



Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

Martin County WMA Acquisition Phase 9
ML 2025 Request for Funding

General Information

Date: 05/23/2024

Proposal Title: Martin County WMA Acquisition Phase 9

Funds Requested: \$2,583,000

Confirmed Leverage Funds: \$28,500

Is this proposal Scalable?: Yes

Manager Information

Manager's Name: Doug Hartke

Title: Grant Coordinator

Organization: Fox Lake Conservation League, Inc.

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Location Information

County Location(s): Martin.

Eco regions in which work will take place:

- Prairie

Activity types:

- Protect in Fee
- Restore

Priority resources addressed by activity:

- Prairie
- Wetlands
- Habitat

Narrative

Abstract

This program will continue our conservation partnership into Phase 9 to protect and restore diverse prairie and wetland habitat in areas that adjoin existing DNR WMA. Parcels are identified with representatives of local government, Windom area MN DNR, Ducks Unlimited (DU), The Conservation Fund (TCF), the Fox Lake Conservation League, Inc (FLCL), and other local partners. Wetland restoration and additional grasslands are needed to make our WMA habitats resilient and productive. We will optimize this process by utilizing real estate expertise of TCF, wetland restoration know-how of DU, and the local conservation efforts of FLCL.

Design and Scope of Work

This proposal will restore 160 acres of prairie wetlands grasslands in Martin County. Our partnership brings together the expertise of three organizations with a strong history working in the area. The Conservation Fund (TCF) will negotiate the acquisition and lead the real estate process for properties targeted in this proposal. Fox Lake Conservation League will hold and monitor the properties during the restoration work, which will be completed by Ducks Unlimited. The completely restored lands will then be conveyed to the MN DNR for perpetual protection and management. All projects are done with neighboring landowners included in the conversation and without disruption to existing drainage of their lands.

Shallow lake and wetland restoration are top priority actions in all major conservation plans for Minnesota. Our work addresses the habitat goals identified in the North American Waterfowl Management Plan, Minnesota's Prairie Conservation Plan, and Minnesota's Duck Recovery Plan which calls for the active management of 1,800 shallow lakes and restoring 64,000 wetlands to Minnesota's landscape. This work is time-sensitive because complex shallow lake and wetland restoration projects take several years to design and implement. Additionally, grasslands surrounding these wetlands are critical to the prairie ecosystem but difficult to acquire in the agricultural landscape of Martin County. This proposal will best prepare the partnership to act when landowners are willing to sell their lands to conservation.

Priority land acquisition areas have been identified with considerations for proximity to existing protected lands (DNR Wildlife Management Areas), threatened and endangered species' key habitats, and important watersheds. Acquired lands will be restored using best management practices to accurately represent and manage for pre-settlement conditions. The extensive agricultural and drainage history of Southwest Minnesota has resulted in the loss of 90% of our prairie wetlands and 99% of the native prairie on the landscape. What remains of the lakes and wetlands are only those which were too deep to drain and have now become nutrient rich, invaded by exotic species, and overall unproductive to wetland-dependent species. These factors have caused a significant decline in Minnesota's once diverse waterfowl population, and as a result, in Minnesota's rich waterfowling traditions. Through this funding, TCF, FLCL, and DU will acquire and restore much needed habitats to the landscape where wetland-wildlife, prairie species, and people will flourish. Further, these sites will improve water quality, soil conservation, and water storage in the region.

