us/materials/2009_rec_dev_proc.pdf). Please check the appropriate items where a space is provided to indicate your agreement, or provide a narrative answer where a response is required, and include with the previous form.

Organization: **Anoka County**

Minimum Criteria For Funding Requests

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for appropriations from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider funding requests that:

are consistent with the uses of the OHF as specified in Article XI of the Minnesota Constitution and Minnesota Statutes 97A.056,.

show the ability to produce significant, measurable, and enduring resource and/or habitat outcomes.

- clearly identify specific resource and/or habitat outcomes, performance measures, and a plan for measuring, evaluating and publicly reporting these outcomes over time. **Please describe:**
The performance measures will be based on the number of anglers using the pier.
- reflect the best available science regarding resource and/or habitat enhancement, restoration, and protection. **Please reference any relevant plans or documents that support this:**
The additional of the fishing pier closely follows the County's plans as outlined in the Anoka County Parks and Recreation Comprehensive System Plan.

where possible and appropriate uses native plant material.

restore or enhance resources only on property under permanent protection of fee ownership or conservation easement.

- have a plan to sustain the resource and/or habitat outcomes specified, including a plan to finance the necessary activities. **Please describe:**
Sustainability of the pier will follow the operations and maintenance guidelines established by the Operations and Maintenance Management Plan outlined in the Anoka County Parks and Recreation Comprehensive System Plan. Continued maintenance of the project will be funded through the annual Anoka County Parks and Recreation Operations and Maintenance budget.

- identify funding necessary to fully implement the project/programs(s). **Please provide any additional information not presented in the budget table on the previous sheet:**

limit the state's exposure for additional funding for the project.

have a process for ensuring transparency and accessibility in all stages of project/program implementation.

seek funding to supplement (not replace) customary or usual funding sources.

only acquire permanent easements, if proposing less than fee simple acquisition in real property.

ensure that land acquired by fee with money from the OHF is open to the public taking of fish and game during the open season unless otherwise provided by law.

commit to erect and maintain signage, to a standard to be adopted by the LOHC, crediting the OHF with support for protected, restored, or improved sites.

commit to replace OHF protected resources converted to a use other than that intended in the OHF appropriation on a ten replacement acres for one converted acre basis.

agree to not transfer the public interest in OHF fee and/or easement protected land without the written approval of the appropriate state of Minnesota authority.

Criteria To Be Met By Requesting Organizations

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for expenditures from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider requests from organization(s) that:

have a record of successful management and implementation of project/program(s) similar in scale, scope, and complexity to the project/program(s) being requested.

have demonstrated the ability to identify and establish the financial and managerial controls needed to successfully and fully implement the proposed project/program.

have an up-to-date external financial audit with no serious negative findings.

Outdoor Heritage Fund Proposal – 9 (continued)
Fish, Game and Wildlife Habitat Group – Metro Regional Parks

Your name: John VonDeLinde
Your organization: Anoka County
Mailing address: 550 Bunker Lake Blvd., Andover, MN 55304
Phone/fax number: 763-767-2860 / 763-755-0230
Email address: john.vondelinde@co.anoka.mn.us

Program/project short name: Martin Lake Boat Access Redevelopment

FY10 Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars requested: \$190,000

Additional funds leveraged and source: \$20,000

Expected outcomes at completion (e.g., XX acres protected, restored, enhanced):

The expected outcome is to provide a safe, functional parking lot and boat access as well as a restored shoreline at Martin Lake in Linwood Township.

Short narrative of program/project, location(s), timeline for completion and measures of success (100 words or less):

This project will convert an existing gravel parking lot to a paved surface with a newly constructed launch ramp. A courtesy dock would be installed for ease of boat launching. Currently, the launch and parking are in poor condition. Redevelopment of the access will improve safety and increase public access, as well as provide additional parking for cars and trailers. In addition, shoreline and aquatic habitat restoration will be conducted to provide better shoreline fishing opportunities. This access has been identified in the Anoka County Parks and Recreation Comprehensive System Plan as an opportunity for redevelopment and restoration.

Generalized budget:

Budget Item	Outdoor Heritage Fund \$\$	Other State Funds \$\$	Other Non-State Funds \$\$	Total Funds \$\$
Salaries/benefits			\$5,000	\$5,000
Contracts	\$190,000			\$190,000
Equipment (> \$5000)			\$10,000	10,000
Materials, supplies			\$5,000	\$5,000
Travel				
Land (fee, easement)				
Other (list)				
Total	\$190,000		\$20,000	\$210,000

Describe how long-term costs for sustaining project, monitoring and/or addressing property tax implications will be met:

Long-term monitoring and maintenance costs for the fishing access redevelopment and restoration will be funded through the County's Annual Operations and Maintenance Budget.

Describe how local governments will be involved/informed if relevant:

If funding is awarded, the township of Linwood will be informed of the County's proposal as will any other regulatory agency that may have jurisdiction over this project.

Describe how many Full Time Equivalent (FTE) jobs this will provide:

This project will support approximately 2.5 FTE's during construction and approximately 1 FTE after construction.

Describe how this project will provide public access for hunting, fishing and other recreation:

This project will not only improve the public fishing access to Martin Lake, but also create better fishing opportunities along the shoreline. Due to the close proximity Martin Island Linwood Regional Park, many other recreation opportunities, such as walking trails and wildlife observation exist as well.

Other considerations:

3. Martin Lake is smaller lake, but it is one of the better walleye lakes in the area. It holds some of the nicest bluegill in the area and northern pike are found in limited abundance. The following is a list of popular game fish found in the lake:
 - a. **Walleye:** above average abundance, average size.
Northern Pike: below average abundance, above average size.
Largemouth Bass: below average abundance, average size.
Bluegill: below average abundance, above average size.
Crappie: average abundance, average size.
Yellow Perch: average abundance, small average size
4. Currently, there are limited opportunities for anglers to shore fish. Some anglers fish from the shoulder of E. Martin Lake Drive near the outlet, where parking is limited to the shoulder of the road. This is a potentially dangerous situation and improvements to the boat launch would a safe access for anglers.

Please also complete the attached information sheet as requested by the LOHC.

Additional Information Requested by LOHC

The proposal and organizational requirements listed below are provided by the LOHC (see: http://www.lohc.state.mn.us/materials/2009_rec_dev_proc.pdf). Please check the appropriate items where a space is provided to indicate your agreement, or provide a narrative answer where a response is required, and include with the previous form.

Organization: **Anoka County**

Minimum Criteria For Funding Requests

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for appropriations from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider funding requests that:

are consistent with the uses of the OHF as specified in Article XI of the Minnesota Constitution and Minnesota Statutes 97A.056,.

show the ability to produce significant, measurable, and enduring resource and/or habitat outcomes.

- clearly identify specific resource and/or habitat outcomes, performance measures, and a plan for measuring, evaluating and publicly reporting these outcomes over time. **Please describe:**
The performance measures will be based on the number of anglers using the access.
- reflect the best available science regarding resource and/or habitat enhancement, restoration, and protection. **Please reference any relevant plans or documents that support this:**
Improvement plans closely follows the County guidelines as outlined in the Anoka County Parks and Recreation Comprehensive System Plan.

where possible and appropriate uses native plant material.

restore or enhance resources only on property under permanent protection of fee ownership or conservation easement.

- have a plan to sustain the resource and/or habitat outcomes specified, including a plan to finance the necessary activities. **Please describe:**
Sustainability of the resource will follow the operations and maintenance guidelines established by the Operations and Maintenance Management Plan outlined in the Anoka County Parks and Recreation Comprehensive System Plan. Continued maintenance of the project will be funded through the annual Anoka County Parks and Recreation Operations and Maintenance budget.
- identify funding necessary to fully implement the project/programs(s). **Please provide any additional information not presented in the budget table on the previous sheet:**

limit the state's exposure for additional funding for the project.

have a process for ensuring transparency and accessibility in all stages of project/program implementation.

seek funding to supplement (not replace) customary or usual funding sources.

only acquire permanent easements, if proposing less than fee simple acquisition in real property.

ensure that land acquired by fee with money from the OHF is open to the public taking of fish and game during the open season unless otherwise provided by law.

commit to erect and maintain signage, to a standard to be adopted by the LOHC, crediting the OHF with support for protected, restored, or improved sites.

commit to replace OHF protected resources converted to a use other than that intended in the OHF appropriation on a ten replacement acres for one converted acre basis.

agree to not transfer the public interest in OHF fee and/or easement protected land without the written approval of the appropriate state of Minnesota authority.

Criteria To Be Met By Requesting Organizations

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for expenditures from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider requests from organization(s) that:

have a record of successful management and implementation of project/program(s) similar in scale, scope, and complexity to the project/program(s) being requested.

have demonstrated the ability to identify and establish the financial and managerial controls needed to successfully and fully implement the proposed project/program.

have an up-to-date external financial audit with no serious negative findings.

Outdoor Heritage Fund Proposal – 9 (continued)
Fish, Game and Wildlife Habitat Group – Metro Regional Parks

Your name: Steve Sullivan, Parks Director
Your organization: Dakota County Parks Administration
Mailing address: Western Service Center,
 14955 Galaxie Avenue, Apple Valley, MN 55124
Phone/fax number: 952.891.7088
Email address: steve.sullivan@co.dakota.mn.us

Program/project short name:
Echo Point Fish Habitat and Angler Access Improvement – Lake Byllesby Regional Park

FY10 Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars requested: \$590,000
Additional funds leveraged and source: \$55,000 (County funds/salaries)
Expected outcomes at completion (e.g., acres protected, restored, enhanced):
 Restoration of 4,650 feet of lake shoreline

Short narrative of program/project, location(s), timeline for completion and measures of success (100 words or less):

- Restoration of 4,650 feet of degraded shoreline on Lake Byllesby using natural restoration techniques, including the planting of native vegetation and placement of stone to renaturalize the shoreline and control lakeshore erosion. Existing riprap would be repositioned to facilitate angler access to the water. Project includes two fishing piers with accessible trail connections to a small parking area. Project to begin late 2009 and continue into 2010.

Generalized budget:

Budget Item	Outdoor Heritage Fund \$\$	Other State Funds \$\$	Other Non-State Funds \$\$	Total Funds \$\$
Salaries/benefits			\$15,000	\$15,000
Contracts	\$215,000		\$35,000	\$250,000
Equipment (> \$5000)			\$5,000	\$5,000
Materials, supplies	\$75,000			\$75,000
Travel				
Land (fee, easement)				
Other (list)				
Total	\$290,000		\$55,000	\$345,000

Describe how long-term costs for sustaining project, monitoring and/or addressing property tax implications will be met:

- Maintenance will be accomplished by park staff using existing budget.

Describe how local governments will be involved/informed if relevant:

- This project will be coordinated with township government, watershed management organizations, and the county SWCD.

Describe how many Full Time Equivalent (FTE) jobs this will provide:

- Estimated at 3.5 FTE's for 1 year

Describe how this project will provide public access for hunting, fishing and other recreation:

- Restoration project will result in greatly enhanced shoreline edge conditions for improved fish and riparian wildlife habitat.
- Entire restored shoreline will be accessible from the park through the installation of sustainable angler walking trails.
- Fishing piers installed at deep-water locations will greatly facilitate angler success.

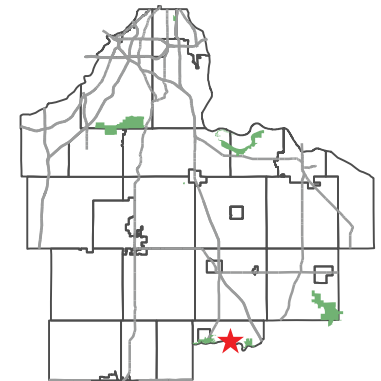
Other considerations:

- The 2030 Regional Development Framework, adopted in 2004 and updated since then, is the initial chapter of the Metropolitan Council's guide to development. The index page of this document lists Dakota County as one of the 10 official regional park partners to acquire and develop parks, protect natural resources, and provide outdoor recreation. On the Recreation and Natural Resource Protection Map, Lake Byllesby is shown as a Surface Water Feature ranked for Recreational Use as "outstanding". The capital improvement program (CIP) section of the document lists Echo Point improvements on p. 14.
- Dakota County will seek partnerships with others to optimize benefits.

Lake Byllesby Regional Park - Echo Point Fish Habitat and Angler Access Improvement



Lake Byllesby Regional Park



Dakota
COUNTY
forever wild
PARKS

Prepared by Dakota County Office of GIS

Additional Information Requested by LOHC

Please check the appropriate items where a space is provided to indicate your agreement, or provide a narrative answer where a response is required, and include with the previous form.

Organization: **Dakota County Parks Administration**

Minimum Criteria For Funding Requests

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for appropriations from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider funding requests that:

- X are consistent with the uses of the OHF as specified in Article XI of the Minnesota Constitution and Minnesota Statutes 97A.056,
- X show the ability to produce significant, measurable, and enduring resource and/or habitat outcomes.
 - Clearly identify specific resource and/or habitat outcomes, performance measures, and a plan for measuring, evaluating and publicly reporting these outcomes over time. **Please describe:**
Restored oak savanna monitored and measured over time on GIS-based Land Management Catalog
 - Reflect the best available science regarding resource and/or habitat enhancement, restoration, and protection. **Please reference any relevant plans or documents that support this:**
Park Master Plan, County Park Systems Plan, North Cannon River Watershed Management Plan, County Initiative to Sequester Carbon in Oak Savanna/Wetland Ecosystems
- X where possible and appropriate uses native plant material.
- X restore or enhance resources only on property under permanent protection of fee ownership or conservation easement.
 - have a plan to sustain the resource and/or habitat outcomes specified, including a plan to finance the necessary activities. **Please describe:**
Park Master Plan, County Park Systems Plan
 - identify funding necessary to fully implement the project/programs(s). **Please provide any additional information not presented in the budget table on the previous sheet:**
- X limit the state's exposure for additional funding for the project.
- X have a process for ensuring transparency and accessibility in all stages of project/program implementation.
- X seek funding to supplement (not replace) customary or usual funding sources.
- X only acquire permanent easements, if proposing less than fee simple acquisition in real property.

- X ensure that land acquired by fee with money from the OHF is open to the public taking of fish and game during the open season unless otherwise provided by law.
- X commit to erect and maintain signage, to a standard to be adopted by the LOHC, crediting the OHF with support for protected, restored, or improved sites.
- X commit to replace OHF protected resources converted to a use other than that intended in the appropriation on a ten replacement acres for one converted acre basis.
- X agree to not transfer the public interest in OHF fee and/or easement protected land without the written approval of the appropriate state of Minnesota authority.

Criteria To Be Met By Requesting Organizations

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for expenditures from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider requests from organization(s) that:

- X have a record of successful management and implementation of project/program(s) similar in scale, scope, and complexity to the project/program(s) being requested.
- X have demonstrated the ability to identify and establish the financial and managerial controls needed to successfully and fully implement the proposed project/program.
- X have an up-to-date external financial audit with no serious negative findings.

Outdoor Heritage Fund Proposal – 9 (continued)
Fish, Game and Wildlife Habitat Group – Metro Regional Parks

Your name: Mark Themig
Your organization: Scott County
Mailing address: G.C. 114, 200 Fourth Avenue West, Shakopee, MN 55379
Phone/fax number: 952-496-8783(w)/952-292-9233(c)/952-496-8496(f)
Email address: mthemig@co.scott.mn.us

Program/project short name: Scott County Natural Area Corridors - Porter Creek Preserve

FY10 Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars requested: \$3,920,000

Additional funds leveraged and source: \$250,000

Expected outcomes at completion (e.g., XX acres protected, restored, enhanced):

Acquire ~280 acres of highly erodible tilled land, wetland, woods, and Porter Creek from willing sellers for restoration and reuse as habitat lands, lakeshore access for fishing, taking of game, and biomass production.

