



## Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

Hennepin County Habitat Conservation Program, Phase 1  
Laws of Minnesota 2018 Final Report

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### General Information

**Date:** 03/21/2024

**Project Title:** Hennepin County Habitat Conservation Program, Phase 1

**Funds Recommended:** \$1,514,000

**Legislative Citation:** ML 2018, Ch. 208, Art. 1, Sec. 2, subd 5(g)

**Appropriation Language:** \$1,514,000 the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Hennepin County, in cooperation with Minnesota Land Trust, to acquire permanent conservation easements and to restore and enhance habitats in Hennepin County. Of this amount, \$194,000 is to Hennepin County and \$1,320,000 is to Minnesota Land Trust. Up to \$192,000 to Minnesota Land Trust is for establishing a monitoring and enforcement fund as approved in the accomplishment plan and subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 17. A list of proposed permanent conservation easements and restorations and enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

### Manager Information

**Manager's Name:** Karen Galles

**Title:**

**Organization:** Hennepin County

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### Location Information

**County Location(s):** Hennepin.

**Eco regions in which work will take place:**

- Metro / Urban

**Activity types:**

- Protect in Easement
- Restore
- Enhance

**Priority resources addressed by activity:**

- Wetlands
- Prairie
- Forest
- Habitat

**Narrative****Summary of Accomplishments**

Hennepin County Habitat Conservation Program (HCP) partners successfully completed work with the Phase 1 / ML 2018 OHF appropriation. HCP permanently protected 179 acres of land through six conservation easement projects, exceeding protection goals by 19 acres. HCP accomplished nearly 10 acres of restoration and 162 acres of enhancement, exceeding original habitat improvement goals by 101 acres.

HPC expended 96% of the grant and leveraged the grant at 99% of the goal. Projects resulted in \$211,000 of donated conservation easement value from private landowners, \$114,000 from Hennepin County to fund long-term stewardship, and \$292,000 from Hennepin County

**Process & Methods**

HCP focused on protecting, restoring and enhancing the best remaining natural areas in Hennepin County. HCP employed in-depth modeling tools to identify focus areas for outreach. Projects were evaluated based on criteria established by the HCP team; the best available data was used to evaluate projects, with a focus on expanding existing protected lands and corridors. The Hennepin County Natural Resource Strategic Plan and the MN DNR Wildlife Action Plan (2015-2025) provided strategic guidance. More detail is provided in the Selection Criteria document uploaded into the final report.

Through this grant, MLT protected 179 acres of high-priority habitat through conservation easements; these easements are co-held by MLT and HC. HC and MLT also restored 10 acres and enhanced 162 acres of habitat, 137% of the original goal. An additional 18 acres of R/E work was completed on easement projects closed under this grant and not reported as acres toward R/E goals. Brief summaries of the work completed under this grant are provided below (see project summary sheets for more information).

**Restoration/Enhancement:**

**Forest Systems:** Habitat improvement efforts included forest enhancements at three Little Long Lake easements (two of which closed under this grant; one which closed under phase 2), and four RIM easements held by BWSR. A forest restoration occurred on the Lake Sarah (Slavec) easement co-held by MLT and HC.

**Prairie Systems:** Prairie restoration was accomplished at the Prairie Hill (Clark) easement which closed under this grant and three protected properties in the Minnesota River Valley. Prairie enhancements occurred across six RIM easements held by BWSR and at River Park in Brooklyn Park. Prairie enhancement and wetland restoration was

completed at Hennepin County's Medina Public Works Facility.

#### Land Protection:

HCP protected six properties through conservation easements including:

- Little Long Lake Complex – Three conservation easements totaling 76 acres were completed that together expand upon 950 acres of existing public and private land connecting Gale Woods Farm to Kingswood Park.
- Little Long Lake (Staunton) – This 19-acre property consists of Big Woods forest, wetlands, and 1,563 feet of shoreline along an intermittent stream and a pond.
- Little Long Lake (Inglis) – This 21-acre property protects 1,615 feet of shoreline along South Little Long Lake and high-quality Big Woods forest and tamarack swamp.
- Little Long Lake (Flatten) – A 36-acre property contains Big Woods forest, restored prairie, tamarack swamp, and undeveloped shoreline along Little Long Lake.