Explain how the proposal addresses habitat protection, restoration, and/or enhancement for fish, game & wildlife, including threatened or endangered species conservation

This program protects and restores threatened habitats in Martin County. Native prairie and high-quality wetlands will be protected, buffered, and expanded upon. Restoration sites will provide the opportunity to expand populations of at-risk and threatened plant species that Martin SWCD has propagated and introduced into permanent protected sites. The FLCL is continuing work initiated by Martin County SWCD, by selecting locally rare, at-risk species for propagation and use on these and future habitat restoration projects to protect the local native seed source. While hundreds of Sullivant's milkweed (*Asclepia sullivantii*) and Tuberous Indian Plantain (*Cacalia*

tuberosa) have been introduced into WMAs and other protected land, Small white lady's slipper (*Cypripedium candidum*) and Rattlesnake master (*Eryngium yuccifolium*) will continue to be propagated using local source plant material for use in this project. Parcels selected for this proposal expand habitat protection for the threatened Blanding's Turtle (*Emydoidea blandingii*) Perch Creek population that has been studied by the MN DNR and featured in the "MN Volunteer". In 2024, the partnership utilized funds from ML2020 and ML2021 appropriations to finalize restoration of 300 acres of prairie wetland and grassland habitats within the core range of the Perch Creek Blanding's Turtle.

What are the elements of this proposal that are critical from a timing perspective?

We continue to have great success with our previous funding by protecting over 2,000 acres to existing WMA's since phase 1 of this program. It can be a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity when we find a willing seller that owns some of our highest priority native habitat and marginal agricultural lands in proximity to WMAs and other protected natural habitats. If we don't act immediately, these lands may never become available in the future or may be converted to other uses, with degradation or complete elimination of natural features and high-value resources that currently exist. Additionally, wind easements are quickly sweeping across Southwest Minnesota and directly compete with our interests and ability to protect affected lands. This proposal will financially prepare us to act quickly when parcels in our focus area become available.

Describe how the proposal expands habitat corridors or complexes and/or addresses habitat fragmentation:

Our "Martin County Conservation Alliance" has grown into a planning group that includes wildlife group representatives, NGO's, local government, and state agencies. There is a wide range of expertise and experience within the group. We utilized Historic information, the MN County Biologic Survey, GIS spatial data, and local knowledge to identify areas where habitat restoration will be most beneficial. Expanding habitat complexes by protecting and restoring lands adjacent to existing high-quality native habitat and habitat already protected through public ownership or permanent conservation easements is our key focus. Parcels which will link or expand sites with threatened or endangered species and species-in-decline further narrowed our focus area. We additionally highlighted opportunities to protect and enhance habitat buffers along water courses and lake chains. On our parcel list, we have the following tracts that have areas of biodiversity significance as identified by the MN County Biological Survey:

Caron WMA: moderate level of biodiversity significance and also has a Priority Shallow Lake as identified by DNR Wildlife. Caron WMA is also part of a Pheasant Habitat Complex.

Center Creek WMA: outstanding level of biodiversity significance.

Additionally, some of the targeted parcels occur in landscapes that are estimated to support 10-25 breeding ducks per square mile as per USFWS. Breeding pair accessibility will only increase with increased wetland restoration in these areas. One highlight of this program's work is increasing Perch Creek WMA complex to over the threshold of 40% grasslands and 20% wetlands. This habitat goal has been recognized in the MN Duck Recovery Plan, MN Prairie Conservation Plan, MN Working Lands Initiative, Prairie Pothole Joint Venture, and others.

Which top 2 Conservation Plans referenced in MS97A.056, subd. 3a are most applicable to this project?

- Long Range Duck Recovery Plan
- Minnesota's Wildlife Management Area Acquisition - The Next 50 Years

Explain how this proposal will uniquely address habitat resilience to climate change and its anticipated effects on game, fish & wildlife species utilizing the protected or restored/enhanced habitat this proposal targets.

Climate trends are warmer and wetter than 100 years ago. On average, temperatures have risen 3 degrees F and precipitation has increased 3.4 inches annually with more large rain events. Restored wetlands and surrounding uplands uniquely store and clean precipitation and replenish groundwater resources. Considering the intense agricultural drainage of Martin County, water storage on the landscape is greatly needed to handle climate change. Deep rooted native prairie plants provide increased soil infiltration and perennial land cover, reducing erosion and runoff into our waterways. Properly restored wetlands will serve as a sponge during this period of change, storing and cleaning water, which can be released downstream when the time is right. By installing water control structures on wetlands, land managers will be well positioned to mitigate adverse effects from climate change, including fighting invasive fish, restoring historic water regimes, and promoting healthy shallow wetland ecosystems.

