

## Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

**MEMO:**        **Agenda Item #5A**  
**DATE:**        July 29, 2021  
**SUBJECT:**     Appropriation / Carryforward Extensions  
**PRESENTER:**   Sandy Smith, Project Analyst Manager

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This memo is to provide an update on the recent program extensions and carryforwards.

This is a reminder to members that unspent monies get turned back to the Outdoor Heritage Fund to be re-recommended the following year.

Phased acquisition programs that continue to acquire with the same programmatic goals can move ahead and use monies in more recent appropriations rather than continue to extend older appropriations.

The Council might see programs funded in ML 19-ML 21 slow to spend as managers get caught up with spending on the extended programs. Acquisition for ML 19 program need to be committed by June 30, 2022.

Status Update reports are due August 1. We will report back on the progress of programs prior to the hearings.

Appropriation Year	# of Open appropriations	# with Extensions	Percentage of open appropriations with extensions
ML 14	3	1	33%
ML 15	18	10	55%
ML 16	26	11	42%
ML 17	28	8	28%
ML 18	43	14	32%

Number of Extensions	Type of Appropriation Extension
19	ML 21 individual carryforwards in bill
7	ML 21 extension of time certain appropriation per COVID – 1 additional year for certain activities – attached to this memo
2	ML 20 individual carryforwards in bill
18	ML 20 extension of time certain appropriation per COVID– 1 additional year for certain activities - <a href="#">List from the June 2020 Council meeting</a>
3	ML 19 individual carryforwards in bill
2	ML 18 individual carryforwards in bill
0	ML 17 individual carryforwards in bill

## Extension of Appropriation Availability due to COVID-19

ML 2021, First Special Session, Ch. 1, Article 1, Sec. 2, Subd. 11. Extension of Certain Appropriations

(a) Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.28, or any other law to the contrary, the availability of any appropriation or grant of money from the outdoor heritage fund that would otherwise cancel, lapse, or expire on June 30, 2021, is extended to June 30, 2022, if the recipient or grantee does both of the following:

(1) by June 30, 2021, notifies the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council in the manner specified by the council that the recipient or grantee intends to avail itself of the extension available under this subdivision; and

(2) modifies the applicable accomplishment plan in accordance with the council's accomplishment plan modification procedures.

(b) The council must notify the commissioner of management and budget and the commissioner of natural resources of any extension granted under this subdivision.

Managers were asked to submit an AP amendment to update the timeline. The following programs requested and were granted extensions.

<b>Subd</b>	<b>Title / Organization</b>	<b>Staff notes/Additional Changes</b>	<b>Reason as described by manager in the Amendment Tab</b>
ML 2017 3(f)	Critical Shoreland Habitat Protection Program, Ph. 4  MLT	MLT Extension only for easement closings	Due to delays related to COVID-19, we were unable to complete one conservation easement project which was expected to close this year. We now expect that project to close within the first two quarters of FY23.
ML 18 3(b)	Southeast MN Protection and Restoration, Phase 6  MLT	MLT Extension only for easement options	MLT: One additional easement project that was on track to close prior to the end of the grant has had delays due to COVID-19. We request an extension that will enable us to close on one additional project in FY22. Options have not been signed yet.
ML 18 3(d)	State Forest Acquisition, RJD Memorial Forest – Ph. 5  DNR	Extension only	Acquisition parcel could not close in time and was delayed beyond deadline.

ML 18 4(d)	Wetland Protection and Restoration Program, Ph. 3  MLT	MLT Extension only for easement options	One additional easement project that was on track to close prior to the end of the grant has had delays due to COVID-19. It is now likely close during the first two quarters of FY22.
ML 18 5(a)	Metro Big Rivers Ph. 8  MLT	MLT Extension only for easement options and minor budget shifts	MLT has 1-2 easement projects remaining to complete under this appropriation that could not close due to slowing in all facets of the easement acquisition process.
ML 18 5(f)	Dakota County Habitat Protection/Restoration Ph. 6  Dakota County	Extension Only for acquisitions  Timeline also extended R/E activities to within the original approp availability that was unaltered with the COVID extension for this year	Parcel acquisitions were delayed as the County and supporting businesses (e.g., appraisers, title company, attorneys, financial institutions) shut-down.  Resuming acquisition and restoration work has been slowly getting back to pre-pandemic levels; but demand for certain services (e.g., appraisers and restoration crews) is high, and some work continues to be delayed as the County competes with many other clients to get its work on the schedules of businesses that provide these services.
ML 18 5(h)	Coldwater Fisheries Habitat R/E Program  MN Trout Unlimited	Extension Only for easement options	COVID-19 prevented us from meeting with landowners to sign them up to convey trout stream easements. We wish to avail ourselves of the extension available under above law and are requesting our work plan be amended to extended the availability of grant funding for trout stream easement acquisitions to June 30, 2022.