Lake Independence (White) - This 46-acre property consists of Big Woods forest, willow swamp and shoreline along Lake Independence, oak forest, and cattail marsh along Pioneer Creek. It is located on Lake Independence opposite Baker Park Reserve.

Lake Independence (Kirwin-McGray) – This 19-acre property protects wetlands and an oak savanna with large, open-grown oak trees, Big Woods forest, and restored grasslands adjacent to 91 acres of land permanently protected by state-held RIM conservation easements.

Prairie Hill (Clark) – A 38-acre property primarily consisting of wetlands, forest, and grassland. It is in the Six Mile Creek-Halsted Bay subwatershed at the headwaters of Minnehaha

#### **How did the program address habitats of significant value for wildlife species of greatest conservation need, threatened or endangered species, and/or list targeted species?**

HCP projects protected and improved habitat for Species of Greatest Conservation need (SGCN), sites of biodiversity significance, native plant communities, and rare features.

Easement projects protected significant tracts of remaining maple-basswood "Big Woods" forest, oak savannas, prairies, rich fens, tamarack bogs, lake shore, and wetlands. These habitats are critically essential habitat for a variety of SGCN. Biological monitoring activities have already documented over 139 species of wildlife utilizing easements acquired through this grant including 93 birds, 9 herptiles, 13 mammals, 11 species of butterfly, and 13 dragonflies. The federally endangered rusty-patch bumblebee and other SGCN such as, grasshopper sparrow, red-shouldered hawk, veery, chimney swift, northern harrier, sedge wren, black-billed cuckoo, trumpeter swan, bobolink, American kestrel, common loon, wood thrush, belted kingfisher, American white pelican, eastern towhee, purple martin, American woodcock, dickcissel, field sparrow, brown thrasher, and golden-winged warbler.

Lands protected through easement under this grant also benefit SGCN and listed species by protecting water quality, shoreland, and rare habitats. Several easements acquired under this grant are located in the headwaters of Minnehaha creek, protecting clean source water to some of the county's most significant water features. Several

easements buffer lakes including Little Long Lake, one of the cleanest lakes in the Metro, and Lake independence. Several easements also protect rich fens and bogs. These habitats are rare in Hennepin County and represent some of the most southernly examples of these systems in MN. Several rare aquatic plant and animal occurrences are documented near these easements.

These easement projects also add to existing complexes of protected lands in the county, including those around Kingswood Park, Gale Woods Farm, and Baker Park Reserve, preventing further habitat fragmentation in areas experiencing intense development pressures.

Additionally, habitat enhancement projects to improve remnant Big Woods included activities to reduce non-indigenous species and improve plant diversity of several forest areas designated as a Minnesota Biological Survey Sites of Biodiversity Significance. Furthermore, enhancements along the Minnesota River Valley focused on improving nearly 30 acres of the last remaining native bluff prairie in Hennepin County. These bluff prairies protect rare pollinators as well as kittentails (state threatened).

### **How did the program use science-based targeting that leveraged or expanded corridors and complexes, reduced fragmentation, or protected areas in the MN County Biological Survey.**

Priority areas for program outreach were developed using sophisticated models based on a variety of natural resource datasets and attributes, the State Wildlife Action Plan's Wildlife Action Network, Hennepin County Natural Resource Strategic Plan, and local knowledge. All easement opportunities (identified through targeted outreach to landowners and via an RFP process) were evaluated using a project selection tool. Criteria considered through the tool includes ecological and protected lands context such as nearby protected conservation lands and priority natural resource areas, project size, habitat quality and diversity within and near to the project, water resources within and near to the project, wildlife and plant conservation value such as sites of biodiversity significance, native plant communities, and rare features, risk of conversion, management and restoration potential and considerations, cost of acquisition and donation value, partner involvement and added value, and items related to landowner readiness and staff professional judgement. Details related to each criteria category and the datasets used to score and prioritize projects are provided as an attachment to the Final Report.

