

**Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council
FY 2011 Recommendation
Accomplishment Plan, Amended**

Date: ~~March 7, 2013~~ March 3, 2014

Project or Program Title: Accelerated Forest Wildlife Habitat Program

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Funds Recommended (\$000s)	Council Recommendation Funding	Out-Year Projections of Needs		
	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014
Outdoor Heritage Fund	1,791,000	0	0	0

Appropriation and citation language:

Laws of Minnesota 2010, Chapter 361, Article 1, Section 2, Subd. 3(d) Accelerated Forest Wildlife Habitat Program \$1,791,000 in fiscal year 2011 is to the commissioner of natural resources for acceleration of agency programs to acquire, in fee, land for state forests and restore and enhance state forest habitat. A list of projects including proposed fee title acquisitions and restorations and enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan. All restorations must comply with subdivision 9, paragraph (b).

SF 3275-4, Article 1, Section 2, Subdivision 3(d)

Accelerated Forest Wildlife Habitat Program \$1,791,000 in fiscal year 2011 is to the commissioner of natural resources for acceleration of agency programs to acquire, in fee, land for state forests and restore and enhance state forest habitat. A list of projects including proposed fee title acquisitions and restorations and enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan. All restorations must comply with subdivision 9, paragraph (b).

The Mission of the Outdoor Heritage Fund

The mission of the OHF, as specified in the state Constitution, is to: “protect, restore, and enhance wetlands, prairies, forests, and habitat for fish, game, and wildlife.” In pursuit of that mission, the L-SOHC will use the following definitions in the call for requests for the recommendations to the 2010 Legislature.

Restore: action to bring a habitat back to a former state of sustaining fish, game or wildlife, with an ultimate goal of restoring habitat to a desired conservation condition.

Protect: action to maintain the ability of habitat and related natural systems to sustain fish, game or wildlife through acquisition of fee title or conservation easements.

Enhance: action to increase the ability of habitat and related natural systems to sustain and improve fish, game or wildlife in an ecologically sound manner.

Abstract

Our program will increase populations of a variety of game and non-game wildlife species by protecting and enhancing forest habitats on which wildlife depends. This program of on-the-ground forest conservation projects will amplify the wildlife value of forest communities on DNR administered forestlands.

Our forest enhancement will treat 6,000 ac. These activities are not conducted as part of the DNR’s commercial timber operations. Additionally, our program will acquire 397 ac of forestland that contributes to habitat complexes and other high priorities. Acquisitions focus on forestland for public hunting, and compatible outdoor uses.

At a reduced level of funding, we are focusing on management activities that will maximize wildlife habitat outcomes, especially prescribed burning, hand release, and shearing/mowing. Our program will enhance oak and create a mix of young hardwood forest with more open meadow/brush lands to benefit grouse, elk, and deer. Forest opening creation/enhancement will increase nut and berry production, provide roosting/display areas, and create feeding areas for moose, deer, ruffed grouse, woodcock, and bear. Shearing of trees and brush in large open landscape priority areas will benefit sharp-tailed grouse. Shearing and mowing of hardwoods and brush in smaller patches will benefit woodcock and deer.

Our program will benefit a number of nongame species, including yellow rails, sandhill cranes, northern harriers, bobolinks, and upland sandpipers. Activities that create/enhance forest openings will provide habitat for nongame species, including least chipmunks, northern flickers, cooper’s hawks, and song sparrows. The less intensive timber management in our program will help protect rare native plant communities and a number of nongame species through retention and enhancement of plant species diversity and structure.

Narrative

Forests face a formidable array of challenges: fragmentation, invasive species, climate change, disease, and changes in forest-based economics and recreation. While Minnesota’s 16.2 million ac of forest are diverse, the acreage and composition of forests have changed significantly. The forest acreage is about half of what it was (31.5 million ac) in the mid 1800s.

Just over half of the forestland in Minnesota is publicly owned; the State of Minnesota administers about 24%. Minnesota’s forests help maintain the state’s environmental and economic health. They are habitat for fish and wildlife, and a source of biodiversity, clean water, watershed protection, carbon sequestration, recreational opportunities, and many other benefits.

Habitat loss and degradation are identified as the primary challenge facing wildlife. Almost one-third of the state’s 292 Species in Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN) inhabit forests. The management objectives in this program parallel the forest management options outlined in *Minnesota’s State Wildlife Action Plan, Tomorrow’s Habitat for the Wild and Rare (Tomorrow’s Habitat Plan)*. Implementation of these objectives in key habitats identified in the *Plan* will maintain and enhance native forest communities supporting game and non-game wildlife populations. *Tomorrow’s Habitat Plan* also calls for the purchase and protection of key habitats as another tool to address the conservation needs of these species.

Protecting forests threatened by fragmentation or development provide important opportunities for collaborative conservation of larger scale areas of habitat. Restoration of newly acquired state forestlands is essential to assure that sites in state ownership are improved to increase or retain their value as wildlife habitat.

The availability of public hunting lands does not meet the expectations of a growing Minnesota population. Due to the current recession, land prices have stabilized or declined and a short-term opportunity exists to purchase more value for our expenditures.

Broad goals for this program are provided through the Subsection Forest Resources Management Planning process which does include a public participation process. No opposition is anticipated. County board approval is required for all acquisitions.

Program managers may add, delete, and substitute projects on this parcel list based upon need, readiness, cost, opportunity, and/or urgency so long as the substitute parcel/project forwards the constitutional objectives of this program in the Project Scope table of this accomplishment plan. The final accomplishment plan report will include the final project parcel list.

~~This amendment is being requested to be retroactive to May 31, 2012. While the type of work to be accomplished has not changed, opportunities have changed due to weather, blow down events and personnel in areas of work planned. Funding shifts are being requested to account for: 1) higher than anticipated professional services associated with land acquisition, 2) more contracting to shift from prescribed burning to timber stand improvement work, contracted work calls for a combination of contract and supply expenditures (for example, trees and chemicals). This amendment is being requested to move unused salary, unused professional services associated with land acquisition, and unused direct support services to the contract line to supplement further forest enhancement work.~~

Relationship to *Minnesota Conservation and Preservation Plan* and other published resource management plans.