Which LSOHC section priorities are addressed in this proposal?

Prairie

- Protect, enhance, or restore existing wetland/upland complexes, or convert agricultural lands to new wetland/upland habitat complexes

Describe how this project/program will produce and demonstrate a significant and permanent conservation legacy and/or outcomes for fish, game, and wildlife, and if not permanent outcomes, why it is important to undertake at this time:

Our program continues to build upon the protection and restoration of high quality prairie grassland and wetland habitat. The planned protection and restoration projects expand existing areas that are already locally recognized as a significant, permanent conservation legacy. The many partners involved with permanent conservation work in Martin County (MN DNR, USFWS, Pheasants Forever, Ducks Unlimited, FLCL, TCF, and other local clubs) are working to provide landowners with an acquisition option plus MN BWSR working through SWCDs and the USDA working through FSA and NRCS to provide an easement option, has provided a network of over 10,000 acres of permanently-protected wildlife habitat in Martin County. The Perch Creek habitat corridor is becoming a more significant and permanent conservation legacy, protecting threatened, endangered, and at-risk species and expanding fishing and hunting opportunities in this region of the state.

Outcomes

Programs in prairie region:

- Key core parcels are protected for fish, game and other wildlife ~ *By adding these important parcels to the Martin County WMA complexes we are restoring valuable grasslands to the WMAs of Southern Minnesota. These added diverse upland prairies will provide much needed habitat for many wildlife species. This program will also add valuable acres for public hunting, fishing and other outdoor activities with all of the fish, game, and rare species that will be found on this new public land.*

What other dedicated funds may collaborate with or contribute to this proposal?

- N/A

Per MS 97A.056, Subd. 24, Please explain whether the request is supplanting or is a substitution for any previous funding that was not from a legacy fund and was used for the same purpose.

This proposal does not supplant or substitute previous funding for the same purpose.

How will you sustain and/or maintain this work after the Outdoor Heritage Funds are expended?

Initial restoration efforts focus on long term, low maintenance solutions to water control structures and native prairie plantings. Maintaining habitat and infrastructure after our restoration and donation to DNR is complete will be the responsibility of the MN DNR. However, local groups within the "Martin County Conservation Alliance" will be there to assist the DNR with future private dollars and partner ECP CPL grants, if and when available. Local partners will continue to install additional local source native plant species to enhance habitat to support more species, including pollinators. Local partner monitoring will assist in identifying invasive species threats and aid with eradication or control when necessary.

Actions to Maintain Project Outcomes

Year	Source of Funds	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3
Ongoing	MN DNR Budget	Monitoring	Maintenance	Management
Ongoing	Local	Monitor and add local species	Monitor for invasive species	Treat and plant as needed

Provide an assessment of how your program may celebrate cultural diversity or reach diverse communities in Minnesota, including reaching low- and moderate-income households:

Over half of Martin County has above average poverty levels, especially in the community of Fairmont, according to the 2019 American Community Survey. Restoration of wetlands and grasslands will create high-quality habitat to support healthy wildlife populations in the area for all people to enjoy with low-barrier recreation opportunities. These actions will help improve air quality, water quality, support pollinator populations, and help fight climate change and the disproportionate effects it has on BIPOC and low-income communities. These newly restored lands will be open to the public and will provide numerous opportunities for all people to enjoy through hunting, wildlife viewing, kayaking, canoeing, and various other forms of outdoor recreation and education.

Activity Details

Requirements

Will county board or other local government approval be formally sought prior to acquisition, per 97A.056 subd 13(j)?**

Yes

Is the land you plan to acquire (fee title) free of any other permanent protection?

