

## ML 2014 / FY 2015 Member Comment Summary Sheet

Project ID	Project Title	Organization	Original Fund Request	Notes:
PA-1	DNR Wildlife Management Area and Scientific & Natural Area Acquisition --Phase VI	DNR	\$7,092,000	<b>EW:</b> To be matched by bonding dollars; <b>DH:</b> Focus on native prairie acquisition - minimum of 70% of the allocation- only for expansion of existing WMAs - no emergency grazing, <b>SO:</b> More important to acquire land already in grassland/prairie and in danger of conversion, than to convert ag land to grassland/prairie; <b>JK:</b> Native Prairie first.; only SNAs; <b>SR:</b> wma's must be in the 13 counties in the sw part of the
PA-2	Accelerating the Wildlife Management Area Program - Phase VI	Pheasants Forever	\$15,250,000	<b>EW:</b> Focus on existing grassland; <b>DH:</b> Focus on native prairie acquisition - minimum of 70% of the allocation - only for expansion of existing WMAs - no emergency grazing, <b>SO:</b> Conflict of Interest, recent Pheasants Forever affiliation; <b>JK:</b> Native Prairie first. High % On The Ground. More \$/acre. 30% of deals don't close.
PA-3	Prairie Recovery Project --Phase V	The Nature Conservancy	\$5,107,700	<b>EW:</b> Focus on existing grassland, <b>SR:</b> all dss are at 50% of current application, <b>DH:</b> Focus on native prairie acquisition - minimum of 70% of acquisition funds - No direct services for facilities (11% vs 15%), <b>SO:</b> Funded at reduced amount per 9/11 email. Important to protect original native prairie; <b>JK:</b> Native Prairie first. Low \$/acre. High Leverage.
PA-4	Northern Tallgrass Prairie National Wildlife Refuge Land Acquisition --Phase V	The Nature Conservancy	\$2,451,200	<b>EW:</b> high impact per dollar spent, <b>SR:</b> all dss are at 50% of current application, <b>DH:</b> Focus on native prairie acquisition - minimum of 70% of the allocation. No direct services for facilities (11% vs 15%) - no emergency grazing; <b>SO:</b> Funded at reduced amount per 9/11/2013 email. Full pipeline of projects ready to go.; <b>JK:</b> Native Prairie first.
PA-5	Cannon River Headwaters Habitat Complex Phase IV	Trust for Public Land	\$2,000,000	<b>SO:</b> The habitat complexes within the headwaters region provide multiple benefits for wildlife, fish, habitat, and water; <b>JK:</b> Native Prairie first. 100% On The Ground.
PA-6	Accelerated protection of grassland and prairie habitat with (RIM) and (NPB) easements	DNR	\$40,000,000	<b>EW:</b> need to decrease time for easement closure, <b>DH:</b> Focus on native prairie acquisition - 70% of the funds - no emergency grazing; <b>SO:</b> If we had more funding dollars available, I would give more to this project; <b>JK:</b> Native Prairie first.; <b>RH:</b> Prairie Only...no grassland
PA-7	Minnesota Buffers for Wildlife and Water --Phase IV	BWSR	\$5,000,000	<b>EW:</b> with matching funds from clean water fund, <b>DH:</b> No emergency grazing; <b>SO:</b> I feel it is important to take advantage of the CWF leverage; <b>JK:</b> Native Prairie first. Joint CWF.
PA-8	Green Corridor Legacy Program -- Phase V	Green Corridors	\$3,741,000	<b>EW:</b> be specific on parcels, <b>DH:</b> No emergency grazing; <b>SO:</b> This plan is very vague, and appears to have an emphasis on tourism and new business benefits -- where the primary beneficiary is people and not wildlife/habitat, the project should not be funded by the LSOHC. Several of the projects listed in the request are wishlist items and not actually specific; <b>JK:</b> Native Prairie first. High % On The Ground.