In addition to qualitative and quantitative review of the potential projects by the HCP team, a Technical advisory Committee was created to provide an additional level of assessment and review of projects. This Committee comprises various partner entities within Hennepin County including Three Rivers Parks District, Minnehaha Creek Watershed, Nine Mile Creek Watershed, Mississippi Management Organization, and the Fish and Wildlife Service.

The models, tools, and collaborative engagement around easement and habitat improvement projects allowed HCP efforts to accomplish buffering of existing core protected habitat areas, create new and complete existing corridors, and improve habitats in high-value locations across the county.

### **Explain Partners, Supporters, & Opposition**

Hennepin County drew natural resource professionals from municipalities, watershed districts, county, state, and federal agencies to create a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) that not only provided input into the conservation easement and restoration/enhancement project selection process but created cross-agency communication and collaboration to implement natural resource conservation more efficiently in the county.

The County worked with the cities and county commissioners to inform them of the protection work and garnered support for natural resource conservation.

Partners that offered staff resources, technical assistance, and or financial resources, materials, and/or equipment included the City of Eden Prairie, The City of Brooklyn Park, Three Rivers Park District, and the USWFS. Contributions from partners resulted in the accomplishment of more habitat acreage improved, increased species diversity, project quality, and education and outreach opportunity with youth and diverse audiences.

Private landowners were also a significant partner, contributing \$211,000 of donated easement value.

### **Exceptional challenges, expectations, failures, opportunities, or unique aspects of program**

Development pressure, parcel sizes, property value, and property tax burdens felt by landowners in Hennepin County intensified landowner engagement and increased costs of easement acquisitions.

HCP exceeded its protection and habitat improvement goals while still having additional funds remaining in the budget. Additional funds were used to enhance 75 additional acres and develop a habitat management plan for a protected Land Trust conservation easement owned in fee by the city of Minnetonka.

Habitat improvement work completed by the HCP provides a significant public benefit to residents of the most populous MN county. HCP projects improved access to diverse native prairie for lower-resource communities along the Mississippi River and allowed for multiple seed harvest events on the Mississippi River Bluffs with partners, the public, and youth from diverse backgrounds.

Biological monitoring efforts led by Hennepin County are creating a unique opportunity to engage the public and document rare features and wildlife.

### **What other dedicated funds may collaborate with or contribute to this program?**

- N/A

### **What is the plan to sustain and/or maintain this work after the Outdoor Heritage Funds are expended?**

Both partners are experienced land and easement managers and co-holding easements provide another level of assurance that the habitat protected and restored will be sustained using the best standards and practices of conservation easement stewardship.

The Minnesota Land Trust is a nationally accredited and insured land trust with a successful stewardship program that includes property monitoring, effective records management, addressing inquiries and interpretations, tracking changes in ownership, investigating potential violations and defending the easement in case of a true violation. Hennepin County successfully holds, co-holds or manages 21 conservation easements and 38 RIM easements.

To ensure that the protected resources will be managed to support biological integrity, Habitat Management Plans and Restoration/Enhancement Plans will be developed for each conservation easement and restoration/enhancement project.

Hennepin County and the Land Trust are committed to maintaining relationships with project landowners and securing the technical and financial resources to undertake prescribed activities. Through their robust restoration and enhancement and biological monitoring programs, Hennepin County will continue to engage with easement landowners, monitor investments, track changes, and implement on-going efforts to improve habitats.

The Land Trust and Hennepin County continue to apply for additional OHF grant phases and other funding to support ongoing work. The County and the Land Trust have built strong partnerships in the county, which allow us to do good work efficiently.

