

Outdoor Heritage Fund Proposal

Forest Habitat Type

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Program/project short name: Industrial Forest Land Investment and Productivity Program
FY10 Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars requested: \$5,000,000
Additional funds leveraged and source: \$91,000 (County)

Expected outcomes at completion (e.g., XX acres protected, restored, enhanced): 3,100 acres protected per year.

Short narrative of program/project, location(s), timeline for completion and measures of success:
 This project will: 1) prevent the fragmentation of our industrial forest lands, 2) allow for consolidation of State, County and Industrial Forest Land ownerships and 3) promote better efficiencies of forest management activities. This project will focus on industrial forest lands in Cass and Koochiching Counties, but could be **extended to other interested counties.**

Secure forest recreation opportunities and permanent recreational trail corridors, guarantee optimization of fiber production including round wood and biomass consistent with sustainable silvicultural practices.

Management of the acquired Industrial Forest Land may include long term leases to a forest product industry or sale of selected parcels with recreational rights reserved to the state. The revenue from leases would be shared between the Township, School Districts, County and State.

Generalized Budget: For 10 years

| Budget Item | Outdoor Heritage Funds \$\$ | Other State Funds \$\$ | Other Funds \$\$ | Total Fund \$\$ |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Salaries/benefits | | | 70,000 | 70,000 |
| Contracts | | | 5,000 | 5,000 |
| Equipment (> \$5000) | | | 2,000 | 2,000 |
| Materials, supplies | | | 3,000 | 3,000 |
| Travel | | | 1,000 | 1,000 |
| Land (fee, easement) | 50,000,000 | | | 50,000,000 |
| Other (list) | | | 10,000 | 10,000 |
| Total | | | 91,000 | 50,091,000 |

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

This project is self-sustaining – revenue from long term leases, or timber sales will be available as revenue to be distributed to the Townships, School Districts, County and State.

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

The County or Counties interested in preserving the industrial Forest Land Base would negotiate the acquisition and direct the subsequent disposition of the lands.

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

The project will result in the retention of the logging, trucking and manufacturing jobs associated with provision of guaranteed fiber from the intensive and sustainable management of the Industrial Forest Lands.

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

All lands acquired under this program will be open to public recreation at all times. Over 31,000 acres of Industrial Forest Land will be preserved and open to public recreation

Other considerations:

Investment in this program will result in retention of jobs, produce revenue, guarantee recreation and improve forest management efficiencies. A minimum of 700 acres of timber sales made available every year.