PRE-1	DNR Grassland -- Phase VI	DNR	\$2,942,000	<b>EW:</b> catch up on previous phases, <b>SR:</b> no fencing money, no farm bill assistance money; <b>SO:</b> Funding the portion titled: Prairie Conservation Plan Delivery through Farm Bill Assistance Enhancement; <b>JK:</b> High DSS; <b>DM:</b> don't pay for fence unless good ROI
PRE-2	Anoka Sandplain Habitat Restoration and Enhancement -- Phase III	Great River Greening	\$1,996,000	<b>EW:</b> good value for dollars spent, <b>SR:</b> urban metro region only; <b>SO:</b> Funding for Anoka Nature Preserve Phase 2, Sherburne NWR Phase 3, Crane Meadows MWR, and Mississippi River County Park
PRE-3	Wirth Park Habitat Enhancements	Minneapolis Park Board	\$865,000	<b>EW:</b> need measureable outcomes; <b>SO:</b> This is a 5 year project with an extremely slow timeline that is focused on invasive species removal. Since this would be only \$173,000 per year, I recommend that the grant requestor instead seek funds from the CPL program.; <b>JK:</b> Prohibitively expensive @ >\$4K/acre; <b>DM:</b> Should apply for CPL grant

PRE-4	Crow-Hassan Prairie Complex Restoration and Enhancement	Three Rivers Park District	\$536,000 <b>JK:</b> Low cost, good leverage, high % On The Ground.
PRE-5	Praire and Oak Savanna Restoration along Mississippi and Rum Rivers	Anoka County	\$470,000 <b>EW:</b> include non-game and game species inventory in outcomes; <b>JK:</b> Prairie Restoration portion. High \$/acre. High \$ materials.
FA-1	Dynamic Forest Conservation	American Bird Conservancy	\$4,241,800 <b>EW:</b> focus on activities 4, 5, and 6; <b>JK:</b> Relatively low \$/acre.
FA-2	Preventing Forest Fragmentation and Protecting and Restoring Lake and Stream Habitat in the St. Louis River Watershed	Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa	\$2,924,000 <b>EW:</b> purchase priority property; <b>JK:</b> Protect lake. Must be permanent.; <b>DM:</b> buy as a WMA, DNR contract with tribe to manage; <b>RS:</b> Need resolution over who controls non-band hunting rights, aka wolf hunting. Is purchasing Indian trust land the same as purchasing a wetland for USFWS? Need answer. Would support DNR purchase with Band management agreement.
FA-3	Camp Ripley ACUB...Protecting one of the last great places in Minnesota --Phase IV	Morrison County	\$3,501,600 <b>EW:</b> good matching funds; <b>SO:</b> The criteria used to determine parcel selection is at least 80% percent focused on people, and the impact on habitat/wildlife is less than secondary in nature. The habitat/wildlife component should be driving the selection of funded projects by the LSOHC, not the people component.
FA-4	Northeastern Minnesota Sharp-tailed Grouse Habitat Partnership --Phase V	MN Sharp-tailed Grouse Society	\$5,848,000 <b>EW:</b> native game bird, <b>DH:</b> No emergency grazing; <b>SO:</b> Conflict of Interest, recent Pheasants Forever affiliation; <b>JK:</b> Acquisitions first.
FA-5	Protecting Pinelands Sands Aquifer Forestlands and Aquatic Habitat Phase 1	DNR	\$4,268,600
FA-6	Protect (Acquire) Key Forest Habitat Lands - Cass County Phase V	Cass County	\$2,027,600 <b>EW:</b> primary focus needs to be on habitat
FA-7	State Forest Acquisitions Phase II- RJ Dorer Memorial Hardwoods State Forest Land Asset Project	DNR	\$3,000,000 <b>EW:</b> prioritize parcels for best habitat at earliest date; <b>SO:</b> I recommend the grant requestors work at spending the funds from last year's grant before they seek additional funding. I would like to see some success from Phase 1 first.; <b>JK:</b> Higher \$/acre.
FA-8	Southeast Minnesota Protection and Restoration -- Phase II	The Nature Conservancy	\$7,819,000 <b>SR:</b> dss at 50% of application; <b>SO:</b> Although an expensive project, there is little public land available in the southeastern section of Minnesota, and this project will provide it. Recommended amount is the reduced number given in 9/11/13 email
FRE-1	Big Woods Habitat Corridors in Scott County	Scott County	\$1,840,100 <b>SO:</b> Despite many questions during the presentation, the grant requestor was unable to describe what restoration and enhancement was to be done with the funds.
FRE-2	Floodplain Forest Enhancement - Mississippi River	Audubon Society	\$655,000 <b>SO:</b> It will take up to 3 years to complete this project and the same work would need to be continued for many years thereafter. This would qualify for CPL funds if broken into 1 or 2-year segments. I encourage the requestor to apply to the CPL program instead.; <b>JK:</b> 190 acres in Goodhue County.
WA-1	RIM-WRP Partnership -- Phase VI	BWSR	\$17,550,000 <b>EW:</b> catch up on previous phases, <b>DH:</b> Focus some effort on native prairie acquisition - minimum of 20% of the allocation - no emergency grazing; <b>SO:</b> If we had more funding dollars available, I would give more to this project; <b>JK:</b> Outstanding leverage.