### **Actions to Maintain Project Outcomes**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Source of Funds</b>	<b>Step 1</b>	<b>Step 2</b>	<b>Step 3</b>
2021 (and in perpetuity)	MLT Stewardship & Enforcement Fund; Hennepin County	Annual monitoring of property in perpetuity (by MLT)	Enforcement as needed (by MLT and Hennepin County)	-
2021 (and in perpetuity)	Hennepin County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Establishment of project specific habitat improvement standards</li><li>•Biomonitoring pre and post habitat improvement project actions</li></ul>	Make adaptive management changes as needed to meet habitat improvement performance standards	Ongoing biomonitoring of easements and habitat improvement projects to assess wildlife and plant communities and ensure objectives are sustained

## Budget

### **Grand Totals Across All Partnerships**

Item	Requested	AP Amount	Spent	Leverage	Received Leverage	Leverage Source	Original Total	Final Total
Personnel	\$90,000	\$126,300	\$130,100	\$337,900	\$291,900	Hennepin County	\$427,900	\$422,000
Contracts	\$194,000	\$461,700	\$391,200	\$36,000	\$32,700	City of Eden Prairie, Hennepin County	\$230,000	\$423,900
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Easement Acquisition	\$1,005,700	\$798,000	\$798,000	\$201,100	\$211,000	-, Landowner Donation	\$1,206,800	\$1,009,000
Easement Stewardship	\$192,000	-	-	\$24,000	\$144,000	-, Hennepin County	\$216,000	\$144,000
Travel	\$3,000	\$1,600	\$1,600	-	-	-	\$3,000	\$1,600
Professional Services	-	\$90,800	\$90,700	\$90,500	-	-, Hennepin County	\$90,500	\$90,700
Direct Support Services	\$24,300	\$34,100	\$35,200	-	-	-	\$24,300	\$35,200
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	\$5,000	-	-	-	-	-	\$5,000	-
Supplies/Materials	-	\$1,500	\$100	-	-	-	-	\$100
DNR IDP	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$1,514,000</b>	<b>\$1,514,000</b>	<b>\$1,446,900</b>	<b>\$689,500</b>	<b>\$679,600</b>		<b>\$2,203,500</b>	<b>\$2,126,500</b>

## Partner: Hennepin County

### Totals

Item	Requested	AP Amount	Spent	Leverage	Received Leverage	Leverage Source	Original Total	Final Total
Personnel	-	-	-	\$337,900	\$291,900	Hennepin County	\$337,900	\$291,900
Contracts	\$194,000	\$192,700	\$194,000	-	\$32,700	City of Eden Prairie	\$194,000	\$226,700
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Easement Acquisition	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Easement Stewardship	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Travel	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Professional Services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Direct Support Services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Supplies/Materials	-	\$1,300	-	-	-	-	-	-
DNR IDP	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$194,000</b>	<b>\$194,000</b>	<b>\$194,000</b>	<b>\$337,900</b>	<b>\$324,600</b>		<b>\$531,900</b>	<b>\$518,600</b>

### Personnel

Position	Annual FTE	Years Working	Amount Spent	Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Natural Resources Specialist	0.2	5.0	-	\$257,300	Hennepin County	\$257,300
Land and Water Supervisor	0.05	3.0	-	\$34,600	Hennepin County	\$34,600
Outreach Specialist	0.75	3.0	-	-	Hennepin County	-

## Partner: Minnesota Land Trust

### Totals

Item	Requested	AP Amount	Spent	Leverage	Received Leverage	Leverage Source	Original Total	Final Total
Personnel	\$90,000	\$126,300	\$130,100	-	-	-	\$90,000	\$130,100
Contracts	-	\$269,000	\$197,200	\$36,000	-	Hennepin County	\$36,000	\$197,200
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Easement Acquisition	\$1,005,700	\$798,000	\$798,000	\$201,100	\$211,000	Landowner Donation	\$1,206,800	\$1,009,000
Easement Stewardship	\$192,000	-	-	\$24,000	\$144,000	Hennepin County	\$216,000	\$144,000
Travel	\$3,000	\$1,600	\$1,600	-	-	-	\$3,000	\$1,600
Professional Services	-	\$90,800	\$90,700	\$90,500	-	Hennepin County	\$90,500	\$90,700
Direct Support Services	\$24,300	\$34,100	\$35,200	-	-	-	\$24,300	\$35,200
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	\$5,000	-	-	-	-	-	\$5,000	-
Supplies/Materials	-	\$200	\$100	-	-	-	-	\$100
DNR IDP	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$1,320,000</b>	<b>\$1,320,000</b>	<b>\$1,252,900</b>	<b>\$351,600</b>	<b>\$355,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$1,671,600</b>	<b>\$1,607,900</b>