Short narrative of program/project, location(s), timeline for completion and measures of success (100 words or less):

This project, located in Cedar Lake Township in Scott County, would entail fee-title acquisition and restoration of approximately 280 acres of land. The lands, consisting of woodlands, wetlands, lake shore, stream, and highly erodible agriculture, are within the county’s identified natural area corridors and adjacent to and within Doyle-Kennefick Regional Park (900 ac). The proposed acquisition is a combination of private and bank owned lands with willing sellers and is “shovel ready”.

Scott County is pursuing this collaborative acquisition and restoration project with the following agencies and purposes:

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
Soil and Water Conservation District	Conversion of agriculture lands to native plants and restoration of wetland areas
Scott Watershed Management Organization	Porter Creek restoration activities
Koda Energy/SMSC/Soil and Water Conservation District	Biomass production
New Market Sportsmens Club	Community partner for habitat restoration
Metro Bowhunters Resource Base	Controlled hunts

The acquired lands would provide significant habitat expansion areas adjacent to and partially within Doyle-Kennefick Regional Park. It would also provide permanent public access to Lennon Lake and allow future access to St. Catherine Lake - important lakes within Scott County’s shallow lake system. Removing agriculture from lower quality, highly erodible land will provide an opportunity for native plant restoration, as well as biomass production for the Koda Energy facility located in Shakopee.

Generalized budget:

Budget Item	Outdoor Heritage Fund	Other State Funds \$\$	Other Non-State Funds \$\$	Total Funds \$\$
Salaries/benefits				
Contracts			250,000	250,000
Equipment (> \$5000)				
Materials, supplies				
Travel				

Land (fee, easement)	3,920,000			3,920,000
Other (list)				
Total	3,920,000		250,000	4,170,000

Describe how long-term costs for sustaining project, monitoring and/or addressing property tax implications will be met:

The lands acquired and restored in this project would be managed by Scott County through its Parks and Trails and Natural Resources programs, with considerable technical and financial support from the Scott Watershed Management Organization and the Scott Soil and Water Conservation District. Biomass production activities will supplement operating costs.

The County currently stewards 1,090 acres of land through its parks and trails system, with plans for adding an additional 2,370 acres through 2030. In addition, over 67,000 acres of land make up the county’s identified natural area corridors, and plans are being drawn up for protecting and managing these lands through private and public ownership.

Describe how local governments will be involved/informed if relevant:

Scott County would be the lead agency. The Scott Soil and Water Conservation District and the Scott Watershed Management Organization are partners.

Describe how many Full Time Equivalent (FTE) jobs this will provide:

While the acquisition itself won’t specifically create jobs, restoration of the site and ongoing management activities will provide employment opportunities. At this time, the actual number of FTE’s is unknown.

Describe how this project will provide public access for hunting, fishing and other recreation:

This project would provide immediate lake access to Lennon Lake and accommodate access to St. Catherine Lake associated with future acquisitions. The land would be available for hunting under the county’s controlled deer hunt program coordinated with the Metro Bowhunters Association. Other hunting opportunities would be provided as part of the natural resource restoration and management plan.

Other considerations:

The “Fish, Game, and Wildlife Habitat” focus group identified five criteria as priority recommendations for Outdoor Heritage funding. This project complies with all five:

1. Readiness - This project is “shovel ready” – all property owners are willing sellers. The largest parcel (approximately 248 acres) is currently bank owned and the bank is actively marketing the property.
2. Geographic Balance - This project is located in Scott County, which would provide habitat conservation and enhancement opportunity in the metropolitan area.
3. Tie to Habitat Plan - This project is part of the Metropolitan Regional Park and Open Space system plan, as well as the county’s Natural Area Corridors plan.
4. Public Access - Public ownership would guarantee public access in perpetuity to the property.
5. Visible Outcome - The proximity of the project to Doyle-Kennefick Regional Park, the Bradshaw Lakes WMA, and St. Catherine, Lennon, and McMahon lakes make this a highly visible project.

Outdoor Heritage Fund Proposal – 9 (continued)
Fish, Game and Wildlife Habitat Group – Metro Regional Parks

Your name: Mike Kimble
Your organization: Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB)
Mailing address: 2117 West River Road
Phone/fax number: 612-230-6469 Fax: 612-230-6506
Email address: mkimble@minneapolisparcs.org

Program/project short name: Floating Fishing Piers on Minneapolis Lakes
FY10 Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars requested: \$350,000
Additional funds leveraged and source: \$0
Expected outcomes at completion (e.g., XX acres protected, restored, enhanced):
 Up to seven floating piers installed in various Minneapolis lakes (e.g., Harriet, Calhoun, Hiawatha, Calhoun, Cedar)

Short narrative of program/project, location(s), timeline for completion and measures of success (100 words or less): Install piers and routes to piers that are accessible per the Americans With Disabilities Act for fishing, general enjoyment.

Generalized budget:

Budget Item	Outdoor Heritage Fund \$\$	Other State Funds \$\$	Other Non-State Funds \$\$	Total Funds \$\$
Salaries/benefits	\$10,000			\$10,000
Contracts	\$339,000			\$339,000
Equipment (> \$5000)				
Materials, supplies				
Travel	\$1,000			\$1,000
Land (fee, easement)				
Other (list)				
Total	\$350,000			\$350,000

Describe how long-term costs for sustaining project, monitoring and/or addressing property tax implications will be met: These are relatively low maintenance, probably made of recycled plastic, and need little care. They will have to be removed in fall, installed in spring. This will be a part of our on-going regional park operations and maintenance, and may be supplemented by Met Council and state Operations & Maintenance funds.

Describe how local governments will be involved/informed if relevant: The MPRB is the local agency, along with the city of Minneapolis, which will also be informed. Other bodies will include the county and watershed districts as needed, plus adjacent official neighborhood organizations.

Describe how many Full Time Equivalent (FTE) jobs this will provide: It is estimated that this project will provide up to 5 – 7 FTE jobs for manufacture and contracting.

Describe how this project will provide public access for hunting, fishing and other recreation: This project will provide very good access for fishing and general enjoyment by providing easy and handicap accessible access far out into the lakes.

Other considerations:

Please also complete the attached information sheet as requested by the LOHC.

Additional Information Requested by LOHC

The proposal and organizational requirements listed below are provided by the LOHC (see: http://www.lohc.state.mn.us/materials/2009_rec_dev_proc.pdf). Please check the appropriate items where a space is provided to indicate your agreement, or provide a narrative answer where a response is required, and include with the previous form.

Organization: Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board

Minimum Criteria For Funding Requests

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for appropriations from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider funding requests that:

X are consistent with the uses of the OHF as specified in Article XI of the Minnesota Constitution and Minnesota Statutes 97A.056,.

X show the ability to produce significant, measurable, and enduring resource and/or habitat outcomes.

- clearly identify specific resource and/or habitat outcomes, performance measures, and a plan for measuring, evaluating and publicly reporting these outcomes over time. **Please describe:**
Successful outcome will include completion, construction inspection, regular maintenance inspections, repairs and rehab if needed. We can report to the agencies with jurisdiction, and all applicable agency officials and elected representatives. We can also post on our web site and update the public on our web site and at public Board meetings.
- reflect the best available science regarding resource and/or habitat enhancement, restoration, and protection. **Please reference any relevant plans or documents that support this:**
The MPRB's Comprehensive Plan. Science involved is presumed to be the best materials and manufacturing science to fabricate the highest quality product.

NA_ where possible and appropriate uses native plant material.

X restore or enhance resources only on property under permanent protection of fee ownership or conservation easement.

- have a plan to sustain the resource and/or habitat outcomes specified, including a plan to finance the necessary activities. **Please describe:**

This resource will be included in the MPRB's regular, on-going operations and maintenance. The MPRB employs planners and trades that will regularly inspect the facilities and make any needed adjustments.

- identify funding necessary to fully implement the project/programs(s). **Please provide any additional information not presented in the budget table on the previous sheet:**

X limit the state's exposure for additional funding for the project.
This is a one time cost for this project.

X have a process for ensuring transparency and accessibility in all stages of project/program implementation.

X seek funding to supplement (not replace) customary or usual funding sources.

NA only acquire permanent easements, if proposing less than fee simple acquisition in real property.

NA ensure that land acquired by fee with money from the OHF is open to the public taking of fish and game during the open season unless otherwise provided by law.

X commit to erect and maintain signage, to a standard to be adopted by the LOHC, crediting the OHF with support for protected, restored, or improved sites.

NA commit to replace OHF protected resources converted to a use other than that intended in the OHF appropriation on a ten replacement acres for one converted acre basis.

NA agree to not transfer the public interest in OHF fee and/or easement protected land without the written approval of the appropriate state of Minnesota authority.

Criteria To Be Met By Requesting Organizations

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for expenditures from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider requests from organization(s) that:

X have a record of successful management and implementation of project/program(s) similar in scale, scope, and complexity to the project/program(s) being requested.

X have demonstrated the ability to identify and establish the financial and managerial controls needed to successfully and fully implement the proposed project/program.

X have an up-to-date external financial audit with no serious negative findings.

Outdoor Heritage Fund Proposal – 9 (continued)
 Fish, Game and Wildlife Habitat Group – Metro Regional Parks

Your name: John Elhom
Your organization: Washington County
Mailing address: 11660 Myeron Road North
Phone/fax number: (651) 430-4303
Email address: john.elholm@co.washington.mn.us

Program/project short name: St. Croix River – Ravine Stabilization & Restoration
FY10 Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars requested: \$275,000
Additional funds leveraged and source:
Expected outcomes at completion: 25 acres of forested ravine on the St. Croix restored

Short narrative of program, including location(s), timeline for completion and measures of success:

A comprehensive study of ravines near the St. Croix River was conducted by the Washington Conservation District, in response to observed gully erosion in St. Croix Bluffs Regional Park. The study identified a top priority gully that deposits sediment behind a failing 1930s era pipe and outlet structure, and which results in sediment discharge into the St. Croix River during significant storm events. Additional data has been gathered on this ravine in preparation for repair.

Removing sediment at the base of the ravine, raising the level of the culvert inlet, and planting native cover would be completed in 2009/2010; with invasive species removal, stabilization of the primary reach of the ravine, and planting additional native ground cover occurring in 2010/2011. Success will be measured by the lack of sediment deposition into the St. Croix River during seasonal storm events.

Generalized budget:

Budget Item	Outdoor Heritage Fund \$\$	Other Funds \$\$ (amount and source)	Total Funds \$\$
Salaries/benefits			
Contracts	\$180,000		
Equipment (> \$5000)			
Materials, supplies	\$95,000		
Travel			
Land (fee, easement)			
Other (list)			
Total	\$275,000		\$275,000

Describe how long-term costs for sustaining project, monitoring and/or addressing property tax implications will be met:

Washington County has made significant investments in sustaining the quality of natural resources contained within the public lands it manages. This includes a comprehensive stormwater management program that manages, treats, and infiltrates the discharge of surface water run off. Working in partnership with the Washington Conservation District, the County annually inspects its stormwater management program and identifies areas for improvement. This project has been identified for several years and preliminary designs have been developed, but due to budget constraints this project has not been implemented.

After implementation of the restoration program, the County would manage the areas in perpetuity through the natural resources management program. The program includes periodic monitoring by the Conservation District, spot spraying of invasive species, and corrective measures to ensure long-term stability as necessary. Long-term costs would be minimized because the County has trained staff and necessary equipment to manage the areas.

Describe how local governments will be involved/informed if relevant:

Washington County has an exceptional relationship with local units of government and would include all associate partners in the planning, implementation, and on-going management of the restored area. The County would work in partnership with the Washington Conservation District and the Lower St. Croix Watershed Management Organization

Describe how many Full Time Equivalent (FTE) jobs this will provide:

This project would not create any government FTE's, but much of the work would be completed by private contractors, which would support numerous professional and technical staff from the private sector.

Describe the goals, policies, or recommendations from relevant conservation plans (Statewide Conservation and Preservation Plan, Campaign for Conservation Fifty Year Vision, State wildlife action plan - Tomorrow's Habitat for the Wild and Rare, etc.) that are met through this program/project:

This project strongly supports the goals of the Lower St. Croix Watershed Management Organization Management Plan as it relates to invasive species removal (Section IV-4, Policy 48) and erosion prevention, excessive runoff volumes, and sedimentation (Section IV-2).

The project also supports *Tomorrow's Habitat* because it restores a portion of previously identified MnDNR County Biological Survey rare plant and animal communities.

Other considerations:

The existing pipe and outlet structure are built-into a recreational walking trail (a former rail bed) that parallels the St. Croix River. In addition to offering an excellent opportunity for clean water environmental education, the trail also offers opportunities for bird watching and fishing.

Outdoor Heritage Fund Proposal

Fish, Game and Wildlife Habitat Stakeholder Group

(Please complete one for each "Program" – e.g., "WMA acquisition" and "WMA enhancement" would be 2 proposals – and keep each proposal to two pages plus attachment)

Your name: Ken Wehrle

Your organization: Ramsey County Parks and Recreation Department

Mailing address: 2015 N. Van Dyke St., Maplewood, MN 55109

Phone/fax number: (651) 748-2500 / (651) 748-2508

Email address: ken.wehrle@co.ramsey.mn.us

Program/project short name: Otter Lake Fishing Access and Shoreline Habitat Improvement

FY10 Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars requested: \$ 245,000.00

Additional funds leveraged and source: None

Expected outcomes at completion: Elimination of erosion and shoreline degradation improving lake water quality and fish habitat. Improved public access to lake for fishing and access to park areas for controlled hunting and dog training activities.

Short narrative of program/project, location(s), timeline for completion and measures of success:

Public access to Otter Lake is included in the approved Bald Eagle-Otter Lake Regional Park master plan. The approved Ramsey County Parks Natural Resources Management Plan outlines detailed natural resource management and habitat improvements. Proposed improvements will provide cleaner lake water and fishing habitat by eliminating stormwater flowing directly into the lake, eliminating erosion of the shoreline, eliminating sediments from washing into the lake and establishing better shoreline vegetation. Correcting erosion and drainage allows for improving the boat launch to DNR standards and paving parking facilities. Improvements will start fall of 2009 and be completed early summer 2010.

Generalized budget:

Budget Item	Outdoor Heritage Fund \$\$	Other Fund \$\$	Total Funds \$\$
Salaries/benefits			
Contracts	245,000		245,000
Equipment (> \$5000)			
Materials, supplies			
Travel			
Land (fee, easement)			
Other (list)			
Total	245,000		245,000

Describe how long-term costs for sustaining project, monitoring and/or addressing property tax implications will be met: On-going management and monitoring will be funded through Metropolitan Council Operating and Maintenance Grants and the Ramsey County Parks and Recreation Department's operating budget.

Describe how local governments will be involved/informed if relevant: The Bald Eagle –Otter Lake Regional Park Master Plan has been reviewed and approved by jurisdictions in the project area. All work will take place on County property within the park boundaries.

Describe how many Full Time Equivalent (FTE) jobs this will provide: Many different contractor operations will be required to complete this project. It is anticipated that approximately 15 contractor employees would complete this work. No new FTEs will be created within the county.