The *Minnesota Statewide Conservation and Preservation Plan* identifies habitat loss and degradation as the number one driver of change for wildlife in Minnesota. The *Plan* addresses key issues of land and habitat fragmentation, degradation, loss and conversion, and land use practices. Recommended key strategies to positively impact habitat include: integrated planning, land and water restoration and protection, and sustainable practices. Our program addresses these key issues and incorporates many of the key strategies.

The *State Wildlife Actions Plan, Tomorrow's Habitat for the Wild & Rare*, calls for focused efforts to address the conservation needs of rare game and nongame wildlife species. Habitat loss and degradation are identified as the primary challenge facing wildlife. Almost one-third of the state's 292 Species in Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN) inhabit forests. The management objectives in our program parallel the forest management options outlined in *Tomorrow's Habitat Plan*. Implementation of these objective in key habitats identified in the *Plan* will maintain and enhance native forest communities supporting game and non-game wildlife populations. *Tomorrow's Habitat Plan* also calls for the purchase and protection of key habitats as another tool to address the conservation needs of these species.

Citizens report Minnesota's *Wildlife Management Area Acquisition – The Next 50 Years* recommends acquisition goals of an additional 702,200 ac of WMAs s over the next 50 years. Our program helps meet these goals.

Our program helps meet the *DNR Scientific and Natural Area Long Range Plan*.

Our program makes significant progress towards accomplishing goals of the multiple DNR landscape level forest management plans (*Subsection Forest Resources Management Plans*)
([://www.dnr.state.mn.us/forestry/subsection/index](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/forestry/subsection/index).)

Our program directly achieves the DNR's *Strategic Conservation Agenda 2009-2013* indicators and targets under Integrated Public & Private Land Management.

Appendix J (Sensitive Native Plant Communities) of The *MN Forest Resources Council's Voluntary Site-Level Forest Management Guidelines for Landowners, Loggers, and Resource Managers* lists Sensitive Native Plant Communities. Our program works in at least 12 of the 40 listed communities.

Our program implements the goals of the *DNR A Vision for Wildlife and Its Use - Goals and Outcomes, 2006-2012* (FAW core functions, MN Statute 84.941): wildlife resource goals, population and habitat strategies, brushlands and prescribed burning, Ecological Subsection regional challenges.

Our program meets the goals of several MN Forest Resources Council landscape plans ([://www.frc.state.mn.us/Landscap/Landscape](http://www.frc.state.mn.us/Landscap/Landscape)).

Project Design and Evaluation

Describe the scope of the project in appropriate measures (i.e. ,acreage numbers of lakes, miles of shoreline)

Budget – see attached

Relationship to Current Budget

FY2009 expenditures:

DNR	\$350 mil
Division of Fish & Wildlife	\$92.6 mil
Division of Forestry	\$65.7 mil
Division of Ecological Resources	\$25.8 mil

Our program \$1.79 mil (0.5% total DNR budget)

The program includes work we are currently unable to accomplish. We do not plan on reassigning staff.

Personnel – see attached

Leverage - see attached

Accomplishment Timeline

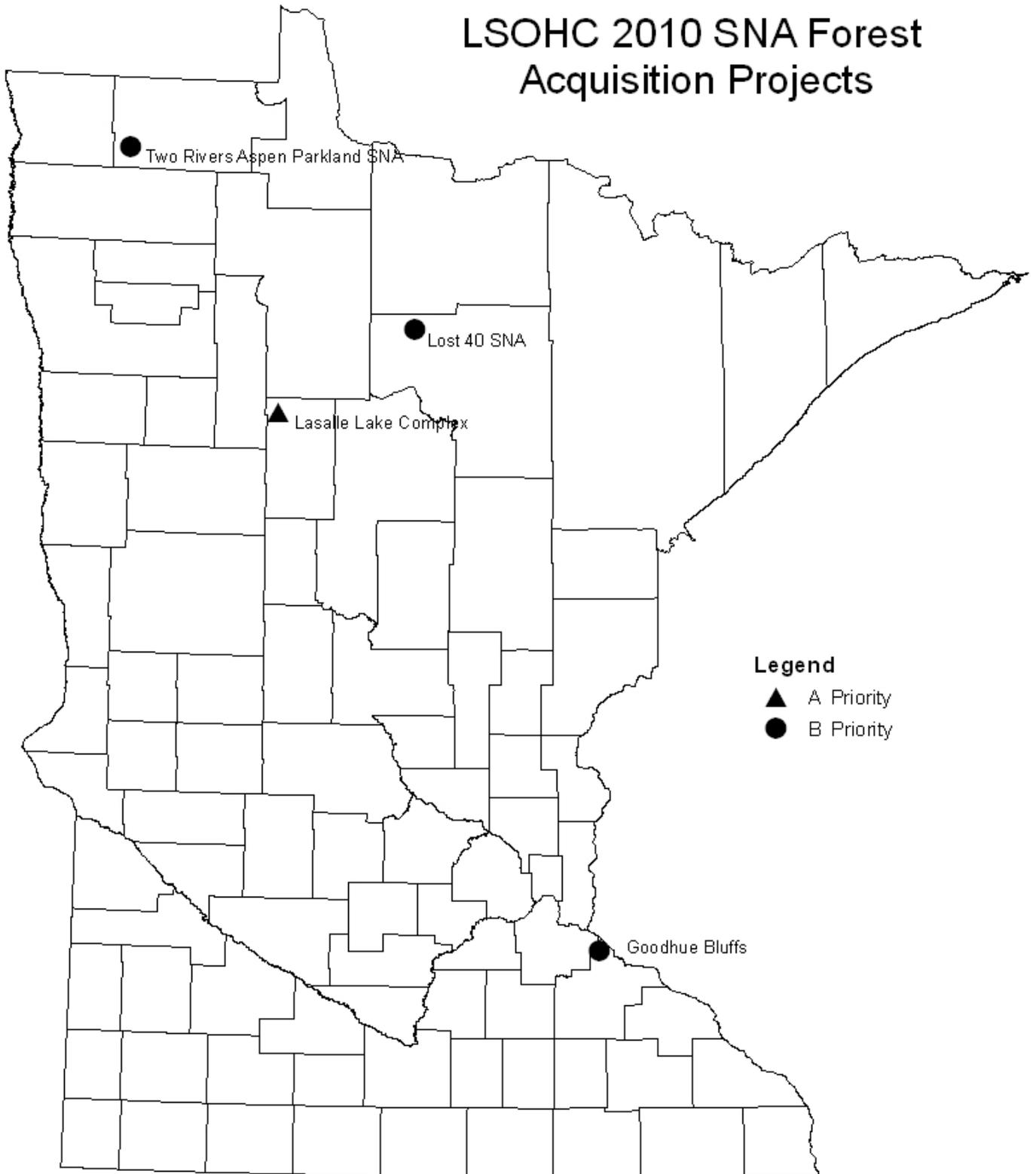
Milestones	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	Budgetary Expenditure
Acquired in fee	397 ac			\$988,000 <u>\$958,547</u>
Enhancement assessment and project completion	2,500 ac	2,500 ac	1,000 ac	\$803,000 <u>\$832,453</u>

