

ST. LOUIS RIVER RESTORATION INITIATIVE

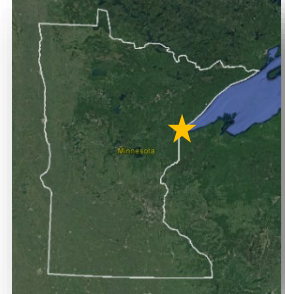
PHASE 10 PROPOSAL

HRE09



The St. Louis River Estuary: a unique & valuable state resource

- 12,000 acre coastal marsh (Ranked S1 = critically imperiled)
- 24 times more productive than open water
- Nurseries for Lake Superior fish populations
- Diverse native plants and wildlife
- Important migratory waterfowl flyway



Boreal wetlands in the St. Louis River watershed

- Biodiversity hotspots of Northern Forest Ecoregion
- Source for many culturally significant plants
- Habitat for threatened & endangered species
- Source of Estuary water quality
- 50% of acres threatened by climate change due to hydrologic alterations

Restoration to Revitalization: A Success Story



Chambers Grove:
Hardened shoreline (before)

Native Brook Trout in restored Knowlton Creek
A Muskie 'hot spot' at Radio Tower Bay
Spawning Lake Sturgeon at Chambers Grove



Chambers Grove:
Natural shoreline (after)



More people are using the river than ever before!

Making progress in 2022

Restoring Common Tern habitat at Interstate Island



Restoring fish habitat at Perch Lake



Seeding manoomin in restored coastal marsh at Kingsbury Bay



Enhancing habitat for marsh birds at Grassy Point



Each **\$1.00** awarded by OHF leveraged **\$0.90** in Federal/other support for these projects.

St. Louis River Restoration Phase 10 Proposal

10 Acres

Coastal Marsh Habitat at Mud Lake

- Restore connectivity
- Area of Concern Management Action
- Waterfowl hotspot
- Panfish production area
- Northern Pike/Muskie spawning

1,600 ft

Fish & wildlife passage on Lower Knowlton Creek

- Remove barrier
- Restore adjacent stream reaches
- Protect downstream restoration efforts

50 Acres

Boreal Wetlands Restoration

- Partnership includes Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
- Goal to restore boreal wetland habitats and hydrologic functions
- Enhance culturally significant plants (shown: Labrador tea, sweetgrass, black ash)
- Implements Climate Change Adaptation Plan for 1854 Ceded Territory

Let's maintain this momentum!



The St. Louis River Restoration Initiative has:

- Strong partnerships
- Demonstrated success
- Engaged community
- A clear vision for **restoration, enhancement, and protection**