Describe how this project will provide public access for hunting, fishing and other recreation: Stormwater runoff creates erosion of the unimproved parking area and shoreline causing deep ruts in areas and filling in areas of the existing boat launch. Correcting drainage problems and shoreline restoration, along with improving the boat launch and parking areas will facilitate access to Otter Lake for fishing and other park areas for controlled hunting and dog training.

Other considerations: Ramsey County has a no net loss of park and open space property. The much needed Otter Lake improvements will be maintained into perpetuity.

Additional Information Requested by LOHC

The proposal and organizational requirements listed below are provided by the LOHC (see: http://www.lohc.state.mn.us/materials/2009_rec_dev_proc.pdf). Please check the appropriate items where a space is provided to indicate your agreement, or provide a narrative answer where a response is required, and include with the previous form.

Organization: Ramsey County Parks and Recreation Department

Minimum Criteria For Funding Requests

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for appropriations from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider funding requests that:

- are consistent with the uses of the OHF as specified in Article XI of the Minnesota Constitution and Minnesota Statutes 97A.056.

- show the ability to produce significant, measurable, and enduring resource and/or habitat outcomes.
 - clearly identify specific resource and/or habitat outcomes, performance measures, and a plan for measuring, evaluating and publicly reporting these outcomes over time. Please describe: Elimination of erosion, improved water quality, shoreline vegetation/habitat and fishing habitat. As soil conditions allow, Ramsey County will include porous bituminous paving in the project as a method to help control stormwater. Performance of this paving will be monitored and its applicability to future projects evaluated and reported. As part of the Ramsey County Parks and Recreation's Natural Resources Management Plan, the County routinely monitors vegetation and wildlife populations within its properties. This will continue.
 - reflect the best available science regarding resource and/or habitat enhancement, restoration, and protection. Please reference any relevant plans or documents that support this: The Ramsey County Parks and Recreation Department's Natural Resources Management Plan was approved by the County Board in September 2008. The goal of this plan is "To Provide Adequate Sustainable Habitat to Support Populations of Native Wildlife Species Within the County's Park System". Wildlife species targeted are defined in the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, *Tomorrow's Habitat for the Wild and Rare Species Guide*.

- where possible and appropriate uses native plant material.

- restore or enhance resources only on property under permanent protection of fee ownership or conservation easement.
 - have a plan to sustain the resource and/or habitat outcomes specified, including a plan to finance the necessary activities. Please describe: Ramsey County Parks allocates annual funding for natural resources management. Otter Lake is within the regional park system and is eligible for Metropolitan Park Operations and Maintenance funding.
 - identify funding necessary to fully implement the project/programs(s). Please provide any additional information not presented in the budget table on the previous sheet:

- limit the state's exposure for additional funding for the project.
- have a process for ensuring transparency and accessibility in all stages of project/program implementation.
- seek funding to supplement (not replace) customary or usual funding sources.
- only acquire permanent easements, if proposing less than fee simple acquisition in real property.
- ensure that land acquired by fee with money from the OHF is open to the public taking of fish and game during the open season unless otherwise provided by law.
- commit to erect and maintain signage, to a standard to be adopted by the LOHC, crediting the OHF with support for protected, restored, or improved sites.
- commit to replace OHF protected resources converted to a use other than that intended in the OHF appropriation on a ten replacement acres for one converted acre basis.
- agree to not transfer the public interest in OHF fee and/or easement protected land without the written approval of the appropriate state of Minnesota authority.

Criteria To Be Met By Requesting Organizations

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for expenditures from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider requests from organization(s) that:

- have a record of successful management and implementation of project/program(s) similar in scale, scope, and complexity to the project/program(s) being requested.
- have demonstrated the ability to identify and establish the financial and managerial controls needed to successfully and fully implement the proposed project/program.
- have an up-to-date external financial audit with no serious negative findings.

Outdoor Heritage Fund Proposal – 9 (continued)
Fish, Game and Wildlife Habitat Group – Metro Regional Parks

Your name: Adam Robbins
Your organization: Saint Paul Parks and Recreation
Mailing address: 1100 Hamline Ave N., Saint Paul, MN 55108
Phone/fax number: 651-632-2457(phone) 651-632-5115(fax)
Email address: adam.robbins@ci.stpaul.mn.us

Program/project short name: Urban Fish and Wildlife Habitat
FY10 Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars requested: \$300,000
Additional funds leveraged and source: \$75,000

- \$35,000 City and partner cash and in-kind salary match
- \$5,000 materials and equipment in-kind
- \$35,000 in-kind volunteer labor

Expected outcomes at completion (e.g., XX acres protected, restored, enhanced): Create a minimum of ten fishing access points, restore 4,000 and improve 8,000 linear feet of shoreland, control forty acres of non-native invasive aquatic weeds, and engage 500 community volunteers.

Short narrative of program/project, location(s), timeline for completion and measures of success (100 words or less):

Program goals:

- Enhance existing shoreland ecological restoration projects and aquatic native plant communities.
- Create informal fishing access points and critical fish and wildlife habitat.
- Implement BMPs to reduce sedimentation, erosion, and nutrient loading.
- Curly-leaf pondweed control at Lake Como and Eurasian watermilfoil control at Lake Phalen.
- Volunteers will be an integral component of restoration efforts.

Target lakes will include Phalen, Como (nutrient and mercury impaired), and Pickerel (mercury impaired). Projects will be completed by June 30, 2011. Our success will be measured by greater lake access for park patrons, and improved fish and wildlife habitat.

Generalized budget:

Budget Item	Outdoor Heritage Fund \$\$	Other State Funds \$\$	Other Non-State Funds \$\$	Total Funds \$\$
Salaries/benefits	\$40,000		\$35,000	\$75,000
Contracts	\$220,000			\$220,000
Equipment (> \$5000)			\$3,000	\$3,000
Materials, supplies	\$40,000		\$2,000	\$42,000
Travel				
Land (fee, easement)				
Other (list)			\$35,000 (volunteer labor)	\$35,000
<u>Total</u>	\$300,000		\$75,000	\$375,000

Describe how long-term costs for sustaining project, monitoring and/or addressing property tax implications will be met:

- Saint Paul Parks Natural Resource staff, along with various partnering agencies, engaged over 3,200 volunteers, totaling 11,000 hours, in our natural areas in 2008. Our goal is to increase this volunteer commitment by 10% in 2009 & in 2010.
- Saint Paul Parks and Recreation has previously, or is in the process of, restoring parkland adjacent to the proposed project locations. Current management activities can be easily modified to include new acreage created through this program.
- Management plans exist for these sites. These plans identify well-timed maintenance, site monitoring activities, water quality monitoring, and overall management goals and objectives.
 - Lilydale Regional Park Natural Resources Management Plan (2009)
 - Lake Phalen Shoreland Restoration Plan (2001)
 - The Como Lake Strategic Management Plan (2002)

Describe how local governments will be involved/informed if relevant:

The Saint Paul City Council, affected district councils, and district council committees will be notified and encouraged to participate in the marketing of this program. As Saint Paul Parks and Recreation relies on volunteer involvement to maintain the natural areas within our park system, we will solicit volunteers from the surrounding neighborhood and the greater Saint Paul community through press releases, on-site publicity, postcard mailings, and through partnering agencies.

Describe how many Full Time Equivalent (FTE) jobs this will provide: 3.5 FTE jobs

Describe how this project will provide public access for hunting, fishing and other recreation:

City of Saint Paul ordinance prohibits hunting on parkland unless authorized through special permit. All city parkland is open to public fishing. This project will create a minimum of ten informal fishing access points and improve critical fish and wildlife habitat at three urban lakes. In addition to improved fishing experiences, this program will also provide park visitors with enhanced wildlife viewing opportunities.

Other considerations:

Lake Phalen and Lake Como are active fisheries and have been routinely stocked by the Minnesota DNR. Lake Como and Pickerel Lake are shallow lakes and, as a result, have aeration systems that protect these fisheries during winter months. More than 4,000,000 visitors visit Como, Phalen, and Lilydale (Pickerel Lake) Regional Parks on an annual basis.

Minnesota Statewide Conservation and Preservation Plan (11/01/2008) recommendations fulfilled by this program:

H1 – Protect priority land habitats

H2 – Protect critical shorelands of streams & lakes

H3 – Improve connectivity and access to recreation

H4 – Restore and protect shallow lakes

H5 – Restore land, wetlands and wetland-associated watersheds

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

H7 – Keep water on the landscape

H13 – Habitat and landscape conservation and training programs for all citizens

Additional Information Requested by LOHC

The proposal and organizational requirements listed below are provided by the LOHC (see: http://www.lohc.state.mn.us/materials/2009_rec_dev_proc.pdf). Please check the appropriate items where a space is provided to indicate your agreement, or provide a narrative answer where a response is required, and include with the previous form.

Organization: **Saint Paul Parks and Recreation**

Minimum Criteria For Funding Requests

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for appropriations from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider funding requests that:

are consistent with the uses of the OHF as specified in Article XI of the Minnesota Constitution and Minnesota Statutes 97A.056,.

show the ability to produce significant, measurable, and enduring resource and/or habitat outcomes.

- clearly identify specific resource and/or habitat outcomes, performance measures, and a plan for measuring, evaluating and publicly reporting these outcomes over time. **Please describe:**
- reflect the best available science regarding resource and/or habitat enhancement, restoration, and protection. **Please reference any relevant plans or documents that support this:**

where possible and appropriate uses native plant material.

restore or enhance resources only on property under permanent protection of fee ownership or conservation easement.

- have a plan to sustain the resource and/or habitat outcomes specified, including a plan to finance the necessary activities. **Please describe:**
- identify funding necessary to fully implement the project/programs(s). **Please provide any additional information not presented in the budget table on the previous sheet:**

limit the state's exposure for additional funding for the project.

have a process for ensuring transparency and accessibility in all stages of project/program implementation.

seek funding to supplement (not replace) customary or usual funding sources.

only acquire permanent easements, if proposing less than fee simple acquisition in real property.

ensure that land acquired by fee with money from the OHF is open to the public taking of fish and game during the open season unless otherwise provided by law.

____ commit to erect and maintain signage, to a standard to be adopted by the LOHC, crediting the OHF with support for protected, restored, or improved sites.

____ commit to replace OHF protected resources converted to a use other than that intended in the OHF appropriation on a ten replacement acres for one converted acre basis.

____ agree to not transfer the public interest in OHF fee and/or easement protected land without the written approval of the appropriate state of Minnesota authority.

Criteria To Be Met By Requesting Organizations

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for expenditures from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider requests from organization(s) that:

____ have a record of successful management and implementation of project/program(s) similar in scale, scope, and complexity to the project/program(s) being requested.

____ have demonstrated the ability to identify and establish the financial and managerial controls needed to successfully and fully implement the proposed project/program.

____ have an up-to-date external financial audit with no serious negative findings.

Outdoor Heritage Fund Proposal – 9 (continued)
Fish, Game and Wildlife Habitat Group – Metro Regional Parks

Your name: John M. Barten
Your organization: Three Rivers Park District
Mailing address: 3000 Xenium Lane, Plymouth, MN 55441
Phone/fax number: 763-694-7841 fax- 763-557-4943
Email address: jbarten@threeriversparkdistrict.org

Program/project short name: Lake Rebecca Water Quality Improvement Project

FY10 Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars requested: \$ 450,000

Additional funds leveraged and source: \$ 100,000

Expected outcomes at completion (e.g., XX acres protected, restored, enhanced): This project will improve the water quality of Lake Rebecca in Lake Rebecca Park Reserve, and improve the fish habitat in the premier muskellunge rearing lake in Minnesota.

Short narrative of program/project, location(s), timeline for completion and measures of success (100 words or less):

This project includes construction of a nutrient detention basin to reduce phosphorus inflow to Lake Rebecca, control of the invasive species curly-leaf pondweed and application of alum (aluminum sulfate) to reduce internal phosphorus loading. The main objective is to reduce the in-lake phosphorus concentration to less than 40 ppb and thus improve lake water clarity and quality. Curly-leaf pondweed control will be initiated in the spring of 2009 and continue annually for five years. The alum treatment will occur in fall 2013.

Generalized budget:

Budget Item	Outdoor Heritage Fund \$\$	Other State Funds \$\$	Other Non-State Funds \$\$	Total Funds \$\$
Salaries/benefits			\$100,000	\$100,000
Contracts	\$224,000			\$224,000
Equipment (> \$5000)				
Materials, supplies				
Travel				
Land (fee, easement)				
Other (list)				
Total	\$224,000		\$100,000	\$324,000

Describe how long-term costs for sustaining project, monitoring and/or addressing property tax implications will be met:

Lake Rebecca is located in Lake Rebecca Park Reserve owned by Three Rivers Park District. Lake improvements are included in the Park District Capital Improvement Program awaiting sufficient funding to implement. The Park District has an on-going monitoring and management program designed to maintain and improve water quality. This Lake Rebecca had been listed as an Impaired Water by the MPCA and the Park District is cooperating with the Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission to complete a TMDL study of Lake Rebecca. Restoration and protection of the lake a high priority for the Park District.

Describe how local governments will be involved/informed if relevant:

There will be significant involvement by local governments in this project. The Park District works closely with the Pioneer-Sarah Creek WMO and local municipalities to protect water resources. Improvement of Lake Rebecca was identified in the WMO plan as a high priority task. The Park District will work through the WMO to keep local communities apprised of the project.

Describe how many Full Time Equivalent (FTE) jobs this will provide:

Approximately 1.0 FTE jobs will be provided by this project.

Describe how this project will provide public access for hunting, fishing and other recreation:

Restoration of the lake will significantly improve bass, sunfish and muskellunge fishing in this public resource. In addition, improved water quality in the lake will improve muskie growth and egg production, thus, potentially improving muskie stocking in numerous lakes in MN.

Other considerations:

Please also complete the attached information sheet as requested by the LOHC.

Additional Information Requested by LOHC

The proposal and organizational requirements listed below are provided by the LOHC (see: http://www.lohc.state.mn.us/materials/2009_rec_dev_proc.pdf). Please check the appropriate items where a space is provided to indicate your agreement, or provide a narrative answer where a response is required, and include with the previous form.

Organization: **Three Rivers Park District**

Minimum Criteria For Funding Requests

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for appropriations from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider funding requests that:

are consistent with the uses of the OHF as specified in Article XI of the Minnesota Constitution and Minnesota Statutes 97A.056,.

show the ability to produce significant, measurable, and enduring resource and/or habitat outcomes.

- clearly identify specific resource and/or habitat outcomes, performance measures, and a plan for measuring, evaluating and publicly reporting these outcomes over time. **Please describe:**
This project will restore a degraded lake in Lake Rebecca Park Reserve, with the intent to improve public recreation including swimming, boating and fishing. The Park District has a comprehensive water quality monitoring program to collect phosphorus, clarity and algae data on the lake. The monitoring program will continue following restoration. In addition to posting the data on the Park District web site, the district prepares annual water resources reports, and included all data in the Pioneer Sarah WMO annual report.
- reflect the best available science regarding resource and/or habitat enhancement, restoration, and protection. **Please reference any relevant plans or documents that support this:**
All components of the restoration program follow BMP's recommended by the EPA and MPCA for lake restoration.

where possible and appropriate uses native plant material.

restore or enhance resources only on property under permanent protection of fee ownership or conservation easement.