WA-2	Accelerating the Waterfowl Production Area Program - Phase VI	Pheasants Forever	\$12,350,000 <b>EW:</b> catch up on previous phases; <b>SO:</b> Conflict of Interest, recent Pheasants Forever affiliation; <b>JK:</b> High leverage.

WA-3	Wild Rice Shoreland Protection Phase III	BWSR	\$2,775,100	
WRE-1	Accelerated Shallow Lakes and Wetland Enhancement - DNR - Phase VI		\$2,250,000	<b>EW:</b> prioritize tracts and enhancements; <b>SO:</b> Recommend funding one year's worth of overall project
WRE-2	Living Shallow Lakes & Wetlands Initiative -- Phase IV	Ducks Unlimited	\$6,000,000	<b>EW:</b> prioritize tracts and enhancements, <b>DH:</b> Combine with WRE-1 rather than two separate projects; <b>SO:</b> Recommend funding one year's worth of overall project
H AIS-2	Protect Aquatic Habitat from Asian Carp	DNR	\$6,500,000	<b>EW:</b> apply for funding after update plan is in place, <b>DH:</b> My guess is that the locks will get closed and the DNR will ask to modify the existing funds for this project; <b>SO:</b> No actual plan to do anything, the proposal was merely theoretical; <b>JK:</b> Close L/D #1. Substitution, Research, Poorly Defined. High DSS.; <b>RS:</b> Vague proposal. "At this time, this proposal is unable to identify specific tasks..."
H AIS-3	Minnehaha Creek Watershed District (MCWD) Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Management Program	Minnehaha Creek Watershed District	\$2,070,000	<b>EW:</b> MCWD has a plan and is putting effort into controlling invasives in their district; <b>SO:</b> Use this project as a test case for efficacy and acceptance, prior to expending funds elsewhere in the state. Has group considered utilizing user fees for the project lakes, to increase the scope of the project?; <b>JK:</b> First must have (1) Mandate (2) 24/7 availability & manning (3) Penalty for noncompliance.; <b>RS:</b> Launches pilot project for AIS control techniques
H AIS-4	Statewide AIS Facilities and Equipment	MN COLA	\$25,182,900	<b>SO:</b> There are too many problems with this project, and even the Copmmissioner of the DNR said that it would not work. It makes more sense to try a test case on a smaller scale first (see project H AIS-3), and see whether it is even a viable option.; <b>JK:</b> First must have (1) Mandate (2) 24/7 availability & manning (3) Penalty for noncompliance.; <b>RH:</b> pilot project administered by MDA; <b>DM:</b> Statewide competitive grant to LUG or las associations; <b>RS:</b> Proposal beyond the scope of Council; Needs statewide legislative scrutiny.
CPL-1	Conservation Partners Legacy Grant Program ML2014	DNR	\$5,000,000	<b>SO:</b> If we are going to have a Metro side of CPL, I think we need to bring the original CPL down for an overall combined budget of \$6MM
CPL-2	Conservation Partners Legacy Metro Grant Program ML2014	DNR	\$5,000,000	<b>SO:</b> If we are going to have a Metro side of CPL, I think we need to bring the original CPL down for an overall combined budget of \$6MM
X-1	Contract Management	DNR	\$175,000	<b>JC:</b> Dept of Admin/Not DNR
X-2	Restoration Evaluations	DNR	\$100,000	
HA-1	MN DNR Aquatic Habitat Program - Phase VI	DNR	\$5,450,000	<b>EW:</b> focus on enhancement projects; need to get caught up on previous FY allocations, <b>SR:</b> ama acquisition only ; <b>JK:</b> AMA acquisitions first, then restorations. High \$ Personnel.
HA-2	Metro Big Rivers --Phase V	Minnesota Valley Trust	\$3,689,000	<b>EW:</b> focus on enhancement and proposals with highest leverage; <b>SO:</b> Funding recommendation is for MVT and TPL projects; <b>JK:</b> Acquisitions first.