### Personnel

Position	Annual FTE	Years Working	Amount Spent	Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Conservation Staff, Legal Staff, and Support Staff	0.33	3.0	\$130,100	-	-	\$130,100

### Direct Support Services

**How did you determine which portions of the Direct Support Services of your shared support services is direct to this program?**

In a process that was approved by the DNR on March 17, 2017, Minnesota Land Trust determined our direct support services rate to include all of the allowable direct and necessary expenditures that are not captured in other line items in the budget, which is similar to the Land Trust's proposed federal indirect rate. We will apply this DNR-approved rate only to personnel expenses to determine the total amount of direct support services.

Hennepin County did not receive allocation for DSS.

### Explain any budget challenges or successes:

Several factors resulted in higher than anticipated personnel time to complete easement acquisitions. Smaller than anticipated project acreages resulted in more projects needed to produce the promised acres of land protection. Complexities related to land use and property values also increased required personnel time to navigate projects. Hennepin County made the commitment to pay stewardship costs, allowing the Land Trust to shift funds to other budget lines.

Contracting efficiencies and a strong partnership allowed Land Trust budgets shifts to contracting for restoration/enhancement purposes. Hennepin County worked with MLT to implement 75 additional habitat improvement acres beyond the original goal.

**Total Revenue:** \$0

**Revenue Spent:** \$0

**Revenue Balance:** \$0

**Of the money disclosed above, what are the appropriate uses of the money:**

## Output Tables

### **Acres by Resource Type (Table 1)**

Type	Wetland (AP)	Wetland (Final)	Prairie (AP)	Prairie (Final)	Forest (AP)	Forest (Final)	Habitat (AP)	Habitat (Final)	Total Acres (AP)	Total Acres (Final)
Restore	0	1	0	3	0	6	56	0	56	10
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Easement	0	95	0	19	0	65	161	0	161	179
Enhance	0	0	0	106	0	56	14	0	14	162
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>351</b>

### **Total Requested Funding by Resource Type (Table 2)**

Type	Wetland (AP)	Wetland (Final)	Prairie (AP)	Prairie (Final)	Forest (AP)	Forest (Final)	Habitat (AP)	Habitat (Final)	Total Funding (AP)	Total Funding (Final)
Restore	-	\$6,500	-	\$29,000	-	\$25,500	\$157,600	-	\$157,600	\$61,000
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	\$431,500	-	\$369,000	-	\$280,400	\$1,320,000	-	\$1,320,000	\$1,080,900
Enhance	-	-	-	\$166,600	-	\$138,400	\$36,400	-	\$36,400	\$305,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$438,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$564,600</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$444,300</b>	<b>\$1,514,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$1,514,000</b>	<b>\$1,446,900</b>

### **Acres within each Ecological Section (Table 3)**

Type	Metro / Urban (AP)	Metro / Urban (Final)	Forest / Prairie (AP)	Forest / Prairie (Final)	SE Forest (AP)	SE Forest (Final)	Prairie (AP)	Prairie (Final)	N. Forest (AP)	N. Forest (Final)	Total (AP)	Total (Final)
Restore	56	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	56	10
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Easement	161	179	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	161	179
Enhance	14	162	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	162
<b>Total</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>351</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>351</b>

## Total Requested Funding within each Ecological Section (Table 4)

Type	Metro/ Urban (AP)	Metro/ Urban (Final)	Forest / Prairie (AP)	Forest / Prairie (Final)	SE Fores t (AP)	SE Forest (Final )	Prairi e (AP)	Prairi e (Final)	N. Fores t (AP)	N. Forest (Final )	Total (AP)	Total (Final)
Restore	\$157,600	\$61,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$157,600	\$61,000
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	\$1,320,000	\$1,080,900	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$1,320,000	\$1,080,900
Enhance	\$36,400	\$305,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$36,400	\$305,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,514,000</b>	<b>\$1,446,900</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>\$1,514,000</b>	<b>\$1,446,900</b>

## Target Lake/Stream/River Feet or Miles

1.7 miles

## Explain the success/shortage of acre goals

Hennepin County Habitat Conservation Program (HCP) partners successfully completed work with the Phase 1 / ML 2018 OHF appropriation. HCP permanently protected 180 acres of land through six conservation easement projects, exceeding protection goals by 19 acres (111% of protection goal). HCP accomplished nearly 10 acres of restoration and 162 acres of enhancement, exceeding original habitat improvement goals by 101 acres (137% of original R/E goal). An additional 18 acres of R/E work was completed on easement projects closed under this grant and not reported as acres toward R/E goals.