- have a plan to sustain the resource and/or habitat outcomes specified, including a plan to finance the necessary activities. **Please describe:**
Three Rivers Park District is cooperating with the Pioneer Sarah Creek WMO, the MPCA and local municipalities to complete a comprehensive TMDL study of Lake Rebecca. This study will identify the management components necessary to protect and sustain the lake following restoration. These specific components will be included in municipal SWPPP Plans and permits from the MPCA.
- identify funding necessary to fully implement the project/programs(s). **Please provide any additional information not presented in the budget table on the previous sheet:**

Three Rivers Park District staff will provide project oversight and monitoring, and assist with final design. These costs were not included in the LOHC request.

- limit the state's exposure for additional funding for the project.
- have a process for ensuring transparency and accessibility in all stages of project/program implementation.
- seek funding to supplement (not replace) customary or usual funding sources.
- N/A only acquire permanent easements, if proposing less than fee simple acquisition in real property.
- N/A ensure that land acquired by fee with money from the OHF is open to the public taking of fish and game during the open season unless otherwise provided by law.
- commit to erect and maintain signage, to a standard to be adopted by the LOHC, crediting the OHF with support for protected, restored, or improved sites.
- commit to replace OHF protected resources converted to a use other than that intended in the OHF appropriation on a ten replacement acres for one converted acre basis.
- N/A agree to not transfer the public interest in OHF fee and/or easement protected land without the written approval of the appropriate state of Minnesota authority.

Criteria To Be Met By Requesting Organizations

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for expenditures from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider requests from organization(s) that:

- have a record of successful management and implementation of project/program(s) similar in scale, scope, and complexity to the project/program(s) being requested.
- have demonstrated the ability to identify and establish the financial and managerial controls needed to successfully and fully implement the proposed project/program.
- have an up-to-date external financial audit with no serious negative findings.

Outdoor Heritage Fund Proposal – 9 (continued)
Fish, Game and Wildlife Habitat Group – Metro Regional Parks

Your name: Martin Walsh
Your organization: Carver County
Mailing address: 11360 Hwy 212 West Cologne, MN 55322
Phone/fax number: 952-466-5252
Email address: mwalsh@co.carver.mn.us

Program/project short name: Lake Waconia Shore land Preservation/Public Watercraft Access
FY10 Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars requested: \$3,466,800

Additional funds leveraged and source: \$1,053,200 Metropolitan Council

Expected outcomes at completion:

Preservation of 19.25 acres and 915 feet of shoreline on Lake Waconia and provide land for public watercraft access.

Short narrative of program/project, location(s), timeline for completion and measures of success (100 words or less): The proposed project is located in central Carver County and protects riparian land and shoreline habitat on Lake Waconia, the second largest lake in the metropolitan area. This proposed acquisition is a part of a larger conservation and recreation project of Lake Waconia Regional Park. The master plan for the area identifies the project site for conservation and for watercraft access. Project timeline to complete acquisition is December 31, 2009. The owner of the site is a willing seller.

Generalized budget:

Budget Item	Outdoor Heritage Fund \$\$	Other Fund \$\$	Total Funds \$\$
Salaries/benefits	\$0	\$5,000	\$5,000
Contracts		\$2,000	\$2,000
Equipment (> \$5000)	\$0	\$0	
Materials, supplies	\$0	\$0	
Travel	\$0	\$0	
Land (fee, easement)	\$3,466,800	\$1,053,200	\$4,500,000
Other (list)			
Total	\$3,466,800	\$1,060,200	\$4,507,000

Describe how long-term costs for sustaining project, monitoring and/or addressing property tax implications will be met: After the initial acquisition of the site, operations and maintenance funding would be provided by Carver County and the Metropolitan Council as a part of ongoing relationship to administer regional parks and open space. Carver County is staffed to administer and maintain the site. Carver County currently administers large recreation and conservation features at 3 regional park areas within the county. Once the site is acquired by the County initial property tax is paid at time of closing. The owner is responsible for that portion of the tax before the acquisition and the County responsible for that portion after the acquisition. The property will be recorded as public; will have a tax exempt status and a restrictive covenant placed on it keeping this land for public

conservation. Tax equivalency payments are also made to taxing jurisdiction after the purchase of property. Studies have shown

that parks and open space actually improve property values of adjacent properties increasing local tax revenue. Carver County will continue to support general fund tax dollars being used to manage the area not supplanting its financial commitment to the site.

Describe how local governments will be involved/informed if relevant: Local Government and members of the public have been involved in the comprehensive planning related to the park. These Plans include local park master plan documents of 1975, 1995, 2001 Carver County Comprehensive Plans; 1975, 2000, 2009 (Draft), Metropolitan Council Policy Plans dated; 1991, 2001 and the most recent 2030 Policy Plan. The public will have an ongoing involvement with the property. This includes participation at the County Board meetings and citizen representation on the County Park Commission. This land would be open to public use and enjoyment.

Describe how many Full Time Equivalent (FTE) jobs this will provide: The acquisition of the site will continue to support the existing 9.91 FTE's of the county park system.

Describe how this project will provide public access for hunting, fishing and other recreation: Lake Waconia is a tremendous fishery. The site is planned for a boat access. The master plan for the area describes the boat access as having 40 stalls with trailers and an additional 20 stalls for ancillary parking. The boat facility will provide access to 3080 acres of water on the second largest lake in the metropolitan area. Currently the lake is underserved by limited public access.

Other considerations:

Program Readiness: The proposed acquisition is a part of an existing land acquisition program on Lake Waconia to create conservation space and public access. Carver County is ready to assume full responsibility for the site. Public processes identifying the area for acquisition have been completed and a master plan developed. An appraisal for the site has been completed. The land is for sale by a willing seller.

Geographic Balance: Lake Waconia is located in the suburban west area of the metropolitan area.

Public Access: The site would be immediately open to the public as it is a part of a larger 130 acre conservation and recreation program on Lake Waconia. Survey data collected by the Metropolitan Council show 96,000 user visits to the conservation and park area annually. Infrastructure of roadways already exists to provide access to the site. Supporting infrastructure includes restrooms, picnic shelter and beach area.

Please also complete the attached information sheet as requested by the LOHC.

Program Not a Project: This proposed land acquisition is a part of an ongoing program to provide conservation and recreation space and is not a standalone project. The acquisition is supported both in local planning documents of comprehensive plans and master plans for the site. Acquisition is also

supported in the Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Systems Plan. Approximately 107 acres has already been purchased and donated to this program.

Outdoor Heritage Fund Proposal - 10

Fish, Game and Wildlife Habitat Group

Your name: Mark Ebbers
Your organization: MN DNR – Fish and Wildlife
Mailing address: 500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155
Phone/fax number: 651/259-5205 651/297-4916 (fax)
Email address: mark.ebbers@dnr.state.mn.us

Program/project short name: River and Stream Habitat Restoration and Enhancement Program

FY10 Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars requested: \$1,250,000

Additional funds leveraged and source: \$XXX,XXX (Fish Habitat Partnership project funds – est. federal FY09-10); \$XXX,XXX (Trout Stamp funds); \$XXX,XXX (local match)

Expected outcomes at completion (e.g., XX acres protected, restored, enhanced):

- Completion of one by-pass channel on the Mississippi River in Little Falls, which will reconnect the river from Sartell to Brainerd (a restoration of over 30 river miles currently inaccessible from below the dam).
- Stream channel stabilization and restoration along ½ mile of stream.
- Maintenance (brushing, fencing, signage, invasive species removal, etc.) along 3-5 miles of trout stream within angler access easement corridors.
- Program includes survey and assessment sampling to evaluate effectiveness of restoration and enhancement project activities.

Short narrative of program/project, location(s), timeline for completion and measures of success (100 words or less):

This program will restore and enhance river and stream habitats for fish, game and wildlife. The program uses existing statewide conservation plans and National Fish Habitat Action Plan strategies to prioritize work areas and project types.

By-pass Channel: Mississippi River in Little Falls; final design/build plans by 12/2009 and construction during 2010-2011; Passage of fish upstream past the current barrier.

Channel Restoration and Enhancement: Southeastern Minnesota; Engineering by 12/2009 and construction in 2010; Reduced sedimentation and improved usage by fish

Maintenance: Primarily in northeastern and southeastern Minnesota; Immediate start-up and continuation through October 2011; Improved access for stream anglers.

Generalized budget:

Budget Item	Outdoor Heritage Fund \$\$	Other State Funds \$\$	Other Non-State Funds \$\$	Total Funds \$\$
Salaries/benefits				
Program admin	\$50,000/0.5 FTE			\$50,000
Seasonal labor	\$120,000/6 FTE			\$120,000

Monitoring crew	\$20,000/0.3 FTE			\$20,000
Contracts				
By-pass channel	\$750,000			\$750,000
Engineering plans	\$25,000			\$25,000
Stream restoration	\$200,000			\$200,000
Equipment (> \$5000)	\$25,000			\$25,000
Materials, supplies	\$60,000			\$60,000
<u>Total</u>	\$1,250,000		\$	\$1,250,000

Describe how long-term costs for sustaining project, monitoring and/or addressing property tax implications will be met:

This program will provide the necessary assessment capacity to ensure measurable project outcomes that contribute toward the goals of the Statewide Conservation and Preservation Plan and the National Fish Habitat Action Plan. Project monitoring is integrated into an overall framework for delivering stream and river restoration work on a statewide basis. The framework consists of targeted site selection, pre-assessment, project design, implementation, post-assessment, communication of outcomes, and adaptive management. Monitoring and assessment will ensure that projects meet specified goals and that any maintenance or modifications are identified.

Describe how local governments will be involved/informed if relevant:

The Department of Natural Resources is partnering with local units of government and other interests to restore natural connections by removing barriers to fish migration, enhancing fish habitat, restoring natural channel functions, and stabilizing shorelines and stream buffers. To the greatest extent possible, this program will use plans that scale down from overarching statewide guidance plans to local plans that strategically address restoring or enhancing aquatic system functions. The DNR will work with appropriate local units of government, other state agencies, and landowners to implement projects. As an example within this proposal, the City of Little Falls is a partner in the by-pass channel project.

Describe how many Full Time Equivalent (FTE) jobs this will provide:

This project will require 0.5 FTE to administer the program. An additional 6 FTE are proposed as local seasonal laborers for stream corridor maintenance work. DNR staff time to conduct pre- and post-assessment of project sites will require an additional 0.3 FTE. Other jobs will result from contract work involving heavy equipment operators and site work by laborers.

Describe how this project will provide public access for hunting, fishing and other recreation:

Program activities will occur on existing public access trout stream easement corridors or, in the case of the by-pass channel, on city parkland. These projects will provide enhanced angling opportunities for shore anglers.

Other considerations: This program positions the State to leverage significant federal matching dollars being distributed through Fish Habitat Partnerships, a regional network of stakeholder driven entities (much like waterfowl joint ventures) nested under the National Fish Habitat Action Plan (NFHAP). Minnesota has five partnerships that overlap the state including the Driftless Area Restoration Effort (DARE), the Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership, and Fishers and Farmers Fish

Habitat Partnership. Additional partnerships are forming in the Red River Valley and the Great Lakes basin.

Additional Information Requested by LOHC

The proposal and organizational requirements listed below are provided by the LOHC (see: http://www.lohc.state.mn.us/materials/2009_rec_dev_proc.pdf). Please check the appropriate items where a space is provided to indicate your agreement, or provide a narrative answer where a response is required, and include with the previous form.

Organization: **MN DNR – Division of Fish & Wildlife, Section of Fisheries (River and Streams Restoration and Enhancement Program)**

Minimum Criteria For Funding Requests

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for appropriations from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider funding requests that:

- are consistent with the uses of the OHF as specified in Article XI of the Minnesota Constitution and Minnesota Statutes 97A.056.
- show the ability to produce significant, measurable, and enduring resource and/or habitat outcomes.
- clearly identify specific resource and/or habitat outcomes, performance measures, and a plan for measuring, evaluating and publicly reporting these outcomes over time. **Please describe:**
MN DNR has existing criteria for shoreline restoration projects, stream bank stabilization techniques, and other relevant performance measures. Additionally, the NFHAP framework seeks to accomplish strategic outcomes at the system level.
- reflect the best available science regarding resource and/or habitat enhancement, restoration, and protection. **Please reference any relevant plans or documents that support this:**
The Minnesota Conservation and Preservation Plan has in sections H2 the protection of shoreland of streams and lakes, H6 the protection of restoration of critical in-water habitat of lakes and streams, H7 keeping water on the landscape, H8 to review and analyze drainage, and H3 to improve connectivity as priorities. The DNR “Strategic Conservation Agenda” has on page 65-66 priorities that relate to this program. The DNR – Section of Fisheries Management long-range plan has these items listed under Core Functions 2 & 4.
- where possible and appropriate uses native plant material.
- restore or enhance resources only on property under permanent protection of fee ownership or conservation easement.
- have a plan to sustain the resource and/or habitat outcomes specified, including a plan to finance the necessary activities. **Please describe:**
- identify funding necessary to fully implement the project/programs(s). **Please provide any additional information not presented in the budget table on the previous sheet:**
- limit the state's exposure for additional funding for the project.

have a process for ensuring transparency and accessibility in all stages of project/program implementation.

seek funding to supplement (not replace) customary or usual funding sources.

N/A only acquire permanent easements, if proposing less than fee simple acquisition in real property.

N/A ensure that land acquired by fee with money from the OHF is open to the public taking of fish and game during the open season unless otherwise provided by law.

commit to erect and maintain signage, to a standard to be adopted by the LOHC, crediting the OHF with support for protected, restored, or improved sites.

N/A commit to replace OHF protected resources converted to a use other than that intended in the OHF appropriation on a ten replacement acres for one converted acre basis.

N/A agree to not transfer the public interest in OHF fee and/or easement protected land without the written approval of the appropriate state of Minnesota authority.

Criteria To Be Met By Requesting Organizations

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for expenditures from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider requests from organization(s) that:

have a record of successful management and implementation of project/program(s) similar in scale, scope, and complexity to the project/program(s) being requested.

have demonstrated the ability to identify and establish the financial and managerial controls needed to successfully and fully implement the proposed project/program.

have an up-to-date external financial audit with no serious negative findings.

Outdoor Heritage Fund Proposal - 11

Fish, Game and Wildlife Habitat Group

Your name: Julene Boe

Your organization: St. Louis River Citizens Action Committee, dba St. Louis River Alliance

Mailing address: 394 S Lake Ave Suite 321, Duluth, MN 55802

Phone/fax number: (218) 733-9520 FAX (218) 723-4794

Email address: slrcac@stlouisriver.org

Program/project short name: Lower St. Louis River Habitat Plan/Knowlton Creek Watershed Rehabilitation Program

FY10 Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars requested: \$1,8650,000.

Additional funds leveraged and source: \$12,100,000 (\$ 6,100,000 for City of Duluth's Water Infrastructure Project at Spirit Mt. Recreation Area; \$5,000,000 for the Tallus Island Estuary Restoration Project from the Stryker Bay Superfund mitigation; and \$1,000,000 requested by the City of Duluth for Habitat Restoration from National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration.)

Expected outcomes at completion (e.g., XX acres protected, restored, enhanced): The rehabilitation of the entire Knowlton Creek watershed, which is 2.5 square miles, through protection, restoration and enhancement. The watershed contains 2.73 miles of the mainstem stream and 1.62 miles of tributaries. This program is designed to restore the natural watershed function and to protect further sedimentation into a 23 acre St. Louis River Estuary backwater complex.