Works (and spending) for FY11 & 12 enhancement and restoration activities may continue into a third year (FY13) in order to complete projects. Project completion is dependent on weather and availability of plant material. Some acquisitions will take three years to complete. Restoration and enhancement of lands acquired later in the funding cycle will be completed in the third year.

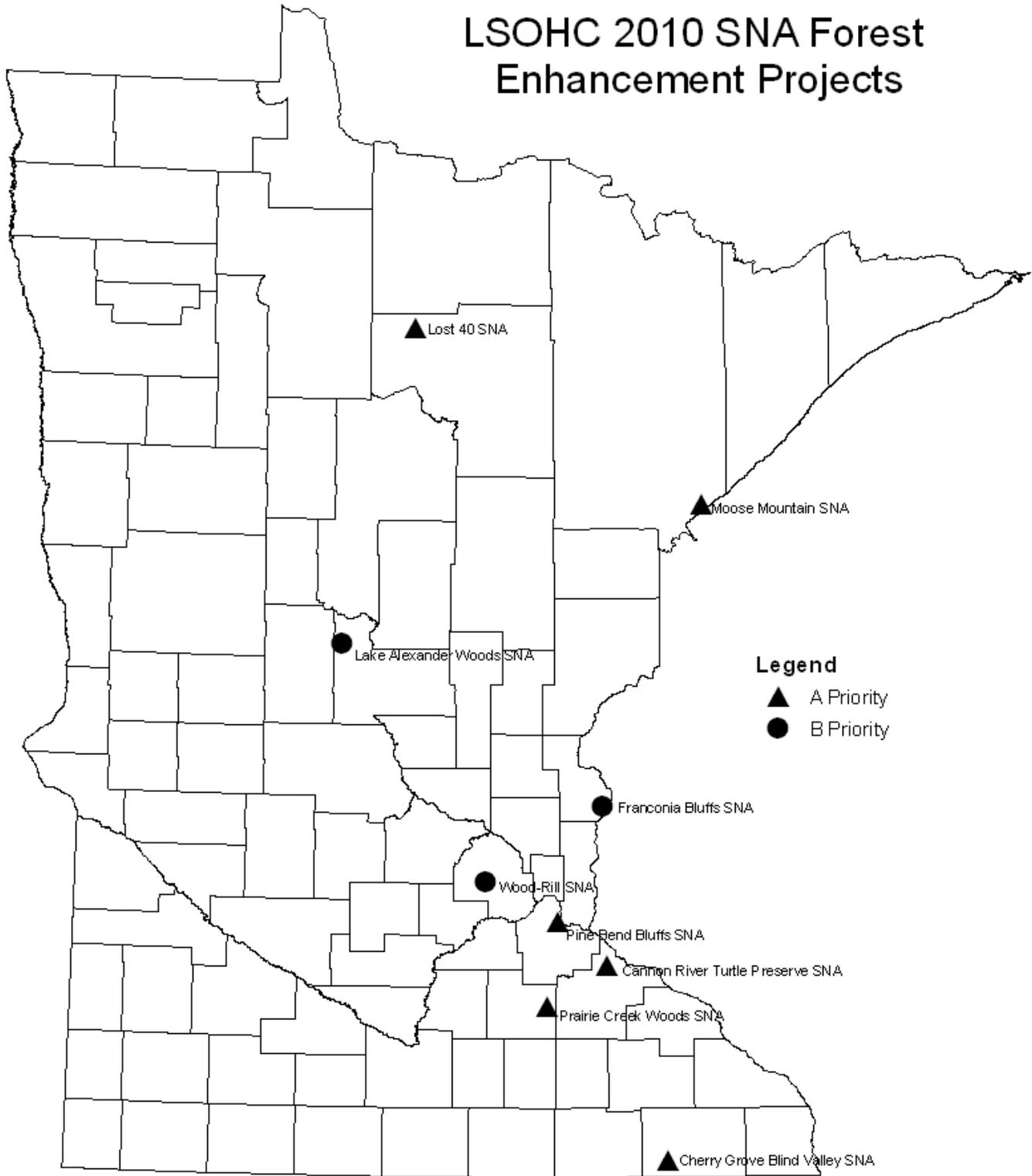
Maintenance and Sustainability

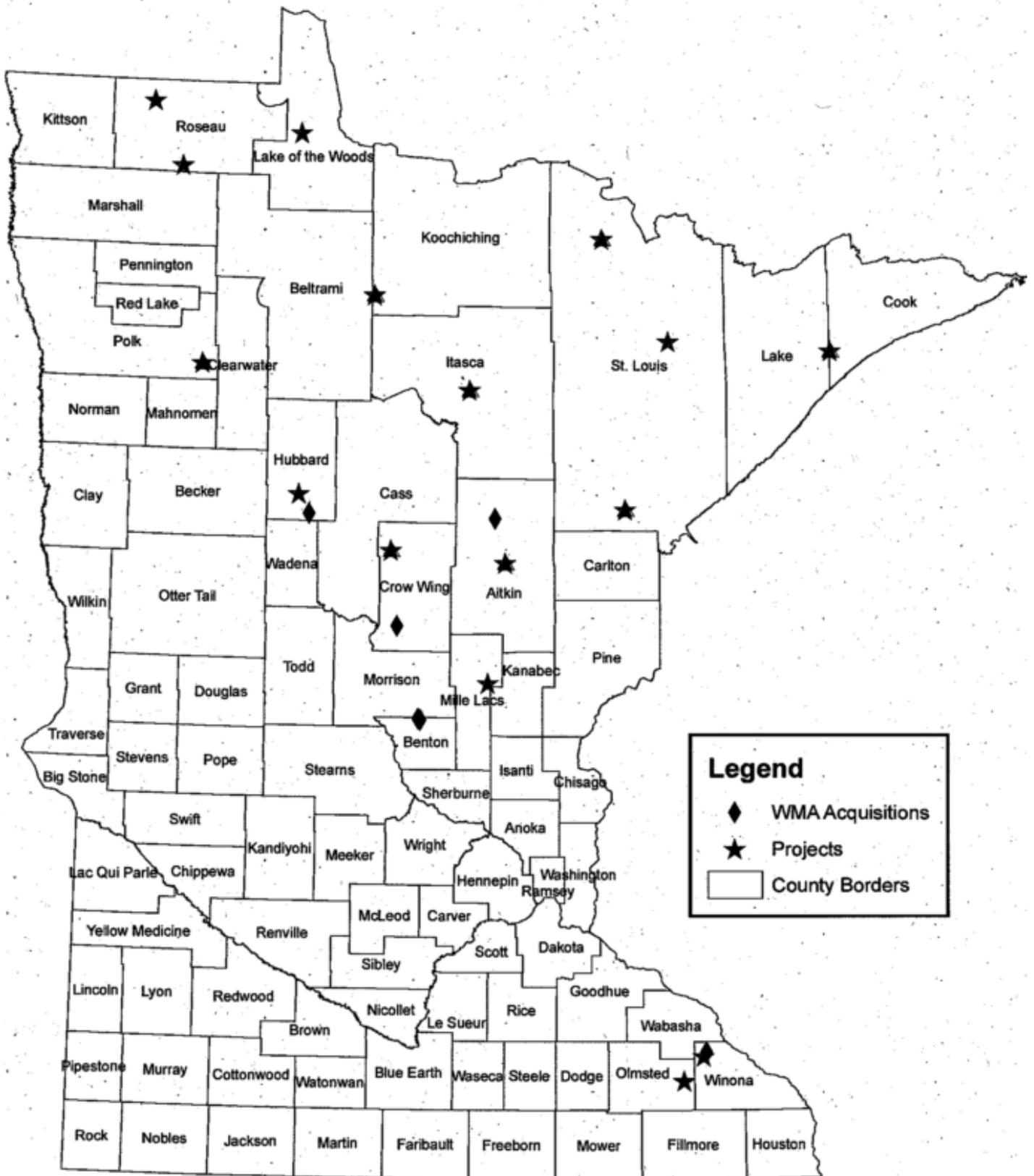
All sites funded through this proposal are or will be state lands, and are part of the state outdoor recreation system. Ongoing maintenance will be accomplished through routine management activities accomplished by our network of DNR offices. Periodic enhancements will be accomplished by existing staff, MCC crews, temporary project staffing or through vendor contract using traditional habitat project funding, bonding, and future requests for funding from dedicated funding sources.

LSOHC 2010 SNA Forest Acquisition Projects



LSOHC 2010 SNA Forest Enhancement Projects





Attachment A. Budget Spreadsheet

Name of Proposal:	Accelerated Forest Wildlife Habitat Program
Date:	3/7/2013 3/3/2014
Legal Citation / Proposal Number:	Laws of Minnesota 2010, Chapter 361, Article 1, Section 2, Subd. 3(d)

[Link Here to definitions of the budget items below.](#)

Total Amount of Request \$ 1,791,000 *From page 1 on the funding form.*

Personnel

Position breakdown here	FTE	Over # of years	LSOHC Request		Cash Leverage Source	Total