Yes

Will restoration and enhancement work follow best management practices including MS 84.973 Pollinator Habitat Program?

Yes

Is the restoration and enhancement activity on permanently protected land per 97A.056, Subd 13(f), tribal lands, and/or public waters per MS 103G.005, Subd. 15 or on lands to be acquired in this program?

Yes

Where does the activity take place?

- WMA

Land Use

Will there be planting of any crop on OHF land purchased or restored in this program, either by the proposer or the end owner of the property, outside of the initial restoration of the land?

Yes

Explain what will be planted and include the maximum percentage of any acquired parcel that would be planted into foodplots by the proposer or the end owner of the property:

Food Plots could be utilized by the MN DNR as part of their WMA management plans. Short-term farming may be necessary in the timetable to best restore the uplands to native habitats.

Will insecticides or fungicides (including neonicotinoid and fungicide treated seed) be used within any activities of this proposal either in the process of restoration or use as food plots?

No

Is this land currently open for hunting and fishing?

No

Will the land be open for hunting and fishing after completion?

Yes

Describe any variation from the State of Minnesota regulations:

All of these lands will be part the DNR WMA system.

Who will eventually own the fee title land?

- State of MN

Land acquired in fee will be designated as a:

- WMA

Are there currently trails or roads on any of the proposed acquisitions?

No

Will new trails or roads be developed or improved as a result of the OHF acquisition?

No

Will the land that you acquire (fee or easement) be restored or enhanced within this proposal's funding and availability?

Yes

Other OHF Appropriation Awards

Have you received OHF dollars through LSOHC in the past?

Yes

Are any of these past appropriations still OPEN?

Yes

Approp Year	Funding Amount Received	Amount Spent to Date	Funding Remaining	% Spent to Date
2023	\$2,137,000	-	-	-
2022	\$1,978,000	\$140,000	\$1,838,000	7.08%
2021	\$2,864,000	\$2,304,500	\$559,500	80.46%
2020	\$2,613,000	\$1,801,453	\$811,547	68.94%
2019	\$3,650,000	\$3,432,600	\$217,400	94.04%
2018	\$2,447,000	\$2,155,400	\$291,600	88.08%
2016	\$1,000,000	\$1,035,000	-\$35,000	103.5%
Totals	\$16,689,000	\$10,868,953	\$5,820,047	65.13%

Timeline

Activity Name	Estimated Completion Date
Begin Parcel qualification and review	Summer and Fall 2024
Acquire Parcel (s)	Summer 2025 - Summer 2028
Transfer to MN DNR	2026 - 2029
Complete Restoration	2026-2029
Plan Restoration	Winter 2025 - Winter 2028
Follow-up/Maintenance/Weed Control	2026 and Beyond

Budget

Grand Totals Across All Partnerships

Item	Funding Request	Total Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	\$98,000	\$47,000	-, DU Private and Federal USFWS NAWCA, Fox Lake Conservation League Inc	\$145,000
Contracts	\$550,000	\$50,000	-, DU, Private, and Federal USFWS NAWCA	\$600,000
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	\$1,850,000	-	-	\$1,850,000
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	-	-	-	-
Easement Acquisition	-	-	-	-
Easement Stewardship	-	-	-	-
Travel	\$5,600	\$6,500	DU, Private, and Federal USFWS NAWCA, Fox Lake Conservation League Inc	\$12,100
Professional Services	\$24,000	-	-	\$24,000
Direct Support Services	\$11,400	-	-	\$11,400
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	\$40,000	-	-	\$40,000
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	\$1,500	-	-	\$1,500
Supplies/Materials	\$2,500	-	-	\$2,500
DNR IDP	-	-	-	-
Grand Total	\$2,583,000	\$103,500	-	\$2,686,500