Short narrative of program/project, location(s), timeline for completion and measures of success (100 words or less): This program will involve restoring and protecting the Knowlton Creek watershed by reconstructing stream channels, stabilizing stream banks, replacing crossing structures, such as culverts, and bridges to reduce erosion issues, removing sediment, riparian restoration, reconnecting wildlife forest complexes, and implementing run off controls of the snow melt from the City of Duluth's Spirit Mt. Recreation Area that has been a large part of the sedimentation problem for the watershed. The projects of this program will begin in the summer of 2009 and be completed by fall of 2011. The success of this project will be measured by reducing the sedimentation in this stream and improving fish and wildlife habitat.

Generalized budget:

Budget Item	Outdoor Heritage Fund \$\$	Other State Funds \$\$	Other Non-State Funds \$\$	Total Funds \$\$
Salaries/benefits	\$150,000		\$50,000	\$200,000
Contracts	\$1,402,500		\$12,100,000	\$13,502,500
Equipment (> \$5000)				
Materials, supplies	\$10,000			\$10,000
Travel	\$2,500		0	\$2,500
Land (fee, easement)	0		0	0
Other (list)	\$300,000		\$12,000	\$312,000
Engineering Costs				

<u>Total</u>	\$1,865,000		\$12,162,000	\$14,027,000
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Describe how long-term costs for sustaining project, monitoring and/or addressing property tax implications will be met: This program will help protect and sustain natural watershed function and protect this watershed from further sedimentation degradation. There will be long term cost savings by improving the habitat within this watershed as well as improving habitat of the St. Louis River. Monitoring costs will be met through additional grants and partnerships with qualified agencies and/or groups.

Describe how local governments will be involved/informed if relevant: This program is the result of several governmental and non-governmental entities that have formed the Knowlton Creek Partnership for the purpose of improving this watershed. The City of Duluth owns the Spirit Mt. Recreation Area, which will be implementing major water infrastructure improvements that reduces its impact on the environment, including its impact on the Knowlton Creek and St. Louis River watersheds. The City of Duluth is also currently seeking \$1 million for habitat restoration from the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for funding portions of this program. The Spirit Valley Citizens Neighborhood Development Association is also serving as a conduit for information between project partners and government units on all levels.

Describe how many Full Time Equivalent (FTE) jobs this will provide: One full time employee to manage the program for two years. On the ground work, design, and accounting will be contracted with local firms employing an estimated five to twelve people for each of the different parts of this program)

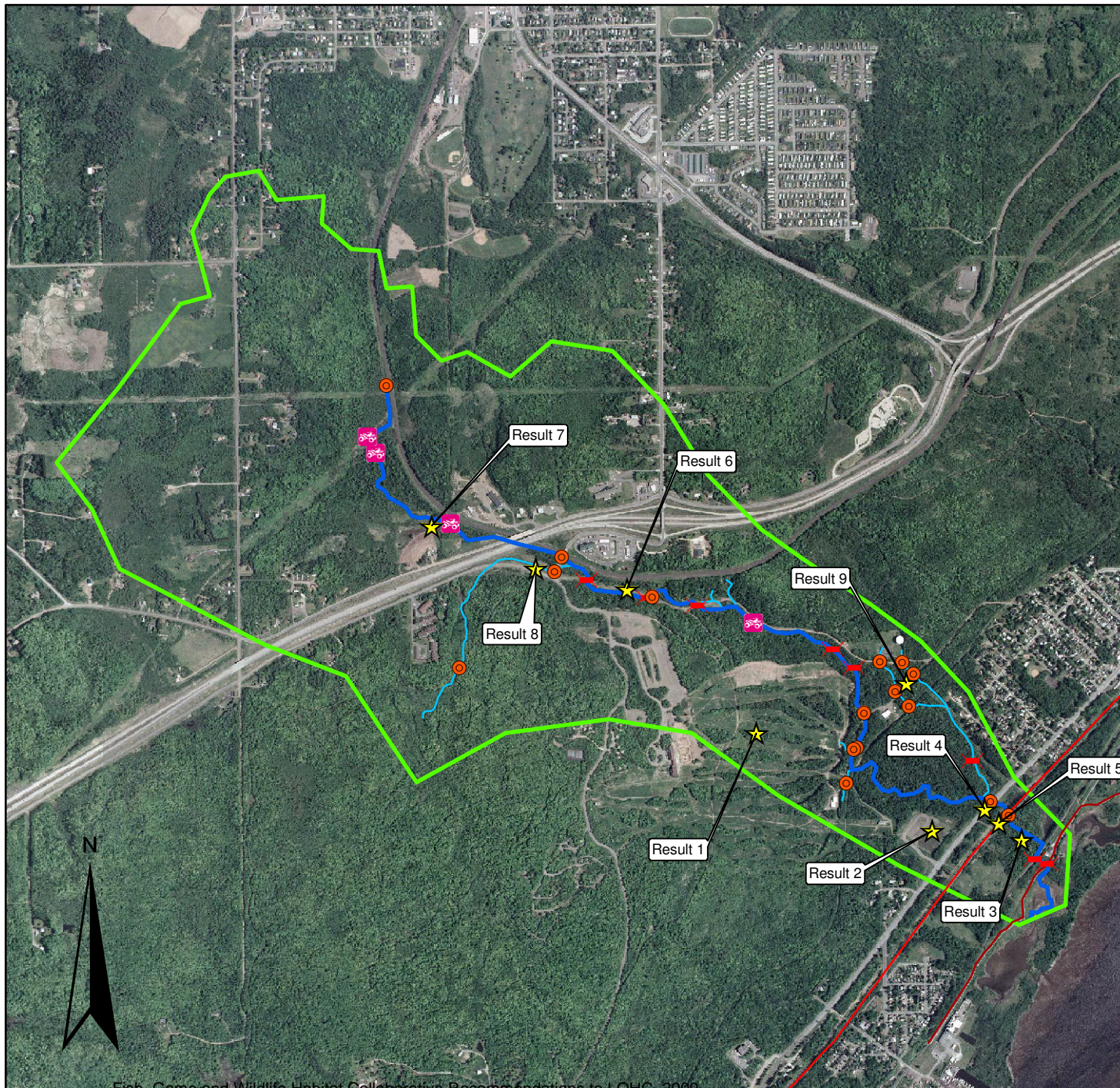
Describe how this project will provide public access for hunting, fishing and other recreation: Knowlton Creek is a recently designated trout stream. The successful rehabilitation of this watershed is critical to increasing trout fishing opportunities for the public. This project will also improve the fish and wildlife habitat of the St. Louis River. Over 60% of the stream lies on public property and is available for fishing and other outdoor activities.

Other considerations:

This watershed rehabilitation program is part of the Lower St. Louis River Habitat Plan, which is a major component of the Remedial Action Plan that was developed for the St. Louis River after it was listed as an Area of Concern on the Great Lakes. The proposed projects of this program are deemed critical because they are needed to help protect the \$5 million Tallus Island Restoration Project in the lower wetlands of this watershed that will be completed in 2010 as the mitigation portion of the \$50 million Stryker Bay Superfund project on the St. Louis River.

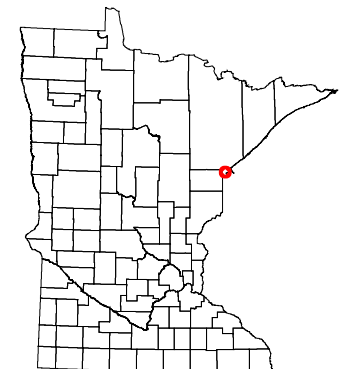
Please also complete the attached information sheet as requested by the LOHC.

Knowlton Creek Watershed



- ★ Result Areas
- ATV Crossing
- Bridge
- Culvert
- Western Waterfront Trail
- Munger State Trail
- Knowlton Watershed
- Knowlton Creek
- Knowlton Tributaries

St. Louis Estuary



Additional Information Requested by LOHC

The proposal and organizational requirements listed below are provided by the LOHC (see: http://www.lohc.state.mn.us/materials/2009_rec_dev_proc.pdf). Please check the appropriate items where a space is provided to indicate your agreement, or provide a narrative answer where a response is required, and include with the previous form.

Organization: **St. Louis River Citizens Action Committee - dba St. Louis River Alliance**

Minimum Criteria For Funding Requests

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for appropriations from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider funding requests that:

- x are consistent with the uses of the OHF as specified in Article XI of the Minnesota Constitution and Minnesota Statutes 97A.056,.
- x show the ability to produce significant, measurable, and enduring resource and/or habitat outcomes.
 - clearly identify specific resource and/or habitat outcomes, performance measures, and a plan for measuring, evaluating and publicly reporting these outcomes over time.
Please describe: *This program will reduce erosion, improve water quality, improve habitat for brook trout, game and non-game wildlife. The program will restore natural flow patterns, reduce sedimentation and stabilize stream banks.*
 - reflect the best available science regarding resource and/or habitat enhancement, restoration, and protection.
Please reference any relevant plans or documents that support this: *This program is part of the Lower St. Louis River Habitat Plan. It is part of the plan's strategy to implement best management practices to control sedimentation and to protect water quality.*
- x where possible and appropriate uses native plant material.
- x restore or enhance resources only on property under permanent protection of fee ownership or conservation easement.
 - have a plan to sustain the resource and/or habitat outcomes specified, including a plan to finance the necessary activities.
Please describe: *This program is designed to rehabilitate the entire watershed and protect it from further degradation. The project will address a source of significant environmental impact on this watershed, thus protecting and sustaining this resource in the long run.*
 - identify funding necessary to fully implement the project/programs(s). **Please provide any additional information not presented in the budget table on the previous sheet:**
- x limit the state's exposure for additional funding for the project.
- x have a process for ensuring transparency and accessibility in all stages of project/program implementation.
- x seek funding to supplement (not replace) customary or usual funding sources.

- only acquire permanent easements, if proposing less than fee simple acquisition in real property.
- ensure that land acquired by fee with money from the OHF is open to the public taking of fish and game during the open season unless otherwise provided by law.
- commit to erect and maintain signage, to a standard to be adopted by the LOHC, crediting the OHF with support for protected, restored, or improved sites.
- commit to replace OHF protected resources converted to a use other than that intended in the OHF appropriation on a ten replacement acres for one converted acre basis.
- agree to not transfer the public interest in OHF fee and/or easement protected land without the written approval of the appropriate state of Minnesota authority.

Criteria To Be Met By Requesting Organizations

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for expenditures from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider requests from organization(s) that:

- have a record of successful management and implementation of project/program(s) similar in scale, scope, and complexity to the project/program(s) being requested.

The St. Louis River Citizens Action Committee, dba St. Louis River Alliance has successfully managed and implemented programs and projects worth over \$900,000. A list of these projects will be provided upon request.

- have demonstrated the ability to identify and establish the financial and managerial controls needed to successfully and fully implement the proposed project/program.

- have an up-to-date external financial audit with no serious negative findings.

The St. Louis River Citizens Action Committee, dba St. Louis River Alliance, has not had an external financial audit. However, we have been taking the necessary steps to establish more fiscal accountability. We have developed a financial procedures manual incorporating as many internal fiscal controls as possible for an entity of our size. We will be contracting with an accounting firm, whose practice is almost exclusively not for profits, to review our financial information and internal control policies on a monthly basis as well as do a year end audit. We will have this firm review our financial procedures manual and we will adapt any additional controls that are recommended, including any changes that will ensure that all grant requirements, and compliance will be strictly enforced.

Outdoor Heritage Fund Proposal - 12

Fish, Game and Wildlife Habitat Group

Your name: Jeffrey S. Broberg & Andy Henschel

Your organization: Shell Rock River Watershed District

Mailing address: Freeborn County Courthouse, 411 S. Broadway, Albert Lea. MN

Phone/fax number: 507-377-5785 website: shellrock.org

Email address: shellrockwatershed@co.freeborn.mn.us

Program/project short name: Working together to improve water quality: Stormwater parks and fish barriers

FY10 Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars requested: \$966,000

Additional funds leveraged and source: \$311,800.00 (Sales Tax and Other Grant Sources)

Expected outcomes at completion (e.g., XX acres protected, restored, enhanced):

The SRRWD has programmed (4) four “shovel ready” projects in Albert Lea designed to enhance water quality and fish habitat:

- Construction of 12 acre Main Street Stormwater Park transforming an area that is >98% impervious surface and is frequently flooded into a 12 acre stormwater park illustrating multiple stormwater treatment strategies along with education and outdoor recreation opportunities. The main street project provides decreased flooding, sediment treatment to the surface water through settling ponds and rain gardens and restoration of native prairie and floodplain forests and wetlands. The project will provide habitat for waterfowl and other Invertebrates and vertebrates that require both wetland and upland habitat conditions. The project is on Main Street in Albert Lea, a high visibility, high traffic area that will become a centerpiece to promote SRRWD and LOHC activities.
- Install fish barriers at (3) three locations on Fountain Lake to exclude carp and allow for effective carp control in an effort to improve water quality and fish and wildlife habitat. Water quality in the lakes and waterways without the proposed projects are very poor due to high turbidity. One of the main factors is due to the high population of bottom feeding fish (Carp) that stir up sediments from the bottom of the lake, especially shallow lakes like those that are found within the project area. The current carp population is detrimental to the ecology of the lakes. This in turn affects the shoreline habitat for hydrophytic vegetative growth, spawning habitat for fish, habitat for breeding pairs of waterfowl populations and habitat for invertebrates and vertebrates that thrive in lake shoreline habitats.
 - Electrical fish barriers will be installed at the two inlets for Fountain Lake, Wedge Creek inlet and White Lake inlet.
 - Install a mechanical fish barrier at the outlet of Fountain Lake

Short narrative of program/project, location(s), timeline for completion and measures of success (100 words or less):

The SRRWD has developed a capitol and management program to enhance the water quality and to restore, enhance and protect Albert Lea Lake in the center of Albert Lea. Local planning efforts and technical reviews have identified upland stormwater management and carp control as the most effective short term solutions that will be coupled with long-range watershed management. High visibility stormwater management demonstration in a Main Street Stormwater Park will become a community focus. Fish barriers to exclude carp from Albert Lea Lake will provide the ability to institute carp control measures to restore water quality and fish habitat. All four projects would be completed before June 30, 2010.

Generalized budget:

Budget Item	Outdoor Heritage Fund \$\$	Other Non- State Funds \$\$	Total Funds \$\$
Contracts	\$966,000.00	\$311,800.00	\$1,255,800.00

Engineering, Permits/Permitting Fees, Bonding, Material Price Increases, Staking and Soil Corrections are costs that will be covered under other non-state funds.

Describe how long-term costs for sustaining the project; monitoring and/or addressing property tax implications will be met:

Long-term costs are part of the operating budget for the SRRWD, which derives its financial support from local taxes, grants and donations. The district has a public budgeting process. The land for all of the installations will be owned by the City of Albert Lea and will not generate a tax liability or an in-lieu of tax obligation. Earlier assessment and planning for restoration and enhancement of Fountain Lake identified the need for better stormwater management on the upland and the control of carp in the lake. Measurements of the success of the Stormwater Park will come from public participation and attendance. Success of the fish barriers will be monitored by DNR Fisheries Assessments and the water quality improvements expected from carp control will be measured by the SRRWD, the MPCA and local citizen monitors.

Describe how local governments will be involved/informed if relevant:

The City of Albert Lea is a cooperator with the SRRWD and will have involvement through the land acquisition, design and permitting. The City will promote the Stormwater Park as a high visibility focal point for the demonstration of surface water management.

Describe how many Full Time Equivalent (FTE) jobs this will provide:

0.20 FTE for SRRWD.

Consultants and contractors to be determined.