## Outcomes

### Programs in metropolitan urbanizing region:

- A network of natural land and riparian habitats will connect corridors for wildlife and species in greatest conservation need ~ *The HCP protected 179 acres across a network of wetland, prairie, and forested habitats. These areas connected corridors and expanded core habitat for wildlife and Species in Greatest Conservation Need. Additionally, 10 acres of habitat were restored, and 162 acres were enhanced, improving habitat value for wildlife in an urbanizing region.*

*Measures: Acres protected; acres restored; acres enhanced. In addition, HC is undertaking biological monitoring at project sites to track plant community composition and wildlife occurrences.*

## Parcels

### **Sign-up Criteria?**

[Yes - Sign up criteria is attached](#)

### **Restore / Enhance Parcels**

Name	County	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection	Description
Western Hennepin RIM Easements - Hatfield (RIM easement) - Prairie Enhancement	Hennepin	11824207	6	\$1,402	Yes	This project is located on a RIM easement and is part of a larger protected habitat corridor including a new easement closed under our phase 2 grant - Lake Rebecca (Ahrendt). Started a prescribed fire rotation on 6.2 acres to establish a natural disturbance regimen. Activity implementation initiated after April 1, 2019.
Western Hennepin RIM Easements - Clemens (RIM easement) - Prairie Enhancement	Hennepin	11724207	3	\$975	Yes	This project is located on a RIM easement and is part of a larger protected habitat corridor including a new easement closed under this phase 1 grant - Lake Independence (Kirwin-McGray). Started a prescribed fire rotation on 3.3 acres to establish a natural disturbance regimen. Implementation of activity initiated on October 15, 2019.
Western Hennepin RIM Easements - Kirwin (RIM easement) - Prairie Enhancement	Hennepin	11824221	14	\$3,100	Yes	This project is located on a RIM easement and is part of a larger protected habitat corridor including a new easement closed under this phase 1 grant - Lake Independence (Kirwin-McGray). Started a prescribed fire rotation on 14.4 acres to establish a natural disturbance regimen. Activity implementation initiated after April 1, 2019.
Lake Independence -Kirwin (RIM easement) - Prairie Enhancement	Hennepin	11824221	4	\$12,496	Yes	This 4.4-acre project is located in a large block of contiguously protected habitat and is adjacent to a new easement closed under this phase 1 grant - Lake Independence (Kirwin-McGray). Project protected the integrity of a restored wetland and improved

						prairie diversity. Implementation of activities initiated on February 4, 2020.
Lake Sarah (Slavec) Easement - Forest Restoration	Hennepin	11824203	6	\$25,530	Yes	Restoration activities took place on a 13-acre easement established in 2018 that is co-held by Hennepin County and the Minnesota Land Trust. Forest restoration included herbicide treatment and cover crop seeding site preparation, prescribed burning, native seeding, planting of 1,180 seedling and bare-root trees, and removal of woody invasive species on 6 acres. Implementation activities initiated on February 15, 2019.
Lake Sarah (Slavec) Easement - Prairie Restoration	Hennepin	11824203	3	\$5,953	Yes	Restoration activities took place on a 13-acre easement established in 2018 that is co-held by Hennepin County and the Minnesota Land Trust. Prairie restoration included snow seeding, release mows, and adaptive weed management on 2.5 acres. Implementation activities were initiated on February 18, 2019.
Little Long Lake Complex (Staunton, Inglis, Otterson) Easements - Forest Enhancement	Hennepin	11724215	1	\$14,017	Yes	Forest enhancement across 11.6 acres associated with three conservation easements. Enhancement efforts occurred on several conservation easements closed under phase 1 - Little Long Lake (Staunton) and Little Long Lake (Inglis), and phase 2 funds - Little Long Lake (Otterson). Only acres associated with Little Long Lake (Otterson) were reported in output tables and here in the parcel list (1.05 acres). Implementation of enhancement activities were initiated on March 14, 2022.
Medina Public Works - Prairie Enhancement	Hennepin	11823210	19	\$4,083	Yes	Hennepin County's Medina Public Works Facility has large areas of natural habitat including prairie habitat, Big Woods forest, and wetlands. Project activities enhanced the