			LSOHC Request	New		
<i>SNA Acquisition Specialist</i>	0.05	1	\$ 6,000		\$	6,000
<i>SNA Contract & Prj Mgmt</i>	0.05	2	\$ 8,000		\$	8,000
<i>SNA Specialist</i>	0.45	2	\$ 46,864		\$	46,864
<i>SNA Laborers</i>	1.4	2	\$ 15,000		\$	15,000
<i>Forest Burn Crew</i>	1.5	2	\$ 16,136	\$ 11,136	\$	11,136
<i>position 6</i>					\$	-
<i>position 7</i>					\$	-
Total	3.45		\$ 92,000	\$ 11,136	\$ -	\$ 87,000

Budget and Cash Leverage *(All your LSOHC Request Funds must be direct to and necessary for program outcomes.)*

Please describe how you intend to spend the requested funds.

Budget Item	LSOHC Request		Cash Leverage Source	Total
	LSOHC Request	New		
Personnel - auto entered from above	\$ 92,000	\$ 87,000	\$ -	\$ 87,000
Contracts	\$ 474,167	\$ 516,647		\$ 516,647
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT (breakout in table 6 & 7)	\$ 878,500			\$ 878,500
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT (breakout in table 6 & 7)				\$ -
Easement Acquisition				\$ -
Easement Stewardship				\$ -
Travel (in-state)	\$ 20,755			\$ 20,755
Professional Services	\$ 91,827	\$ 80,047		\$ 80,047
DNR Direct Support Services (DNR programs only)	47,376	\$ 21,676		\$ 21,676
DNR Land Acquisition Costs				\$ -
Other				\$ -
Capital Equipment (<i>auto entered from below</i>)	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -
Other Equipment/Tools	\$ 32,250			\$ 32,250
Supplies/Materials	\$ 154,125			\$ 154,125
	\$ 1,791,000		\$ -	\$ 1,791,000