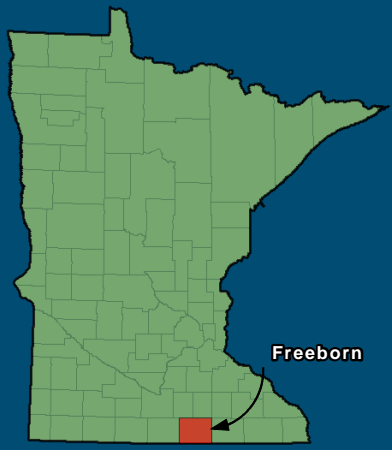
Describe how this project will provide public access for hunting, fishing and other recreation:

The Stormwater Park will be open to the public and will demonstrate the need to manage stormwater to protect local lakes in order to protect, enhance and restore the lake habitat.

The fish barriers will be installed on public waters on City owned land. The electrical fish barriers need to exclude the public for safety reasons, however, the down gradient mechanical fish barrier will be designed and installed to allow seasonal foot traffic and angler access across the barrier. Fountain Lake has existing public access and water quality improvement for m carp control will attract more use to the enhanced lake.

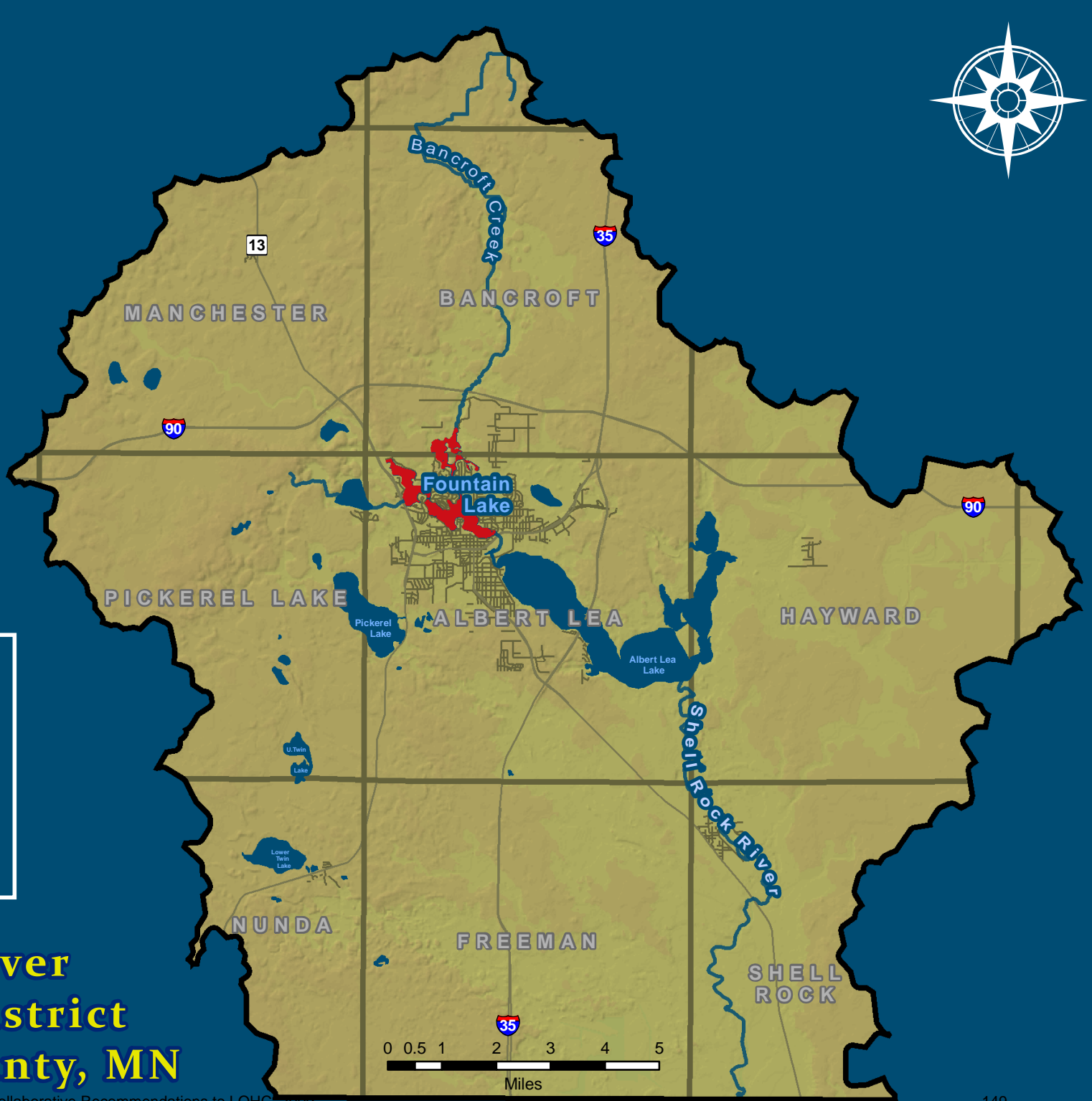
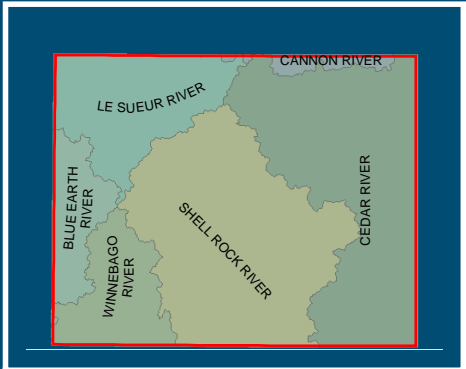
Other considerations: These “shovel ready’ projects are part of the SRRWD Strategic Plan.

Please also complete the attached information sheet as requested by the LOHC.



Freeborn

Freeborn County



Shell Rock River Watershed District Freeborn County, MN



Additional Information Requested by LOHC

The proposal and organizational requirements listed below are provided by the LOHC (see: http://www.lohc.state.mn.us/materials/2009_rec_dev_proc.pdf). Please check the appropriate items where a space is provided to indicate your agreement, or provide a narrative answer where a response is required, and include with the previous form.

Organization: **Shell Rock River Watershed District (SRRWD), Albert Lea, MN**

Minimum Criteria For Funding Requests

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for appropriations from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider funding requests that:

are consistent with the uses of the OHF as specified in Article XI of the Minnesota Constitution and Minnesota Statutes 97A.056.

show the ability to produce significant, measurable, and enduring resource and/or habitat outcomes.

- Clearly identify specific resource and/or habitat outcomes, performance measures, and a plan for measuring, evaluating and publicly reporting these outcomes over time. **Please describe:**
Earlier assessment and planning for restoration and enhancement of Fountain Lake identified the need for better stormwater management on the upland and the control of carp in the lake. Measurements of the success of the Stormwater Park will come from public participation and attendance. Success of the fish barriers will be monitored by DNR Fisheries Assessments and the water quality improvements expected from carp control will be measured by the SRRWD, the MPCA and local citizen monitors.
- reflect the best available science regarding resource and/or habitat enhancement, restoration, and protection. **Please reference any relevant plans or documents that support this:**
The Stormwater Park will employ wetland restoration, rain gardens, filtration including porous pavements and evapotranspiration, that are among the Best management Practices cited in Minnesota's Stormwater Manual. The electrical and mechanical fish barriers are proven technology recommended by the DNR and have been recently been installed by the SRRWD on Mud Lake and scheduled for 11 other lakes in the watershed.

where possible and appropriate uses native plant material.

restore or enhance resources only on property under permanent protection of fee ownership or conservation easement.

- have a plan to sustain the resource and/or habitat outcomes specified, including a plan to finance the necessary activities. **Please describe:**
The SRRWD Management Plan and annual budget will address the financing for ongoing maintenance and operations. The District derives funds from various sources including grants, taxes and fees.
- Identify funding necessary to fully implement the project/programs(s). **Please provide any additional information not presented in the budget table on the previous sheet:**

The electrical fish barriers will incur energy costs and the operations require emergency backup power. Both elements are addressed in the SRRWD budget.

X limit the state's exposure for additional funding for the project.

X have a process for ensuring transparency and accessibility in all stages of project/program implementation.

X seek funding to supplement (not replace) customary or usual funding sources.

X only acquire permanent easements, if proposing less than fee simple acquisition in real property.

X ensure that land acquired by fee with money from the OHF is open to the public taking of fish and game during the open season unless otherwise provided by law.

X commit to erect and maintain signage, to a standard to be adopted by the LOHC, crediting the OHF with support for protected, restored, or improved sites.

X commit to replace OHF protected resources converted to a use other than that intended in the OHF appropriation on a ten replacement acres for one converted acre basis.

X agree to not transfer the public interest in OHF fee and/or easement protected land without the written approval of the appropriate state of Minnesota authority.

Criteria To Be Met By Requesting Organizations

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for expenditures from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider requests from organization(s) that:

X have a record of successful management and implementation of project/program(s) similar in scale, scope, and complexity to the project/program(s) being requested.

X have demonstrated the ability to identify and establish the financial and managerial controls needed to successfully and fully implement the proposed project/program.

X have an up-to-date external financial audit with no serious negative findings.

Outdoor Heritage Fund Proposal - 13

Fish, Game and Wildlife Habitat Group

Your name:	Ron Harnack	Henry VanOffelen
Your organization:	Red River Water Management Board	MN Center for Env. Advocacy
Mailing address:	37350 Reed Ave, Taylors Falls, MN 55084	50785 Bucks Mill Rd Detroit Lakes, MN 56501
Phone/fax number:	651-341-7651	218-849-5270
Email address:	hrnckerk@frontiernet.net	hvanoffelen@mncenter.org

Program/project short name: Red River Basin Stream Restoration Initiative

FY10 Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars requested: \$990,000

Additional funds leveraged and source: Up to \$3,614,000 in matching state funds through RIM. \$595,000 in matching local funds.

Expected outcomes at completion (e.g., XX acres protected, restored, enhanced):

Watershed District	River/Stream Name	Project Area Length (miles)	Restored Corridor Area (acres)	Restored Channel Length (miles)
Buffalo Red River	South Branch Buffalo River (J.D. 3)	5	800	10
Bois de Sioux	Mustinka River (J.D. 14)	8	300	19
Red Lake	Grand Marais Creek	2.5	470	6
Wild Rice	Wild Rice River	23	6,340	35
Two Rivers	Springbrook	3	300	3.5
Totals		38.5	8,210	73.5

Short narrative of program/project, location(s), timeline for completion and measures of success (100 words or less):

Many rivers and streams in the Red River Basin were straightened or rerouted in the past 100 years to improve drainage. Watershed districts are restoring some channels and their corridors to provide quality fish and wildlife habitat, increase connectivity, and reduce erosion. Five projects are currently in the land acquisition phase. Successful acquisition in FY10 will result in projects moving forward to construction and completion in FY11 and subsequent years. This proposal is dependent on adequate statewide RIM funding (\$15,000,000/year) and the future of DNR's stream habitat program within which the Red River Basin river restoration projects would compete.

Generalized budget:

Watershed District	River/Stream Name	FY10 Acquisition Funding			
		Outdoor Heritage Fund	Other State Funds	Other Non-State Funds	Total
Buffalo Red River	South Branch Buffalo River (J.D. 3)	0	1,450,000	50,000	1,500,000
Bois de Sioux	Mustinka River (J.D. 14)*	240,000	660,000	100,000	1,000,000
Red Lake	Grand Marais Creek	250,000	734,000	150,000	1,134,000
Two Rivers	Springbrook	0	370,000	15,000	385,000
Wild Rice	Wild Rice River	500,000	400,000	280,000	1,180,000
Totals		990,000	3,614,000	595,000	5,199,000

Note: Other state funds for acquisition are RIM funds secured for use by July, 2009.

*Other state funds for Mustinka River assumes RIM funds will be available for the project in FY10.

Describe how long-term costs for sustaining project, monitoring and/or addressing property tax implications will be met:

Watershed districts will acquire lands needed for the restoration projects through fee title and/or permanent easement. Maintenance and monitoring of the projects will be the responsibility of the watershed districts. Lands acquired through easement will remain on tax rolls. For lands acquired through fee title by watershed districts, tax payments are typically negotiated with local government units during acquisition.

Describe how local governments will be involved/informed if relevant:

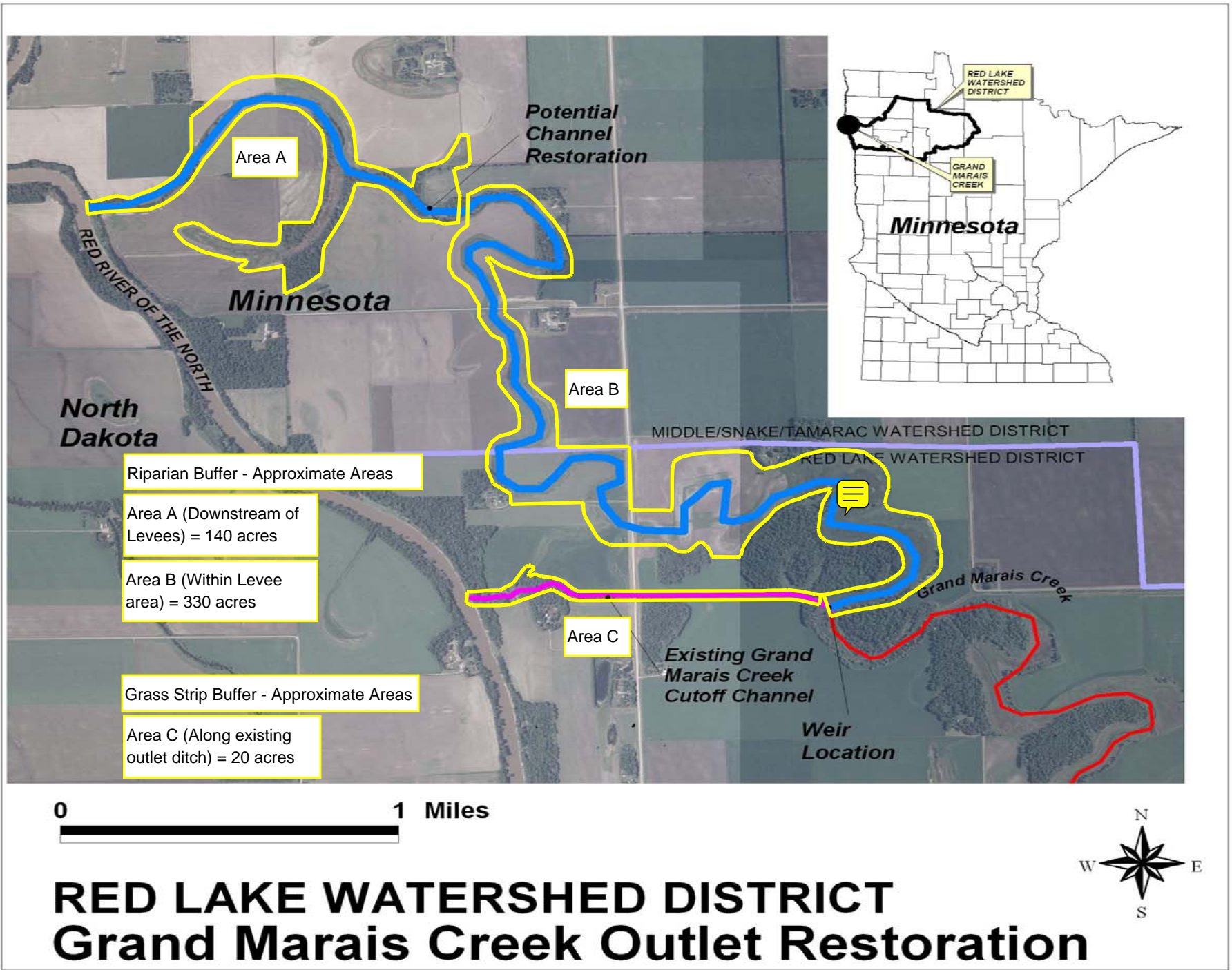
The sponsors of these projects are watershed districts managed by county designated board members. Each proposed project has received a consensus recommendation of approval by a “project team” in each watershed. Project teams include many stakeholders including federal, state, and county staff, local landowners and sometimes township representatives. Local governments will continued to be engaged throughout the project team process in each watershed district.