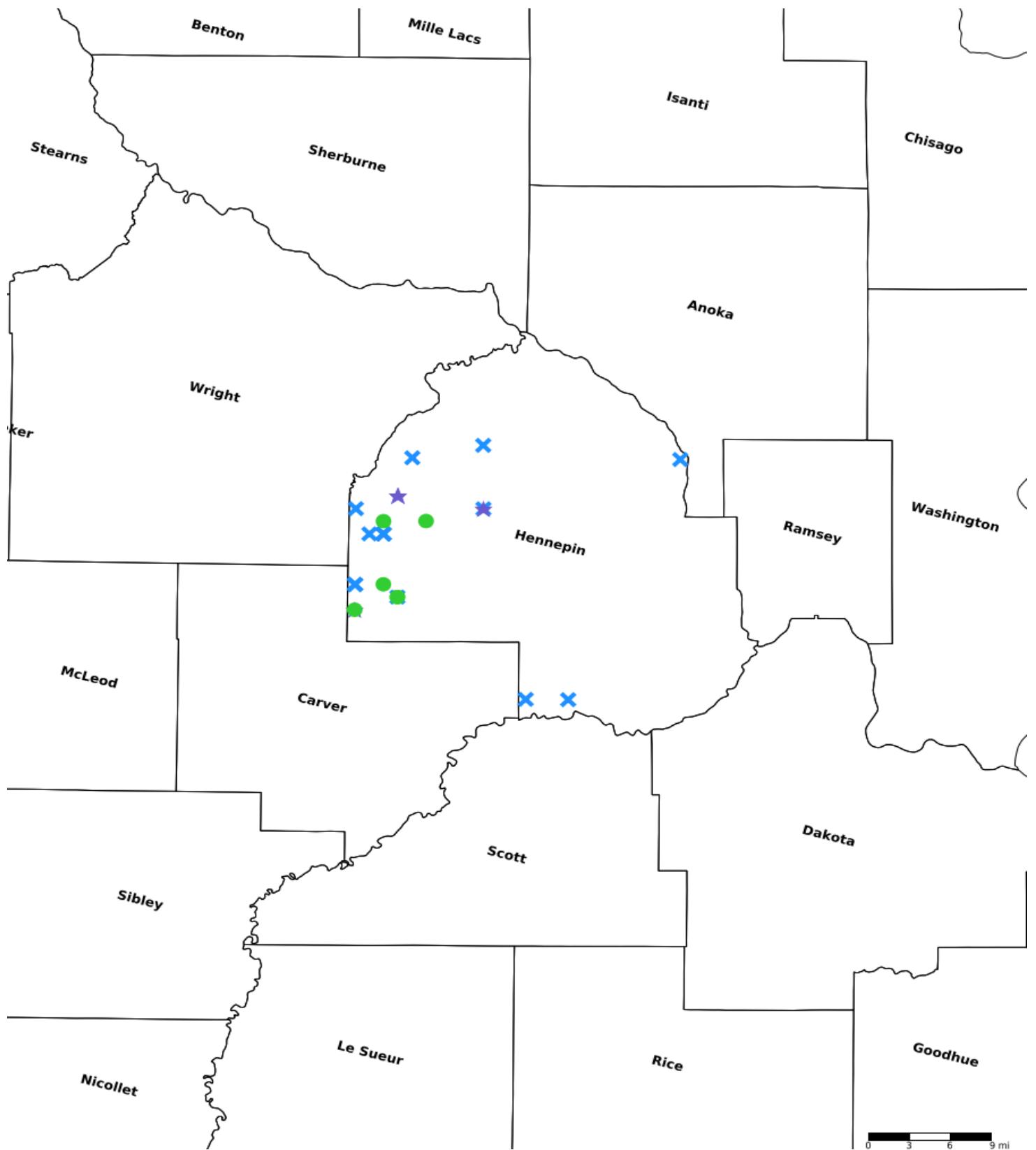
						diversity of 18.9 acres of prairie on the property. Work initiated after March 1, 2019.
Medina Public Works - Wetland Restoration	Hennepin	11823210	1	\$6,523	Yes	Hennepin County's Medina Public Works Facility has large areas of natural habitat including prairie habitat, Big Woods forest, and wetlands. Project activities restored the hydrology of one 1.3-acre wetland on the property. Implementation activities initiated on July 28, 2022.
Minnesota River Valley Conservation Areas - City of Eden Prairie - Prairie Enhancement	Hennepin	11622230	29	\$59,366	Yes	Collaboration with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and City of Eden Prairie to enhance and restore remnant prairie habitat in the Minnesota River Valley corridor including two city conservation areas - R.T. Anderson Conservation Area (6.3 acres) and Prairie Bluff Conservation Area (23 acres). Implementation of activities began on March 13, 2020.
Minnesota River Valley Conservation Areas - MAC - Prairie Enhancement	Hennepin	11622227	8	\$28,909	Yes	Collaboration with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and City of Eden Prairie and Metropolitan Airport Commission to enhance 7.8 acres of prairie habitat in the Minnesota River Valley corridor. Implementation of activities began on February 24, 2020.
Prairie Hill (Clark) Easement - Prairie Restoration	Hennepin	11724219	0	\$25,122	Yes	Restoration efforts occurred on the Prairie Hill (Clark) conservation easement closed under phase 1. Project restored 8.2 acres of prairie and oak savanna near permanent and ephemeral wetlands at the headwaters of Minnehaha Creek. These acres were not reported to output tables and are not reported here in the parcel list table. Implementation of activities initiated on April 21, 2021.
River Park - City of Brooklyn Park - Prairie Enhancement	Hennepin	11921224	3	\$6,525	Yes	This 2.7-acre project is located at River Park in Brooklyn Park and was a collaborative effort with the city and USWFS. Project activities decreased the