Capital Equipment *(single items over \$10,000 - auto entered into table above)*

Item Name	LSOHC Request	Leverage
<i>Item 1 enter here</i>		
<i>Item 2 enter here</i>		
<i>Item 3 enter here</i>		
<i>Item 4 enter here</i>		
<i>Item 5 enter here</i>		
<i>Item 6 enter here</i>		
<i>Item 7 enter here</i>		
<i>Item 8 enter here</i>		
Total	0	0

Attachment B. Outcome Tables

Name of Proposal:	Accelerated Forest Wildlife Habitat Program
Date:	3/7/2013 3/3/2014
Legal Citation / Proposal Number:	Laws of Minnesota 2010, Chapter 361, Article 1, Section 2, Subd. 3(d)

Table 1 and Table 3 column totals should be the same AND Table 2 and Table 4 column totals should be the same

If your project has lakes or shoreline miles instead of land acres, convert miles to acres for Tables 1 and 3 using the following conversion:

Lakeshore = 6 acres per lakeshore mile / Stream & River Shore = 12 acres per linear mile, if both sides

Table 1. Acres by Resource Type

Describe the scope of the project in acres (use conversion above if needed)

	Wetlands	Prairies	Forest	Habitats	Total
Restore					0
Protect			397		397
Enhance			6000		6000
Total	0	0	6397	0	

Total Acres (sum of Total column)

6397

These two cells should be the same figure.

Total Acres (sum of Total row)

6397

Table 2. Total Requested Funding by Resource Type

	Wetlands	Prairies	Forest	Forest New	Total
Restore					\$ -
Protect			\$ 988,000	\$ 958,547	\$ 958,547
Enhance			\$ 803,000	\$ 832,453	\$ 832,453
Total	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,791,000	\$ 1,791,000	

Total Dollars (sum of Total column)

\$ 1,791,000

These two cells should be the same figure.

Total Dollars (sum of Total row)

\$ 3,582,000

Check to make sure this amount is the same

as the Funding Request Amount on page 1 of Main Funding Form.

Table 3. Acres within each Ecological Section

	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	Northern Forest	Total
Restore						0
Protect		397				397
Enhance	35	4583	420		962	6000
Total	35	4980	420	0	962	

Total Acres (sum of Total column)

6397

These three cells should be the same figure.

Total Acres (sum of Total row)

6397

Total Acres from Table 1.

6397

Attachment C. Parcel List

Name of Proposal:	Accelerated Forest Wildlife Habitat Program
Date:	3/7/2013 3/3/2014
Legal Citation / Proposal Number:	Subd. 3(d)

County	Township	Range	Direction	Section	TRDS	# of acres	Budgetary Estimate (includes administrative, restoration or other related costs and do not include matching money contributed or earned by the transaction)	Description	Activity R=Restore P=Protect E=Enhance	Any existing protection? (yes/no)	Open to hunting and fishing? (yes/no)	
Parcel Name												
Beltrami Island State Forest	Beltrami	158, 157	37, 36	2	14, 15, 31	15837214	375	\$32,000	Mechanical treatment of Brushlands to regenerate rank and older stands. This will create open landscape conditions suitable for sharp-tail, deer, and other brushland species. Project is planned for completion in the first year unless proper winter conditions do not develop. If this occurs the project will be completed in the second year.	E	Y	Y
Bemidji, Park Rapids, and Brainerd forestry areas	Crow Wing	139, 135, 137, 138, 144, 145	32, 33, 34, 32, 31, 39	2	various	13932216	100	\$25,000	This project will help enhance natural jack pine woodlands in north-central Minnesota on DNR wildlife and forestry administered state lands. These communities are becoming increasingly rare and degraded and can provide excellent habitat for a variety of game and non-game species. We plan to use creative silvicultural treatments to help achieve existing resource management goals. Traditionally, these types of treatments have not been funded or used in these communities on a regular basis. Treatments include mowing, prescribed burning, and/or direct seeding. Project will take place over two years	E	Y	Y

Attachment C. Parcel List

Name of Proposal:	Accelerated Forest Wildlife Habitat Program
Date:	3/7/2013 3/3/2014
Legal Citation / Proposal Number:	Subd. 3(d)

County	Township	Range	Direction	Section	TRDS	# of acres	Budgetary Estimate (includes administrative, restoration or other related costs and do not include matching money contributed or earned by the transaction)	Description	Activity R=Restore P=Protect E=Enhance	Any existing protection? (yes/no)	Open to hunting and fishing? (yes/no)	
Parcel Name												
Badoura State Forest County tax forfeiture land: DNR Wildlife Park Rapids	Hubbard	139	32	2	33, 25	13932233	160	\$23,000	Mechanical treatment of Brushlands to regenerate rank and older stands. This will create open landscape conditions suitable for sharp-tail, deer, and other brushland species. Project is planned for completion in the first year unless proper winter conditions do not develop as expected. If this occurs project will be completed in the second year.	E	Y	Y
Thief Lake Wildlife Work Area	Marshall	158, 160	40, 40, 41	2	various	15840216	450	\$40,000	Setback succession in mature willow stands to improve cover and forage for deer and moose, enhance nesting and brood rearing habitat for a variety of both game and non-game brushland dependent avian species. Perpetuate the brushland component of the Aspen Parklands landscape and predispose these stands to future management with prescribed fire. Project expected to occur over two years.	E	Y	Y

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Name of Proposal:	Accelerated Forest Wildlife Habitat Program
Date:	3/7/2013 3/3/2014
Legal Citation / Proposal Number:	Subd. 3(d)

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Parcel Name												
Baudette Wildlife Work Area	Lake of the Woods	159	30	2	various	15930216	450	\$40,000	Shearing mature and usually decadent, closed canopy brush creates a better representation of successional stages across the landscape. This will provide more hospitable habitat conditions for a variety of game and nongame species including, sharp-tailed grouse, common snipe, American woodcock, sandhill cranes, short-eared and great gray owls, northern harriers, American Kestrels, and numerous other species. Mechanical treatment of brush is sometimes a necessary preliminary step to prescribed burning because it stimulates production of herbaceous biomass. This biomass provides the one- hour fuels necessary to carry a fire.	E	Y	Y
Roseau River WMA	Roseau	163	43	2	13, 14	16343213	410	\$35,000	Setback succession in mature willow stands to improve cover and forage for deer and moose, enhance nesting and brood rearing habitat for a variety of both game and non-game brushland dependent avian species. Perpetuate the brushland component of the Aspen Parklands landscape and predispose these stands to future management with prescribed fire.	E	Y	Y