Partner: Fox Lake Conservation League

Totals

Item	Funding Request	Total Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	-	\$27,000	Fox Lake Conservation League Inc	\$27,000
Contracts	-	-	-	-
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	\$1,850,000	-	-	\$1,850,000
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	-	-	-	-
Easement Acquisition	-	-	-	-
Easement Stewardship	-	-	-	-
Travel	-	\$1,500	Fox Lake Conservation League Inc	\$1,500
Professional Services	-	-	-	-
Direct Support Services	-	-	-	-
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	\$40,000	-	-	\$40,000
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	-	-	-	-
Supplies/Materials	-	-	-	-
DNR IDP	-	-	-	-
Grand Total	\$1,890,000	\$28,500	-	\$1,918,500

Personnel

Position	Annual FTE	Years Working	Funding Request	Total Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Grant Management	0.2	4.0	-	\$27,000	Fox Lake Conservation League Inc	\$27,000

Partner: Ducks Unlimited

Totals

Item	Funding Request	Total Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	\$60,000	\$20,000	DU Private and Federal USFWS NAWCA	\$80,000
Contracts	\$550,000	\$50,000	DU, Private, and Federal USFWS NAWCA	\$600,000
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	-	-	-	-
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	-	-	-	-
Easement Acquisition	-	-	-	-
Easement Stewardship	-	-	-	-
Travel	\$5,000	\$5,000	DU, Private, and Federal USFWS NAWCA	\$10,000
Professional Services	\$4,000	-	-	\$4,000
Direct Support Services	\$6,000	-	-	\$6,000
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	-	-	-	-
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	\$1,500	-	-	\$1,500
Supplies/Materials	\$2,500	-	-	\$2,500
DNR IDP	-	-	-	-
Grand Total	\$629,000	\$75,000	-	\$704,000

Personnel

Position	Annual FTE	Years Working	Funding Request	Total Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Ducks Unlimited Conservation Staff - Biologists and Engineers	0.8	3.0	\$60,000	\$20,000	DU Private and Federal USFWS NAWCA	\$80,000

Partner: The Conservation Fund

Totals

Item	Funding Request	Total Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	\$38,000	-	-	\$38,000
Contracts	-	-	-	-
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	-	-	-	-
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	-	-	-	-
Easement Acquisition	-	-	-	-
Easement Stewardship	-	-	-	-
Travel	\$600	-	-	\$600
Professional Services	\$20,000	-	-	\$20,000
Direct Support Services	\$5,400	-	-	\$5,400
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	-	-	-	-
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	-	-	-	-
Supplies/Materials	-	-	-	-
DNR IDP	-	-	-	-
Grand Total	\$64,000	-	-	\$64,000

Personnel

Position	Annual FTE	Years Working	Funding Request	Total Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
MN TCF staff	0.1	4.0	\$38,000	-	-	\$38,000

Amount of Request: \$2,583,000

Amount of Leverage: \$103,500

Leverage as a percent of the Request: 4.01%

DSS + Personnel: \$109,400

As a % of the total request: 4.24%

Easement Stewardship: -

As a % of the Easement Acquisition: -

Total Leverage (from above)	Amount Confirmed	% of Total Leverage	Amount Anticipated	% of Total Leverage
\$103,500	\$28,500	27.54%	\$75,000	72.46%

Detail leverage sources and confirmation of funds:

DU will work diligently to leverage OHF grant funds with additional sources, but OHF acquisition expense is typically needed first.

FLCL will provide leverage through volunteer hours and travel costs at their own expense, which is estimated in the table above.

Does this proposal have the ability to be scalable?

Yes

If the project received 50% of the requested funding

Describe how the scaling would affect acres/activities and if not proportionately reduced, why?

The number of acres would be reduced proportionately. However, this proposal would be significantly affected if approved for less than 60% of our request (\$1,550,000), which is what it would cost to protect and restore about 80 acres.

Describe how personnel and DSS expenses would be adjusted and if not proportionately reduced, why?

Personnel and DSS are budgeted by number of projects in this program, and this request would still be for 1 project, but for less acres if reduced. The same amount of time and effort are put into a single project, regardless of size. These could only be adjusted slightly.