Describe how many Full Time Equivalent (FTE) jobs this will provide: This acquisition phase of these projects will employ existing watershed, soil & water conservation district staff, and some temporary staff.

Describe how this project will provide public access for hunting, fishing and other recreation:

Lands acquired for this project will be acquired in fee or with permanent easements. Fishing and recreational opportunities will be provided on the river. Hunting activities opportunities will be enhanced in the immediate surroundings areas. Access and parking areas consistent will be incorporated into the final project designs where practical.

Other considerations:



Please also complete the attached information sheet as requested by the LOHC.

Additional Information Requested by LOHC

The proposal and organizational requirements listed below are provided by the LOHC (see: http://www.lohc.state.mn.us/materials/2009_rec_dev_proc.pdf). Please check the appropriate items where a space is provided to indicate your agreement, or provide a narrative answer where a response is required, and include with the previous form.

Organization: Red River Water Management Board, Red River Mediation Work Group, Various watershed districts, MN Center for Environmental Advocacy

Minimum Criteria For Funding Requests

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for appropriations from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider funding requests that:

are consistent with the uses of the OHF as specified in Article XI of the Minnesota Constitution and Minnesota Statutes 97A.056.

show the ability to produce significant, measurable, and enduring resource and/or habitat outcomes.

- clearly identify specific resource and/or habitat outcomes, performance measures, and a plan for measuring, evaluating and publicly reporting these outcomes over time. Please describe:

These currently proposed river corridor restoration projects will return up to 38.5 miles of natural functioning river corridor habitats throughout the Red River basin. Acquisition of corridor lands will enable restoration of approximately 70 miles of river and stream channels with an adjacent 7,910 acres of corridor habitat. Corridor areas will be seeded and maintained to establish native vegetation.

These projects were developed through the Red River Basin mediation process which requires a consensus recommendation from a variety of stakeholders (agencies, local representatives, landowners, etc.). The watershed districts will implement these projects under their authorities and will report to their project teams and funding entities.

- reflect the best available science regarding resource and/or habitat enhancement, restoration, and protection. Please reference any relevant plans or documents that support this:

Watershed district comprehensive plans

All watershed districts with proposed restoration projects have updated their comprehensive watershed district plan within the past five years. The proposed projects are consistent with flood damage reduction, natural resource, and water quality goals and objectives in those plans.

Red River Basin Mediation Agreement

Proposed projects are consistent with the flood damage reduction and natural resource goals and objectives in the mediation agreement including:

1. *Manage streams for natural characteristics.*
2. *Enhance riparian and in-stream habitats.*

4. Provide connected, integrated habitat including compatible adjacent land uses.
6. Provide recreational opportunities.

Minnesota Statewide Conservation and Preservation Plan

Proposed projects are consistent with “*Habitat recommendation 6: protect and restore critical in-water habitats of lakes and streams*”.

In particular, it is consistent with the recommendations on page 82: “*A priority for former prairie zones of Minnesota is to reverse the negative effects of stream channelization on in-stream habitats for fish and other aquatic organisms.....*”

Campaign for Conservation – Fifty Year Vision

Proposed projects are consistent with the recommended actions in the fifty year vision for the Red River Valley planning region.

C. Lakes, Rivers, Wetlands and Groundwater

2. Return watercourses to semi-natural hydrology and morphology.

D. Fish and Wildlife

1. Develop incentives and regulations for enhanced protection of shoreline and stream restoration in both Minnesota and North Dakota.
4. Ensure that suitable habitat for species of concern is primary focus of land and water conservation efforts.
5. Expand private landowner stewardship incentive programs. Provide ongoing funding to entice landowners to idle (plant grass or trees) acres in sensitive wetland, riparian, and prairie areas.
6. Create habitat corridor connections for prairie chickens and other grassland species across the Red River Valley from the Agassiz Beach Ridges prairies in the east to the Sheyenne National Grasslands in the west. Corridors are needed to provide dispersal routes and prevent genetic isolation.

State AMA Acquisition Plan

The project is consistent with the following recommendations from the Red River Prairie Ecoregions needs section of the plan:

“The recreational demand on this area of the state will likely outpace the projected population change and additional public access to fishing lakes and streams is a priority. Permanent angling and management easements on streams, while maintaining private ownership, draw anglers to the area, bring additional dollars into the local economy, and provide the inroad to create permanent protection to shoreline habitat, which insures clean water for future generations. Additional lake and warmwater shoreline should still be acquired when extraordinary opportunities arise and County approval is obtained. There may be opportunities for Non-Government Organizations to acquire critical shoreline parcels in this area, to either be managed by them or turned over to the DNR as AMAs or other Outdoor Recreation Units.”

Tomorrow’s Habitat for the Wild and Rare- Minnesota’s Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy

The proposed projects are consistent with the following goals and strategies.

Goal 1: Stabilize and increase SGCN populations

3. *Nonforested wetlands and floodplain forests*
 - c. *manage habitats adjacent to wetlands and floodplain forests to enhance SGCN values (applies to Wild Rice and South Branch Buffalo projects)*
4. *Stream habitats*

- a. maintain good water quality, hydrology, geomorphology, and connectivity in priority stream reaches (applies primarily to Wild Rice River)
- b. Maintain and enhance riparian areas along priority stream reaches (applies primarily to Wild Rice River)

National Fish Habitat Action Plan

These projects in this proposed program are consistent with the goals and objectives of this plan.

- Reverse declines in the quality and quantity of aquatic habitats to improve the overall health of fish and other aquatic organisms.
- Increase the quality and quantity of fish habitats that support a broad natural diversity of fish and other aquatic species.

The Nature Conservancy in Minnesota - Northern Tallgrass Prairie Ecoregion: A River and Stream Portfolio

The Wild Rice River is listed as an Area of Biological Significance (ABS) in this planning tool developed to identify priority river and stream systems for conservation of the ecoregion’s river and stream biological diversity.

where possible and appropriate uses native plant material.

restore or enhance resources only on property under permanent protection of fee ownership or conservation easement.

- have a plan to sustain the resource and/or habitat outcomes specified, including a plan to finance the necessary activities. **Please describe:**
Watershed districts, in cooperation with their partners in the Red River basin, have the technical experience and financial capacity to implement, maintain, and monitor their projects.
- identify funding necessary to fully implement the project/programs(s). **Please provide any additional information not presented in the budget table on the previous sheet:**

A detailed project budget will be developed by February 11.

limit the state's exposure for additional funding for the project. Land acquisition is the first phase of these projects. Due to the size of the Wild Rice River restoration additional acquisition \$s will be needed in future years. Additional state funds will be needed in subsequent years for construction of each of the projects.

have a process for ensuring transparency and accessibility in all stages of project/program implementation. The watershed district based project team process used to develop and implement these projects will ensure transparency and accessibility.

seek funding to supplement (not replace) customary or usual funding sources.

only acquire permanent easements, if proposing less than fee simple acquisition in real property.

ensure that land acquired by fee with money from the OHF is open to the public taking of fish and game during the open season unless otherwise provided by law.

commit to erect and maintain signage, to a standard to be adopted by the LOHC, crediting the OHF

with support for protected, restored, or improved sites.

commit to replace OHF protected resources converted to a use other than that intended in the OHF appropriation on a ten replacement acres for one converted acre basis.

agree to not transfer the public interest in OHF fee and/or easement protected land without the written approval of the appropriate state of Minnesota authority.

Criteria To Be Met By Requesting Organizations

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for expenditures from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider requests from organization(s) that:

have a record of successful management and implementation of project/program(s) similar in scale, scope, and complexity to the project/program(s) being requested.

have demonstrated the ability to identify and establish the financial and managerial controls needed to successfully and fully implement the proposed project/program.

have an up-to-date external financial audit with no serious negative findings.

Outdoor Heritage Fund Proposal - 14

Fish, Game and Wildlife Habitat Group

Your name: Rebecca Knowles, Ph.D.

Your organization: Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe (LLBO)

Mailing address: 115 6th Street NW, Suite E Cass Lake, MN 56633

Phone/fax number: 218-335-7428/ 218-335-7430

Email address: rknowles@lldrm.org

Program/project short name: Long-term monitoring of *Zizania* (wild rice) productivity and its relationship to migratory waterfowl on the Leech Lake Reservation

FY10 Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars requested: \$87,012

Additional funds leveraged and source: \$12,998 (LLBO matching), \$2200 (USFWS in-kind), \$6600 (MNDNR in-kind)

Expected outcomes at completion: 13,000 acres of natural wild rice protected, restored, enhanced

Short narrative of program/project, location(s), timeline for completion and measures of success (100 words or less):

Building directly on a recent LLBO project, we will refine newly developed methodology and technical capacity to produce a 17-year-long dataset of natural *Zizania* productivity on the Leech Lake Reservation. We will also implement long-term monitoring of this resource, which is of very high value to the Ojibwe people spiritually, culturally, and economically. The high value of wild rice habitat to fish, waterfowl, and other aquatic animals has long been recognized. Therefore, we will partner with the USFWS and the MNDNR to analyze species counts of mallards and ring-necked ducks for the same 17-year-long period. Through this long-term study, the relationship of wild rice productivity and waterfowl abundance will be explored. Thus changes due to land-use or climate change, for example, can be detected and better managed.

Generalized budget:

Budget Item	Outdoor Heritage Fund \$\$	Other State Funds \$\$	Other Non-State Funds \$\$	Total Funds \$\$
Salaries/benefits	79,410	In-kind: 6600	Matching/ In-kind: Tribal 12998; USFWS 2200	
Contracts (Pro-West and Assoc.)	4400			
Equipment (> \$5000)				
Materials, supplies	2000			
Travel	1202			
Land (fee, easement)				

Other (list)				
Total	87,012	6600	15198	108810

Describe how long-term costs for sustaining project, monitoring and/or addressing property tax implications will be met: LLBO matching funds

Describe how local governments will be involved/informed if relevant: LLBO is active in MNDNR-led Wild Rice Study and Workgroups, partners include stakeholders (federal, state, tribal, county, watershed, and user-groups).

Describe how many Full Time Equivalent (FTE) jobs this will provide: 1.25 FTE, LLBO Plant Ecologist/ Project Leader (Rebecca Knowles) /Wildlife Biologist (Steve Mortensen); LLBO support staff (in-kind LLBO)

Describe how this project will provide public access for hunting, fishing and other recreation: Wild rice beds on the Leech Lake Reservation provide important habitat for fish and waterfowl, which provide recreational opportunities for the public.

Other considerations: This project builds directly on inter-agency work being conducted to meet Legislative requirements dealing with the Wild Rice Study, submitted February 2008.

Please also complete the attached information sheet as requested by the LOHC.

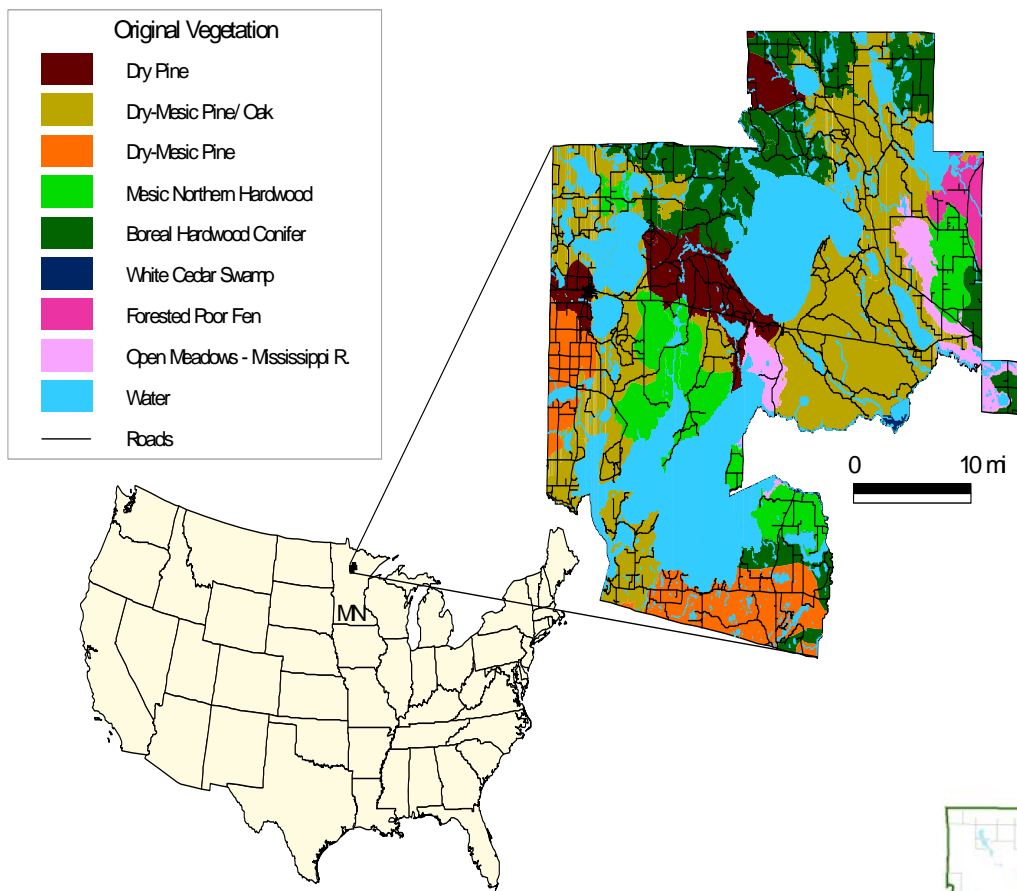
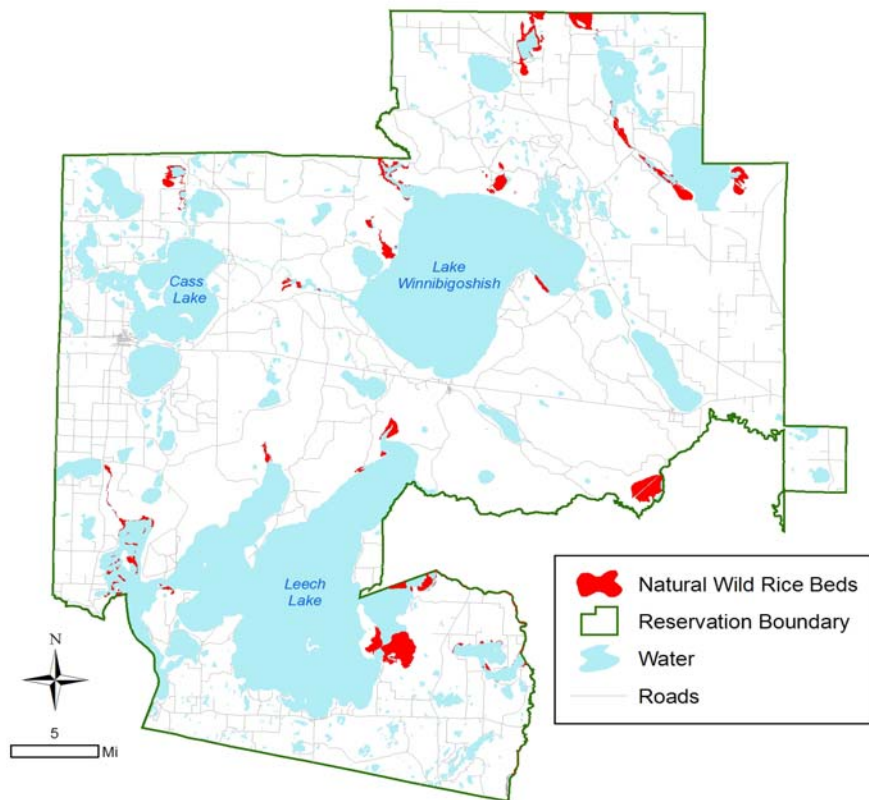


Figure 1. The Leech Lake Reservation includes diverse land and water features that provide habitat for numerous species of fish, wildlife, and plants. Many of these species are tribal-, federal-, or state-listed as threatened, endangered, or sensitive (Appendix A).