Attachment C. Parcel List

Name of Proposal:	Accelerated Forest Wildlife Habitat Program
Date:	3/7/2013 3/3/2014
Legal Citation / Proposal Number:	Subd. 3(d)

County	Township	Range	Direction	Section	TRDS	# of acres	Budgetary Estimate (includes administrative, restoration or other related costs and do not include matching money contributed or earned by the transaction)	Description	Activity R=Restore P=Protect E=Enhance	Any existing protection? (yes/no)	Open to hunting and fishing? (yes/no)	
Parcel Name												
Menahga WMA (FIM Stand 100) & Yeager WMA: DNR Wildlife Park Rapids	Wadena	137, 137	34, 34	2	3, 10, 6, 7	13734203	25	\$10,000	One of the broad landscape goals set forth by the Chippewa Plains-Pine Moraines and Outwash Plains (CP-PMOP) Subsection Forest Resource Management Plan (SFRMP) is to increase the total acreage of jack pine. This project will promote an increase in the ecological diversity of an important Wildlife Management Area (WMA) (i.e. Yeager Lake & Menahga WMAs) in the Park Rapids Work Area (PRWA). This project includes site preparation, prescribed burning, and reforestation of jack pine and oak forest communities. Deliverable changes, including site preparation (i.e. firebreak construction) will be immediately obvious in the summer of 2010. Deliverable changes from prescribed burning, trenching, jack pine seeding, and tree planting will be obvious in the summer and fall of 2011. Site preparation, prescribed burning, trenching, jack pine seeding, and tree planting are all established techniques with a history of success in jack pine reforestation.	E	Y	Y

Attachment C. Parcel List

Name of Proposal:	Accelerated Forest Wildlife Habitat Program
Date:	3/7/2013 3/3/2014
Legal Citation / Proposal Number:	Subd. 3(d)

County	Township	Range	Direction	Section	TRDS	# of acres	Budgetary Estimate (includes administrative, restoration or other related costs and do not include matching money contributed or earned by the transaction)	Description	Activity R=Restore P=Protect E=Enhance	Any existing protection? (yes/no)	Open to hunting and fishing? (yes/no)
Deer River Area Forestry	Itasca	146	27	2	28 14627228	14	\$2,300	Increase the proportion of paper birch and red oak in mixed hardwood/conifer regeneration. Contract to hand cut adjacent competing vegetation. Work may be done spring summer or fall.	E	Y	Y
Deer River Area Forestry	Itasca	55	23	2	36 05523236	34	\$3,000	Increase the proportion of paper birch and yellow birch in mixed hardwood/conifer regeneration. Contract to hand cut adjacent competing vegetation. Work may be done spring summer or fall.	E	Y	Y
Deer River Area Forestry (Adaptive Forest Management Area)	Itasca	147	26	2	various 14726216	60	\$9,000	Use prescribed fire in forest habitats as a site prep tool, to encourage regeneration of white pine in the forest understory. Sites will each have a detailed burn plan prepared. Specific accomplishments are weather dependent. Burns will take place during the snow-free part of the year, with spring and late summer most common.	E	Y	Y
Littlefork Forestry Area	Koochiching	69	25	2	8, 9 06925208	46	\$9,200	Maintain open brushy habitat by hydroaxing decadent brush. Contract for services. Increase conifer component of birch/aspen stands by planting.	E	Y	Y
Manitou Collaborative	Lake	59	7	2	35, 36 05907235	90	\$13,500	Part of Manitou Collaborative project area.	E	Y	Y

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Parcel Name												
TH Area - StTrFnd & CoTxFor	Lake	58, 59	7, 8	2	various	05807216	20	\$4,000	Regenerate declining fire-dependent mixed forest by mowing with a hydroaxe during leaf off to stimulate new growth.	E	Y	Y
Two Harbors Forestry Area	Lake	57	11	2	13, 14	05711213	60	\$7,000	Use prescribed fire in forest habitats as a site prep tool, to encourage regeneration of conifer in the forest understory, and encourage mast production. Sites will each have a detailed burn plan prepared. Specific accomplishments are weather dependent. Burns will take place during the snow-free part of the year, with spring and late summer most common.	E	Y	Y
Sandstone Forestry - Nemadji State Forest	Pine	58	7	2	17	05807217	80	\$5,600	Increase red oak component of mesic central hardwoods stand by hand cutting adjacent competing vegetation. Release work will occur in 2011 and again in 2013.	E	Y	Y

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Parcel Name											
Blackduck Forestry Area	Beltrami	150	29	2	various 15029216	30	\$1,000	Use prescribed fire in forest habitats as a site prep tool, to encourage regeneration of conifer in the forest understory, and encourage mast production. Sites will each have a detailed burn plan prepared. Specific accomplishments are weather dependent. Burns will take place during the snow-free part of the year, with spring and late summer most common.	E	Y	Y
Cloquet Area Forestry	St. Louis	54	13	2	16 05413216	125	\$12,000	Use prescribed fire in forest habitats as a site prep tool, to encourage regeneration of white pine. Sites will each have a detailed burn plan prepared. Specific accomplishments are weather dependent. Burns will take place during the snow-free part of the year, with spring and late summer most common. Maintain in-stand diversity in conifer regeneration by hand cutting adjacent competing vegetation. Accomplished by contract.	E	Y	Y
Orr Forestry Area	St. Louis	64	21	2	various 06421216	100	\$10,000	Increase the proportion of white pine and red pine in regenerating northern mixed conifer forest. Contract to hand cut adjacent competing vegetation. Work may be done spring summer or fall.	E	Y	Y
TH Area - StTrFnd	St. Louis	54, 55	12	2	36 05412236	75	\$6,000		E	Y	Y