If the project received 30% of the requested funding

Describe how the scaling would affect acres/activities and if not proportionately reduced, why?

The number of acres would be reduced proportionately. However, this proposal would be significantly affected if approved for less than 60% of our request (\$1,550,000), which is what it would cost to protect and restore about 80 acres.

Describe how personnel and DSS expenses would be adjusted and if not proportionately reduced, why?

Personnel and DSS are budgeted by number of projects in this program, and this request would still be for 1 project, but for less acres if reduced. The same amount of time and effort are put into a single project, regardless of size. These could only be adjusted slightly.

Personnel

Has funding for these positions been requested in the past?

Yes

Please explain the overlap of past and future staffing and position levels previously received and how that is coordinated over multiple years?

TCF: Each project has a unique project account and time is tracked by individual to assure accurate personnel costs by project.

DU: DU assigns site-specific, unique project numbers to each land acquisition or wetland restoration project, and biologist/engineering staff charge time and expenses to these specific project number codes so charges are tracked to specific sites by each individual.

Contracts

What is included in the contracts line?

Contracts are for private contractor charges to restore/enhance wetlands (earthmoving) and grasslands (native seeding) on lands acquired. Wetland restoration in Martin County is very expensive and requires engineering due to intensive landscape drainage via complex networks of private/public tile/ditches that affect private neighbors and public roads.

Professional Services

What is included in the Professional Services line?

- Appraisals
- Other : Soil investigations
- Surveys
- Title Insurance and Legal Fees

Fee Acquisition

What is the anticipated number of fee title acquisition transactions?

This is for 1 - 2 acquisitions

Travel

Does the amount in the travel line include equipment/vehicle rental?

Yes

Explain the amount in the travel line outside of traditional travel costs of mileage, food, and lodging

DU - travel costs consist of in-state mileage and lodging for land manager, biologists, and engineering field staff. DU generally does not spend OHF grant funds on food.

I understand and agree that lodging, meals, and mileage must comply with the current MMB Commissioner Plan:

Yes

Direct Support Services

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

FLCL- we will not charge DSS.

TCF: Direct Support Services has been reviewed and approved by Minnesota DNR grants staff, and is determined using our Federally-approved and audited rate as the basis for calculating Direct Support Services as a percentage of the budgeted personnel costs.

DU: Minnesota DNR grants staff previously reviewed and approved DU accounting methodology for Direct Support Services, which are calculated and included in DU staff costs. DU Direct Support Services constitute approximately 10% of DU overall staff costs on average among DU conservation staff billing categories.

Other Equipment/Tools

Give examples of the types of Equipment and Tools that will be purchased?

GPS survey equipment for performing engineering wetland restoration survey work and engineering surveys of shallow lake and large wetland enhancement projects, including survey equipment lease charges instead of actual outright equipment purchases to avoid buying equipment that becomes obsolete due to upgrades and advancements. Other examples include hand tools and other field equipment as needs arise.

Federal Funds

Do you anticipate federal funds as a match for this program?

Yes

Are the funds confirmed?

No

What is the approximate date you anticipate receiving confirmation of the federal funds?

Beginning in 2025 via future NAWCA grants leveraged to help restore lands acquired via OHF. This first requires expenditures of state OHF grant funds on land acquisitions to leverage federal NAWCA grant funds to restore lands acquired.