Figure 2. The Leech Lake Reservation includes approximately 13,800 acres of natural wild rice. Wild rice beds provide critical habitat for waterfowl, fish, and other aquatic animals. Natural wild rice also holds very high spiritual, cultural, and economic value for Ojibwe people. Major wild rice beds on the LLR are shown here in red.



Additional Information Requested by LOHC

The proposal and organizational requirements listed below are provided by the LOHC (see: http://www.lohc.state.mn.us/materials/2009_rec_dev_proc.pdf). Please check the appropriate items where a space is provided to indicate your agreement, or provide a narrative answer where a response is required, and include with the previous form.

Organization: **Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe**

Minimum Criteria For Funding Requests

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for appropriations from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider funding requests that:

___*___ are consistent with the uses of the OHF as specified in Article XI of the Minnesota Constitution and Minnesota Statutes 97A.056,.

___*___ show the ability to produce significant, measurable, and enduring resource and/or habitat outcomes.

- clearly identify specific resource and/or habitat outcomes, performance measures, and a plan for measuring, evaluating and publicly reporting these outcomes over time. **Please describe:** Methodology for monitoring productivity of 13,000 acres of natural wild rice on the Leech Lake Reservation has been developed. OHC funding would enable the implementation of long-term monitoring, analysis of variability of rice and waterfowl, and adaptive management of these resources on the LLR.
- reflect the best available science regarding resource and/or habitat enhancement, restoration, and protection. **Please reference any relevant plans or documents that support this:** USFWS and MNDNR methodology, development of aerial photography interpretation with Pro-West, Inc.

___*___ where possible and appropriate uses native plant material.

___*___ restore or enhance resources only on property under permanent protection of fee ownership or conservation easement.

- have a plan to sustain the resource and/or habitat outcomes specified, including a plan to finance the necessary activities. **Please describe:**
Natural wild rice is of high value to the LLBO spiritually, culturally, and economically. The LLBO works with state, federal, and tribal agencies to better manage this resource. OHC funds would help fill the gap of having a finely-honed set of methods and technical capacity to implement adaptive management in the face of burgeoning threats to this resource.
- identify funding necessary to fully implement the project/programs(s). **Please provide any additional information not presented in the budget table on the previous sheet:**

___*___ limit the state's exposure for additional funding for the project.

___*___ have a process for ensuring transparency and accessibility in all stages of project/program implementation.

- ___*___ seek funding to supplement (not replace) customary or usual funding sources.
- ___ only acquire permanent easements, if proposing less than fee simple acquisition in real property.
- ___ ensure that land acquired by fee with money from the OHF is open to the public taking of fish and game during the open season unless otherwise provided by law.
- ___*___ commit to erect and maintain signage, to a standard to be adopted by the LOHC, crediting the OHF with support for protected, restored, or improved sites.
- ___ commit to replace OHF protected resources converted to a use other than that intended in the OHF appropriation on a ten replacement acres for one converted acre basis.
- ___ agree to not transfer the public interest in OHF fee and/or easement protected land without the written approval of the appropriate state of Minnesota authority.

Criteria To Be Met By Requesting Organizations

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for expenditures from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider requests from organization(s) that:

- ___*___ have a record of successful management and implementation of project/program(s) similar in scale, scope, and complexity to the project/program(s) being requested.
- ___*___ have demonstrated the ability to identify and establish the financial and managerial controls needed to successfully and fully implement the proposed project/program.
- ___*___ have an up-to-date external financial audit with no serious negative findings.

Outdoor Heritage Fund Proposal - 15

Fish, Game and Wildlife Habitat Group

Your name: Dave Bennett

Your organization: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service – Rydell National Wildlife Refuge

Mailing address: 17788 3349th Street SE, Erskine, MN 56535

Phone/fax number: 218/687/2229 218/687/2225

Email address: dave_bennett@fws.gov

Program/project short name: Rydell Lakes Restoration Project

FY10 Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars requested: \$288,650.00

Additional funds leveraged and source: \$0

Expected outcomes at completion (e.g., XX acres protected, restored, enhanced):

6 lake basins totaling 182 acres will be restored to pre-settlement conditions

Short narrative of program/project, location(s), timeline for completion and measures of success (100 words or less): Post settlement anthropogenic activities have resulted in lake basins on Rydell Refuge to be deeper and highly infested with non indigenous fish species. These lake basins have very little wetland emergent vegetation which provides little to no nesting cover for ducks, geese or other water birds. Rydell National Wildlife Refuge is located in Polk County, 30 miles east of Crookston. All engineering data, maps and specifications to lower water levels and eradicate minnows from these lakes are completed. Solicitation for completing this project could start immediately upon receipt of fund, with the entire project completed by June 2010.

Generalized budget:

Budget Item	Outdoor Heritage Fund \$\$	Other State Funds \$\$	Other Non-State Funds \$\$	Total Funds \$\$
Salaries/benefits				
Contracts	\$288,650.00			
Equipment (> \$5000)				
Materials, supplies				
Travel				
Land (fee, easement)				
Other (list)				
Total	\$288,650.00			\$288,650.00

Describe how long-term costs for sustaining project, monitoring and/or addressing property tax implications will be met: The six basins identified in this project all lies within the boundary of the Rydell National Wildlife Refuge and will be incorporated into the management responsibilities of the refuge. Annual Refuge budgets will be used to document current conditions and habitat

changes occurring from completing this project. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service currently utilizes the Refuge Revenue Sharing Act to share funds with the county. Refuge Revenue Sharing will continue into the future.

Describe how local governments will be involved/informed if relevant: Local governments will be involved through the permit process relative to wetland impact issues.

Describe how many Full Time Equivalent (FTE) jobs this will provide: None, project will be contracted.

Describe how this project will provide public access for hunting, fishing and other recreation: While these lake basins won't directly be opened for hunting, waterfowl produced on these lakes will provide increased opportunities for hunters utilizing adjacent wetlands on other federal, state and private lands. The lake basins in their pre-settlement conditions won't support a fisheries program. Rydell allows public access for wildlife observation, the increased production of waterfowl and other waterbirds from these lake wetlands will enhance visitor appreciation of their visit.

Other considerations: Deeper water levels and a lake ecology that is dominated by fathead minnows have also decimated native invertebrate, which has had a negative effect on the physiological condition of many spring migrating ducks, especially on female scaup. The restoration of these lakes is anticipated to recover invertebrate populations and their response to migrating waterfowl.

Please also complete the attached information sheet as requested by the LOHC.

Additional Information Requested by LOHC

The proposal and organizational requirements listed below are provided by the LOHC (see: http://www.lohc.state.mn.us/materials/2009_rec_dev_proc.pdf). Please check the appropriate items where a space is provided to indicate your agreement, or provide a narrative answer where a response is required, and include with the previous form.

Organization: **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service – Rydell National Wildlife Refuge**

Minimum Criteria For Funding Requests

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for appropriations from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider funding requests that:

X are consistent with the uses of the OHF as specified in Article XI of the Minnesota Constitution and Minnesota Statutes 97A.056,.

X show the ability to produce significant, measurable, and enduring resource and/or habitat outcomes.

- clearly identify specific resource and/or habitat outcomes, performance measures, and a plan for measuring, evaluating and publicly reporting these outcomes over time. **Please describe:**
A pre-construction condition assessment will be conducted utilizing a Minnesota DNR Standard Protocol for evaluating lake conditions. An annual post construction evaluation using the same protocol will be used to monitor results for several years. Annual wildlife surveys to document wildlife response will also be conducted. A final evaluation report will be available to the public and other organizations.
- reflect the best available science regarding resource and/or habitat enhancement, restoration, and protection. **Please reference any relevant plans or documents that support this:**
The approved Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) for Rydell NWR listed this project to as a primary strategy for achieving wetland objectives on the Refuge. The CCP included an environmental assessment that was approved. An internet search for the Rydell NWR CCP will provide a copy for review.

Minnesota DNR and Ducks Unlimited supports this project as it relates to shallow lake management for supporting wildlife, i.e. waterfowl and waterbird needs.

X where possible and appropriate uses native plant material.

X restore or enhance resources only on property under permanent protection of fee ownership or conservation easement.

- have a plan to sustain the resource and/or habitat outcomes specified, including a plan to finance the necessary activities. **Please describe:**
This project lies within the boundary of the Rydell NWR. This project and its annual evaluation to monitor results and benefits will be incorporated within the existing current annual budget for the Refuge.
- identify funding necessary to fully implement the project/programs(s). **Please provide any additional information not presented in the budget table on the previous sheet:**

X limit the state's exposure for additional funding for the project.

X have a process for ensuring transparency and accessibility in all stages of project/program implementation.

X seek funding to supplement (not replace) customary or usual funding sources.

___ only acquire permanent easements, if proposing less than fee simple acquisition in real property.

___ ensure that land acquired by fee with money from the OHF is open to the public taking of fish and game during the open season unless otherwise provided by law.

X commit to erect and maintain signage, to a standard to be adopted by the LOHC, crediting the OHF with support for protected, restored, or improved sites.

___ commit to replace OHF protected resources converted to a use other than that intended in the OHF appropriation on a ten replacement acres for one converted acre basis.

X agree to not transfer the public interest in OHF fee and/or easement protected land without the written approval of the appropriate state of Minnesota authority.

Criteria To Be Met By Requesting Organizations

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for expenditures from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider requests from organization(s) that:

X have a record of successful management and implementation of project/program(s) similar in scale, scope, and complexity to the project/program(s) being requested.

X have demonstrated the ability to identify and establish the financial and managerial controls needed to successfully and fully implement the proposed project/program.

X have an up-to-date external financial audit with no serious negative findings.

Outdoor Heritage Fund Proposal - 16
Fish, Game and Wildlife Habitat Group

Your name: Louise Mauldin
Your organization: Fish and Wildlife Service
Mailing address: 555 Lester Ave, Onalaska, WI 54650
Phone/fax number: 608-783-8407/608-783-8450
Email address: Louise_Mauldin@fws.gov

Program/project short name: Little Bemidji Fish Passage Project
FY10 Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars requested: \$ 25,000
Additional funds leveraged and source: \$10,000 White Earth DNR
Expected outcomes at completion (e.g., XX acres protected, restored, enhanced):
 Restore fish passage into 1,250 acres of lake habitat and create possible spawning habitat for lake sturgeon.

Short narrative of program/project, location(s), timeline for completion and measures of success (100 words or less): The Little Bemidji Lake dam will be modified to a rock weir. The rock rapids design will allow passage and improve inter-lake movement within the Otter Tail watershed by resident and migrating fish species. Continued fish passage projects within the watershed on the reservation will lead to increased seasonal accessibility to riverine and lake habitats needed for lake sturgeon restoration and increased diversity and abundance of other native fish species. Completion date of July 09.

Generalized budget:

Budget Item	Outdoor Heritage Fund \$\$	Other State Funds \$\$	Other Non-State Funds \$\$	Total Funds \$\$
Salaries/benefits	\$6,000			\$6,000
Contracts	\$1,000			\$1,000
Equipment (> \$5000)	\$3,000			\$3,000
Materials, supplies	\$15,000		\$10,000	\$25,000
Travel				
Land (fee, easement)				
Other (list)				
Total	\$25,000		\$10,000	\$35,000

Describe how long-term costs for sustaining project, monitoring and/or addressing property tax implications will be met: These projects are engineered to be self sustaining. Monitoring the success will be accomplished by the White Earth DNR and FWS.

Describe how local governments will be involved/informed if relevant: Permits must be attained and the local governments approve these permits.

Describe how many Full Time Equivalent (FTE) jobs this will provide: Typically a project of this nature will produce 0.1 FTE. There will be a crew of about 4-5 (contract) employees for one day.

Describe how this project will provide public access for hunting, fishing and other recreation: It will enhance fish populations by providing improved habitat conditions.

Other considerations:

Please also complete the attached information sheet as requested by the LOHC.

Additional Information Requested by LOHC

The proposal and organizational requirements listed below are provided by the LOHC (see: http://www.lohc.state.mn.us/materials/2009_rec_dev_proc.pdf). Please check the appropriate items where a space is provided to indicate your agreement, or provide a narrative answer where a response is required, and include with the previous form.

Organization: **Fish and Wildlife Service**

Minimum Criteria For Funding Requests

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for appropriations from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider funding requests that:

are consistent with the uses of the OHF as specified in Article XI of the Minnesota Constitution and Minnesota Statutes 97A.056,.

show the ability to produce significant, measurable, and enduring resource and/or habitat outcomes.

- clearly identify specific resource and/or habitat outcomes, performance measures, and a plan for measuring, evaluating and publicly reporting these outcomes over time. **Please describe:**
- reflect the best available science regarding resource and/or habitat enhancement, restoration, and protection. **Please reference any relevant plans or documents that support this:**

where possible and appropriate uses native plant material.

restore or enhance resources only on property under permanent protection of fee ownership or conservation easement.

- have a plan to sustain the resource and/or habitat outcomes specified, including a plan to finance the necessary activities. **Please describe:**
- identify funding necessary to fully implement the project/programs(s). **Please provide any additional information not presented in the budget table on the previous sheet:**

limit the state's exposure for additional funding for the project.

have a process for ensuring transparency and accessibility in all stages of project/program implementation.

seek funding to supplement (not replace) customary or usual funding sources.

only acquire permanent easements, if proposing less than fee simple acquisition in real property.

ensure that land acquired by fee with money from the OHF is open to the public taking of fish and game during the open season unless otherwise provided by law.

___ commit to erect and maintain signage, to a standard to be adopted by the LOHC, crediting the OHF with support for protected, restored, or improved sites.

___ commit to replace OHF protected resources converted to a use other than that intended in the OHF appropriation on a ten replacement acres for one converted acre basis.

agree to not transfer the public interest in OHF fee and/or easement protected land without the written approval of the appropriate state of Minnesota authority.

Criteria To Be Met By Requesting Organizations

In developing its recommendations to the Legislature for expenditures from the OHF, the LOHC will only consider requests from organization(s) that:

have a record of successful management and implementation of project/program(s) similar in scale, scope, and complexity to the project/program(s) being requested.

have demonstrated the ability to identify and establish the financial and managerial controls needed to successfully and fully implement the proposed project/program.

have an up-to-date external financial audit with no serious negative findings.