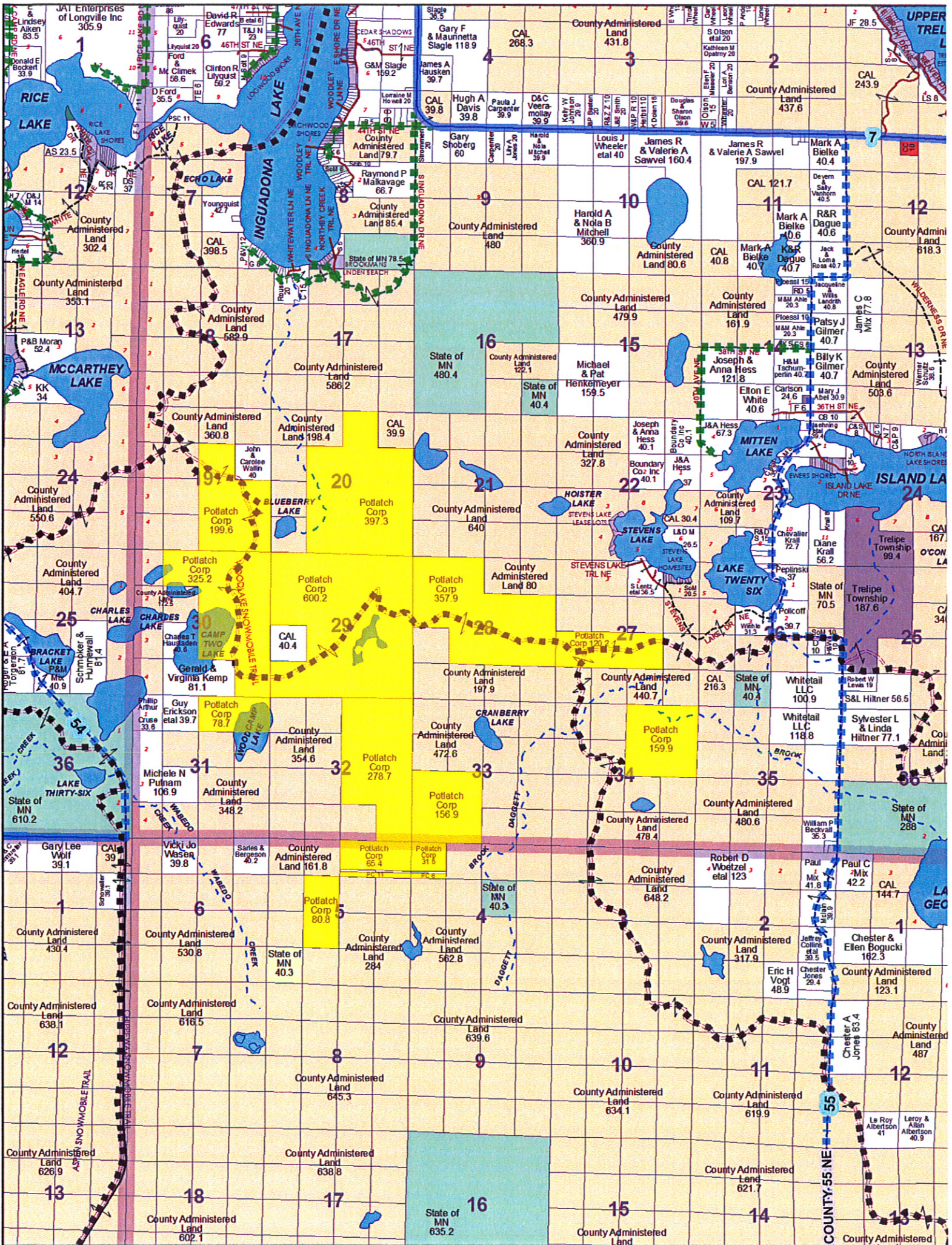
Through this project, partners will work actively to exchange acquired lands with State and County lands where appropriate to consolidate ownership into more effective blocks or tracts of contiguous managed lands.

The Minnesota Conservation and Preservation Plan recognizes the importance of working forests for the state's economy and quality of life and recommends the development and evaluation of tools that will enhance and protect their abilities to provide economic and ecological benefits. As land use decisions reduce the amount of working forest and pressures on remaining working forests increase, it will be essential to optimize the benefits they provide. Maintaining the industrial forest land base as an integrated segment of our working forests is critical to maintaining our forest productivity and forest industry (jobs).

The Northern and North Central Regional Landscape Committees strongly support this project.

This project supports the further implementation of the goals in the Northern Committee's landscape plan including: 1) Stabilize and improve employment and incomes by sustainable use of landscape assets Diversify the local economy, 2) Maintain or increase timber harvest in the Northern Landscape in a sustainable manner consistent with site-level guidelines, 3) Maintain and/or increase access to public lands and waters, and private lands open to the public, for sustainable multiple use, and 4) Ensure the sustainability of natural resource uses.

This project supports the further implementation of the goals in the North Central Committee's landscape plan including: 1) Protect Forestland, 2) Protect Natural Shoreline, 3) Increase Conifers and 4) Natural Patterns and Functions.



Whereas: The “Industrial Forest Land Investment and Productivity Program” will;

Protect – 31,000 ± acres of very productive forest land from fragmentation

Restore – public access and recreation on 31,000 ± acres of Industrial Forest Land

Enhance - efficiencies of forest management through consolidation of parcels
- preserve the integrity of recreational trail corridors and access to other public lands