HA-3	Vermillion River WMA Acquisition	DNR	\$6,452,800 <b>EW:</b> work with Dakota County to purchase entire acreage; <b>DH:</b> No holding cost reimbursement, seller should agree to make payment equal to property taxes for duration of mining activity, <b>SO:</b> DNR indicated that this is a high-priority project for them, and they would try to find other funds to complete the project if possible. I propose funding a portion of the project.; <b>JK:</b> Very expensive when value of gravel to operator factored in.; <b>RS:</b> Land deal questions need to be resolved
HA-4	Fisheries Habitat Protection on Strategic North Central Minnesota Lakes	Leech Lake Watershed Foundation	\$8,392,800 <b>EW:</b> purchase priority property, <b>SR:</b> must do lake roosevelt; <b>SO:</b> Recommend funding the acquisition, but not the easements at this time; <b>JK:</b> Woods Bay acquisition.; <b>RS:</b> Begin Roosevelt lake acquisition, begin easement process
HA-5	3,500-foot Shoreland Acquisition on the St. Croix River	Washington County	\$2,500,000 <b>EW:</b> submit habitat enhancement grant proposal to CPL; <b>SO:</b> The main beneficiary of this project would be people who are enjoying the uninterrupted view of the river from the State Trail, which is less than 200 feet from the shoreline. Since the focus is clearly for "people", it does not qualify for funding that is intended for wildlife/habitat purposes.; <b>JK:</b> Prohibitively expensive. Poor habitat value.
HA-6	Habitat Protection/Restoration in Dakota County -- Phase V	Dakota County	\$1,550,000 <b>EW:</b> good track record and conservation partner
HA-7	Mustinka River Fish and Wildlife Habitat Corridor Rehabilitation - REVISED \$\$	Bois de Sioux Watershed District	\$2,723,225 <b>SO:</b> I recommend funding at the revised amount, however, I have concerns that the primary purpose of the project may be focused more on flooding control (which is not appropriate for LSOHC funds) than habitat/wildlife purposes.
HRE-1	Minnesota Trout Unlimited Coldwater Fish Habitat Enhancement & Restoration --Phase VI	Minnesota Trout Unlimited	\$2,600,000 <b>EW:</b> good community involvement and track record
HRE-2	St. Louis River Restoration Initiative --Phase II	DNR	\$3,221,400 <b>EW:</b> matching with Clean Water Fund; <b>JK:</b> High Leverage. Great partnership.
HRE-3	Duluth 2012 Flood: Stream Habitat Restoration Program	South St. Louis County SWCD	\$5,667,500 <b>EW:</b> other funding possibilities, <b>SR:</b> misled council on application; <b>SO:</b> Recommend funding for priorities 1, 2, and 3; <b>JK:</b> Prohibitively expensive. Breakouts CPL-eligible.
HRE-4	Knife River Habitat Rehabilitation -- Phase II	Lake Superior Steelhead Assoc.	\$1,499,000 <b>EW:</b> restoration activities after plan and personnel in place
HRE-6	Washington County's Last Best Places	Washington County	\$775,000 <b>SO:</b> Recommend funding for sites 1 and 3 only; <b>JK:</b> Breakouts CPL-eligible.
HRE-7	Grey Cloud Slough Habitat Restoration	South Washington Watershed District	\$452,000 <b>EW:</b> apply for habitat restoration funds after bridge is in place; <b>SO:</b> According to the information in the presentation, the cost of the large culvert would be about \$1.2MM and the district already has these funds. The increased benefit for habitat is nominal between the large culvert and the bridge option. The highest benefit of the bridge would be for people, not habitat and wildlife.; <b>JK:</b> Transportation project.
HRE-8	Lake Nokomis Habitat Enhancements	Minneapolis Park Board	\$604,000 <b>EW:</b> if matched by Park Board; <b>SO:</b> Can't do the other projects without getting rid of the first carp. It appears the requestors have not considered poisoning the lake and restocking first. Also, this is not a proven technology that will in fact manage the carp.; <b>DM:</b> Should apply for CPL Grant

HRE-9	Lake Independence Fish Habitat Improvement Project	Three Rivers Park District	\$510,000 <b>EW:</b> other pollution issues need to be addressed first; <b>SO:</b> There has been ongoing pollution from feedlots in the West which has not ended. Without elimination of the agricultural pollution, it does not make sense to address the quality issues coming from the East side. Once the feedlot pollution is addressed, please bring this project back for consideration again.; <b>DM:</b> Should apply for CPL Grant
HRE-10	Northwest Bluffs	Ramsey County Parks and Recreation	\$468,000 <b>SO:</b> This is very close to the CPL limit so would suggest that the requestors seek CPL funding instead.; <b>DM:</b> Should apply for CPL Grant
NEW	Three Rivers Park District's Cleary Lake enhancement	Three Rivers Park District	\$400,000 <b>EW:</b> to be matched by Three Rivers Park District; <b>SO:</b> Suggest the requestors first get the watershed runoff issues under control, or they will need to repeat the process again within a few years
DH	AIS inspection/decontamination grant program write in	unknown	<b>DH:</b> To Initiative Foundation (a community foundation) to run a grant program to communities or