Output Tables

Acres by Resource Type (Table 1)

Type	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat	Total Acres
Restore	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	40	120	0	0	160
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	0	-	0	0	0
Protect in Easement	0	0	0	0	0
Enhance	0	0	0	0	0
Total	40	120	0	0	160

Total Requested Funding by Resource Type (Table 2)

Type	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat	Total Funding
Restore	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	\$645,800	\$1,937,200	-	-	\$2,583,000
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	-	-	-	-	-
Total	\$645,800	\$1,937,200	-	-	\$2,583,000

Acres within each Ecological Section (Table 3)

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest	Total Acres
Restore	0	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	0	0	160	0	160
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	0	0	0	-	0	0
Protect in Easement	0	0	0	0	0	0
Enhance	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	160	0	160

Total Requested Funding within each Ecological Section (Table 4)

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest	Total Funding
Restore	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	\$2,583,000	-	\$2,583,000
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	\$2,583,000	-	\$2,583,000

Average Cost per Acre by Resource Type (Table 5)

Type	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat
Restore	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	\$16,145	\$16,143	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-
Enhance	-	-	-	-

Average Cost per Acre by Ecological Section (Table 6)

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest
Restore	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	\$16,143	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	-	-	-	-	-

Target Lake/Stream/River Feet or Miles

Parcels

Sign-up Criteria?

No

Explain the process used to identify, prioritize, and select the parcels on your list:

We utilized historic information, the MN County Biologic Survey, GIS spatial data, and local knowledge to identify areas where habitat restoration will be most beneficial. Expanding habitat complexes by protecting and restoring lands adjacent to existing high-quality native habitat and habitat already protected through public ownership or permanent conservation easements is our key focus. Parcels which will link or expand sites with threatened or endangered species and species-in-decline further narrowed our focus area. We additionally highlighted opportunities to protect and enhance habitat buffers along water courses and lake chains.

Protect Parcels

Name	County	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection
Caron WMA Parcel 13B	Martin	10333226	209	\$1,700,000	No
Caron WMA Parcel 14	Martin	10332224	77	\$900,000	No
Caron WMA Parcel 15	Martin	10333225	50	\$475,000	No
Center Creek WMA Parcel 13	Martin	10329229	107	\$975,000	No
East Fork WMA Parcel 2A	Martin	10332208	110	\$700,000	No
Caron WMA Parcel 16	Martin	10332225	160	\$1,750,000	No
Rooney Run WMA	Martin	10332228	80	\$1,100,000	No
East Fork WMA Parcel 1A	Martin	10332208	120	\$950,000	No

Protect Parcels with Buildings

Name	County	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection	Buildings	Value of Buildings
East Fork WMA Parcel 1B	Martin	10332208	10	\$80,000	No	3	\$0

Parcel Map



- Protect in Easement
- ▲ Protect in Fee with PILT
- Protect in Fee W/O PILT
- ★ Restore
- ✕ Enhance
- ⊕ Other

2025 LSOHC Proposal – Martin County Acquisition – Phase 9

Fox Lake Conservation League, Inc. Ducks Unlimited The Conservation Fund



Completed restoration of Valley News tracts I & II at Perch Creek WMA from phase 4 & 5