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								Increase the proportion of conifer in regenerating northern mixed conifer forest . Contract to hand cut adjacent competing vegetation. Work may be done spring summer or fall.			
Tower Forestry Area	St. Louis	63	17	2	20 06317220	54	\$10,000		E	Y	Y
								Increase the proportion of white spruce e in regenerating northern mixed conifer forest . Project will also enhance oak. Contract to hand cut adjacent competing vegetation. Work may be done spring summer or fall.			
Tower Forestry Area	St. Louis	64	18	2	36 06418236	54	\$4,500	Convert declining northern pine dependent mixed forest to a mixed forest with a significant component of white pine and white spruce. Will provide thermal cover for moose. Shear site in year 1 , follow up with planting in year 2.	E	Y	Y
TH Area - Moose/State Forest	Cook	63	4	1	various 06304116	90	\$11,000		E	Y	Y
								Increase the proportion of paper birch and red oak in mixed hardwood/conifer regeneration. Contract to hand cut adjacent competing vegetation. Work may be done spring summer or fall.			
Deer River Area Forestry	Cass	143	25	2	36 14325236	14	\$1,400		E	Y	Y
								Increase the proportion of white pine, balsam fir, and white spruce in mixed hardwood/conifer regeneration. Contract to hand cut adjacent competing vegetation. Work may be done spring summer or fall.			
Deer River Area Forestry	Itasca	61	24	2	16 06126205	14	\$1,500		E	Y	Y

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Parcel Name											
Moose Willow WMA	Aitkin	51	25	2	9 05125209	50	\$5,000	Use prescribed fire to regenerate jack pine dominated dry-mesic mixed woodland.	E	Y	Y
Sax-Zim WMA	St Louis	55	18	2	26 05518226	300	\$39,000	Maintain openland conditions by mowing brush at the Sax-Zim WMA habitat complex of state and county administered lands	E	Y	Y
Hibbing Area Forestry	St. Louis	60	21	2	various 06021216	50	\$7,000	Use prescribed fire in forest habitats as a site prep tool, to encourage regeneration of conifer in the forest understory, and encourage mast production. Sites will each have a detailed burn plan prepared. Specific accomplishments are weather dependent. Burns will take place during the snow-free part of the year, with spring and late summer most common.	E	Y	Y
Sandstone Area Forestry	Pine	42	17	2	various 04217216	60	\$5,000	Use prescribed fire in forest habitats as a site prep tool, to encourage regeneration of conifer or oak in the forest understory, and encourage mast production. Sites will each have a detailed burn plan prepared. Specific accomplishments are weather dependent. Burns will take place during the snow-free part of the year, with spring and late summer most common.	E	Y	Y

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Parcel Name												
Littlefork Area Forestry	Koochiching	66	26	2	various	06626216	40	\$5,000	Use prescribed fire in forest habitats as a site prep tool, to encourage regeneration of conifer in the forest understory, and encourage mast production. Sites will each have a detailed burn plan prepared. Specific accomplishments are weather dependent. Burns will take place during the snow-free part of the year, with spring and late summer most common.	E	Y	Y
Tower Area Forestry	St. Louis	61	14	2	various	06114216	40	\$7,000	Use prescribed fire in forest habitats as a site prep tool, to encourage regeneration of conifer in the forest understory, and encourage mast production. Sites will each have a detailed burn plan prepared. Specific accomplishments are weather dependent. Burns will take place during the snow-free part of the year, with spring and late summer most common. Promote diversity on this site dominated by aspen. The costs will cover trees and planting to add hardwood and conifer	E	Y	Y
Four Brooks WMA	Mille Lacs	40	27	2	22	04027222	25	\$8,000	component to the WMA.	E	Y	Y

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Parcel Name											
Four Brooks WMA	Mille Lacs	40	27	2	21 04027221	250	\$60,000	This project will contract for hydroaxing and biomass sale to add age diversity to this otherwise large WMA dominated by aspen and willow of similar age structure.	E	Y	Y
Mille Lacs WMA	Mille Lacs	41	25	2	29 04125229	100	\$37,000	This project will support Pre and Post timber sale work and prescribed burning to focus on regeneration of oak. The project will focus on planting oak seedling prior to timber sale followed by hand release and post sale burning to reduce competition.	E	Y	Y
Whitewater WMA	Winona	108	10	2	27 10810227	209	\$104,500	This project would support Pre and Post timber sale work to focus on regeneration of Upland and Lowland forest types to desirable species. Lowland sites would require pre-sale tree planting with herbicide follow up to reduce reed canary grass competition. Upland sites would require pre-sale tree planting and post-sale release.	E	Y	Y
Whitewater WMA	Winona	108	10	2	4 10810204	90	\$16,598	Cooperative project with Division of Forestry. Project to conduct post-sale treatment/timber stand improvement on 90 additional acres of past-harvested timber sales. Work will release 150 desirable crop trees per acre to assure sustainable oak resource in future stands.	E	Y	Y

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<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>Parcel Name</p> </div> <div style="width: 55%; border-left: 1px solid black; padding-left: 10px;"> <p>This project will focus on returning fire to the Lost 40 SNA's old-growth pine forest and related stands where no prescribed burns are known to have ever been done. Site preparation including some understory clearing and fire break construction will take place before a prescribed fire. Planning and implementation will be carried out cooperatively with the USFS, as adjoining federal lands may be treated at the same time. This funding is for all DNR staff and costs directly associated with the project and for contract work, such as Conservation Corps</p> </div> </div>											
Lost 40 SNA	Itasca	150	27	2	34 15027234	10	\$14,800	Minnesota.	E	Y	Y

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Parcel Name											
Moose Mountain SNA	St Louis	51	13	2	22 05113222	160	\$37,000	Moose Mountain SNA features old growth northern hardwood forest and successional forest following wildfire. This project will focus on the full eradication of invasive plants, including buckthorn, tansy, and Canada thistle, which have had very limited encroachment to date on this site. A comprehensive inventory will be the first step, performed either by DNR staff or a contractor. Removal work will be done mainly by hand and in different seasons to hit the different invasives during peak times. This funding is for all DNR staff and costs directly associated with the project (including SNA staff with expertise in sensitive feature protection measures) and for Sentence to Serve crews, Conservation Corp of Minnesota and contractors used to carry out these activities.	E	Y	Y