						vigor and thickness of the warm season prairie grasses through herbicide treatments and prescribed burns and improved diversity of native cool season grasses and forb presence in the prairie by inter-seeding with native seed. Implementation of activities initiated on May 7, 2021.
Clemens Easement	Hennepin	11724207	6	\$6,228	Yes	Prairie enhancement
Rabe Woods (Rabe)	Hennepin	11923215	8	\$10,450	Yes	Enhancement of hardwood forest
Björklund Easement	Hennepin	11824220	24	\$55,100	Yes	Enhancement of hardwood forest
Minor Easement	Hennepin	11824221	1	\$3,820	Yes	Prairie enhancement
Kirwin Easement	Hennepin	11824221	13	\$18,231	Yes	Prairie enhancement
Schendel Lake (Steinbach)	Hennepin	11924223	19	\$47,618	Yes	Enhancement of hardwood forest
Clemens Easement	Hennepin	11724207	3	\$17,982	Yes	Enhancement of hardwood forest

### Easement Parcels

Name	County	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection
Lake Independence (Kirwin-McGray)	Hennepin	11824216	19	\$325,000	No
Little Long Lake (Flatten)	Hennepin	11724209	36	\$96,000	No
Prairie Hill (Clark)	Hennepin	11724219	38	\$62,000	No
Little Long Lake (Inglis)	Hennepin	11724215	21	\$160,000	No
Little Long Lake (Staunton)	Hennepin	11724215	19	\$155,000	No
Lake Independence (White)	Hennepin	11824213	46	\$0	No

## Parcel Map



- Protect in Easement
- ▲ Protect in Fee with PILT
- Protect in Fee W/O PILT
- ★ Restore
- ✖ Enhance
- ✚ Other