Removing Tile



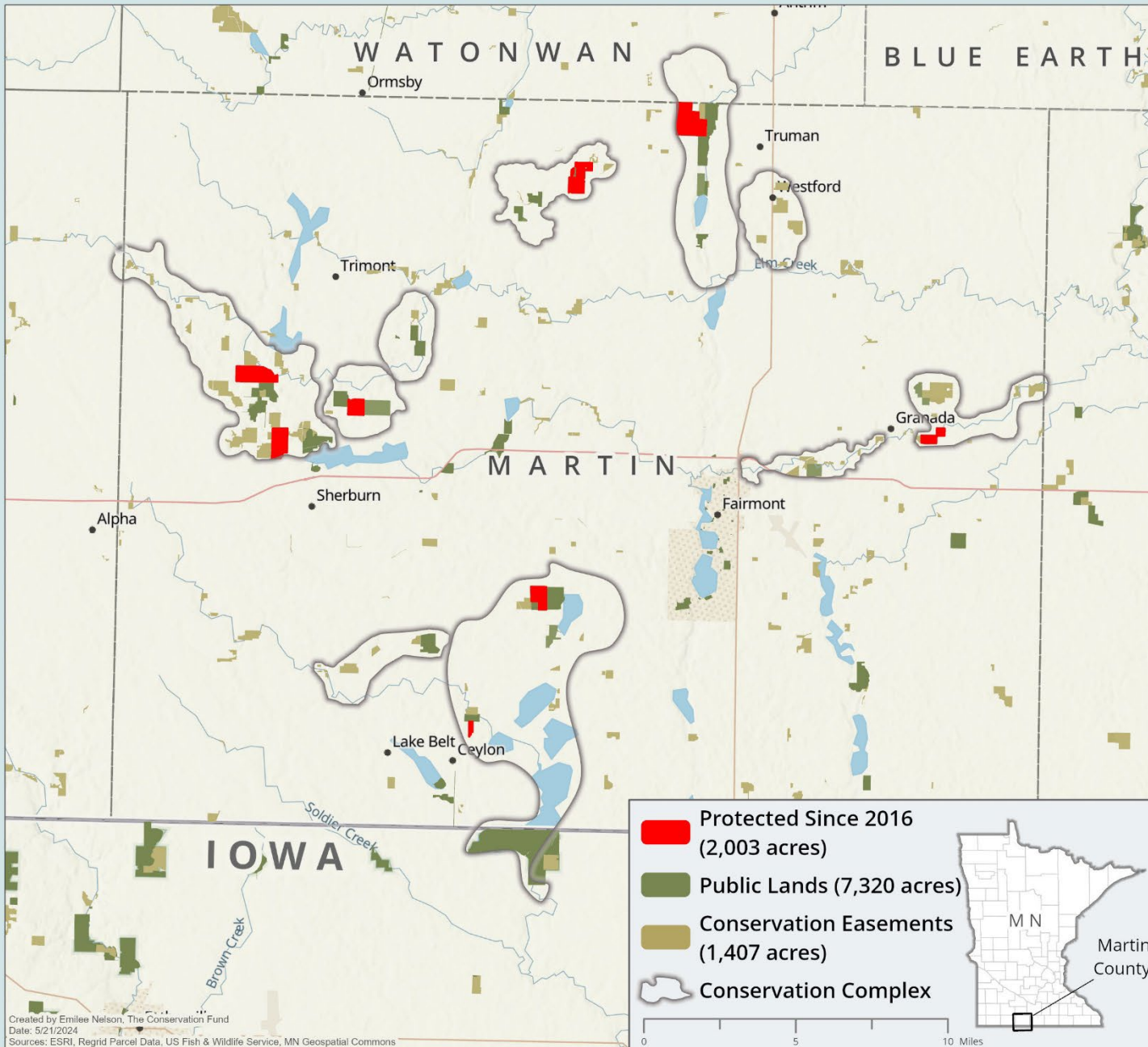
Removing Sediment



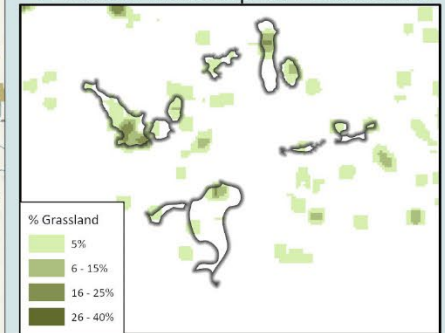
Seeding Native Prairie



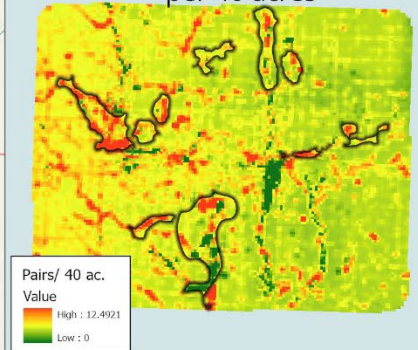
Martin County Habitat



Percent Landscape in Grassland



Bobolink Nesting Suitability per 40 acres



Waterfowl Pairs per Sq. Mile