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Parcel Name											
Pine Bend Bluffs SNA	Dakota	27	22	2	34 02722234	35	\$26,300	Pine Bend Bluffs SNA is native hardwood forest (with remnant pine and pockets of bluff prairie) which faces increased invasion of exotics due to oak wilt and exotic earthworms as well as new additions to the SNA (including donated land). This project will use hand cutting, spot spraying, and prescribed burning to treat woody invasives (including buckthorn and honeysuckle) as well as numerous herbaceous invasives species. Steep slopes, erodible soils, and sensitive plant communities almost entirely exclude the use of mechanical methods and virtually all work is done by hand crews. This funding is for all DNR staff and costs directly associated with the project (including SNA staff with expertise in sensitive feature protection measures) and for contractors which will conduct most of the work.	E	Y	Y

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Parcel Name											
Cherry Grove Blind Valley SNA	Fillmore	101	12	2	3 10112203	30	\$27,100	The Cherry Grove Blind Valley SNA is protected for the sensitive and rare above and underground karst features, including an undisturbed cave system, and above ground steep-sided blind valleys and sink holes that preclude the use of heavy equipment. Management goals are to protect the underground cave system and restore native plant community (oak savanna) above ground. This project will use prescribed fire, inter-seeding of native plants, prescribed burning, and hand cutting and spot-spraying exotic invasive buckthorn understory. This funding is for all DNR staff and costs directly associated with the project (including SNA staff with expertise in sensitive feature protection measures) and for Sentence to Serve crews, Conservation Corp of Minnesota and contractors used to carry out these activities.	E	Y	Y

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Parcel Name											
								of the Cannon River Turtle Preserve on the north bank of the Cannon River Valley which is a complex of floodplain forest and wooded ravines that grade into savanna and prairie openings on the steep south-facing bluffs along the river. Woody invasives have invaded from the cultivated fields on the bluff top and have moved into the woodlands and lack of fire has allowed the savanna and prairie openings to become overgrown with native and exotic woody plants. The steep, erodible slopes prevent the use of mechanical methods, so all work is done by hand (hand cutting, spot spraying, and burning). This project includes woody invasive removal followed by prescribed burning to promote and expand the native plant communities and enhance the transition between woodland and prairie. This funding is for all DNR staff and costs directly associated with the project (including SNA staff with expertise in sensitive feature protection measures) and for	E	Y	Y
Cannon R Turtle Preserve SNA	Goodhue	113	16	2	25 11316225	45	\$30,000				

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Parcel Name											
								Prairie Creek Woods SNA protects a maple basswood forest and several rare species which are threatened primarily by the invasive exotics buckthorn and garlic mustard. This project will use hand pulling and cutting, and spot spraying these invaders. The terrain and sensitivity of the woods to any mechanical methods requires that hand crews are used. This funding is for all DNR staff and costs directly associated with the project (including SNA staff with expertise in sensitive feature protection measures) and for Sentence to Serve crews, Conservation Corp of Minnesota and contractors used to carry out these activities.			
	Rice	110	19	2	4 11019204	20	\$18,800		E	Y	Y

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Parcel Name											
Chisago		33	19	2	3 03319203	15	\$13,300	<p>Franconia Bluffs SNA protects significant high quality forest on steep bluffs with extremely erodible slopes. All management on these slopes must be carried out with hand crews to avoid damage to the slopes and native plant community. This project would include cutting and spot-spraying exotic invasive woody and herbaceous species and the first phase of removal of pine-spruce plantations and associated erosion control on the bluff-tops prior to restoration of native forest . Their proximity to the ravines will limit the use of heavy equipment along the tops of slopes. This funding would be for all DNR staff and costs directly associated with the project (including SNA staff with expertise in sensitive feature protection measures) and for Sentence to Serve crews, Conservation Corp of Minnesota and contractors used to carry out these activities.</p>	E	Y	Y

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<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>Parcel Name</p> <p style="font-size: small; margin-top: 10px;">Wood-Rill SNA</p> </div> <div style="width: 45%; font-size: small;"> <p>Wood-Rill SNA is a remnant maple basswood forest that is threatened by invasive exotic woody and herbaceous species, and earth worms. This project would treat buckthorn and garlic mustard use hand pulling and cutting, and spot spraying. The terrain and sensitivity of the woods to any mechanical methods requires that hand crews are used. This funding would be for all DNR staff and costs directly associated with the project (including SNA staff with expertise in sensitive feature protection measures) and for Sentence to Serve crews, Conservation Corp of Minnesota and contractors used to carry out these activities.</p> </div> </div>											
Hennepin		118	23	2	36 11823236	80	\$22,400		E	Y	Y
Land Acquisitions											

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<p>Parcel Name</p>											
								<p>This is funding is towards acquisition of a 257-acre parcel to be designated as a new SNA (and open to all public hunting and fishing) that is part of a 980-acre interdisciplinary DNR acquisition project. The subject track includes ~1.2 miles of frontage on the Mississippi River and ~0.9 miles of both sides of LaSalle Creek which provide public fishing opportunities. The site is predominantly MCBS-mapped Jack Pine Woodland and Red Pine-White Pine Woodland with White Cedar Swamp (including rare species) and wetlands along the river and creek.</p>			
LaSalle Lake SNA	Hubbard	145	35	2	31 14535231	167	\$620,931		P	N	Y
Willowissippi WMA	Aitkin	50	25	2	10 05025210	80	\$75,000	<p>Complete Acquisition of Existing Unit. Protect remainder of shallow lake and adjacent upland</p>	P	N	Y
Ray Cook WMA	Crow Wing	44	31	2	24 04431224	120	\$264,000	<p>Complete purchase of in holdings within WMA. Partnership with Hill City Chapter of MWA</p>	P	N	Y
Graham WMA	Benton	38	30	2	1 03830201	30	\$120,000	<p>In-holding within Graham WMA</p>	P	N	Y