

ML 2018 Programs

ATTACHMENT 2

33 programs closed with final reports accepted

5 open due to legislative extension – see last page

3 still open due to IDP – Initial Development Plans. This is money transferred to the DNR for the development of parking lots, signs and R/E of conveyed parcels. This practice was switched to a direct appropriation to DNR rather than partnership budgets in ML 2023. This work is done by DNR. Programs can't close until DNR work is complete, even though all partner program work is complete.

Programs open due to 5+ years for R/E of acquisitions

2(a)	DNR WMA and SNA Acquisition, Phase X	DNR	94% spent, 4 parcels finishing up R/E work completed winter 2025
2(d)	Northern Tallgrass Prairie National Wildlife Refuge, Phase IX	TNC	97% spent, finishing up R/E to be completed by Aug 2025
3(b)	Southeast Minnesota Protection and Restoration Phase 6	TNC, TPL, MLT	Final Report completed, but waiting on a revised MLT easement NOFR to be submitted.
2(j)	Protect and Restore MN IBAs within the Tallgrass Aspen Parklands, Phase 2	Audubon Minnesota and MLT	90% of program spending complete. Very little spent since March of 2024 – encumbered contracts may be showing as spent in the budget; MLT finishing up R/E on 1 easement that closed in 2021.
2(k)	Grassland Conservation Partnership, Phase III	CF and MLT	93% spent, No new spending since July 2023 – R/E contract encumbrance was shown as spent in budget, MLT is finishing up 1 R/E – contract was executed in Aug 2021 for \$100,000. ML 21 legislative extension to 2023.
5(f)	Dakota County Habitat Protection/Restoration Phase VI	Dakota County	48% spent, several reimbursements have been denied due to ineligible costs. DNR Grants Mgmt has been auditing to ensure compliance. They are finishing up (by 2026) R/E on 2 easements under this grant (cost estimated at \$250,000). A large portion of money will be returned. Total appropriation was \$2,288,000

ML 2019 Programs - Acquisition closed by June 2023, R/E ends by 2024 or the 5+ after AQ

27 programs closed with final reports accepted

3 open due to legislative extension – see last page

4 still open due to IDP

Programs open due to 5+ years for R/E of acquisitions

2(a)	DNR WMA and SNA Acquisition, Phase XI	DNR	90% of AQ spent - finishing up on R/E work through spring 2025
2(d)	Northern Tallgrass Prairie National Wildlife Refuge, Phase X	TNC	67% of program spent; \$525k unspent in AQ to be turned back; 5 easements and 2 Fee closed, finishing up R/E on those parcels, expected completion June 2026
3(c)	Minnesota Forests for the Future Phase VII	MN DNR Forestry	Final has been submitted and is being reviewed.
4(a)	Accelerating the Waterfowl Production Area Program - Phase XI	Pheasants Forever	99% spent, 11 WPA tracts were purchased, R/E continues on 1 parcel.
4(b)	Shallow Lake & Wetland Protection & Restoration Program - Phase VIII	Ducks Unlimited	83% program spent; AQ complete; Final report anticipated in 2025. Anticipate \$1 million to be returned due to low contract bids. Acres exceeded what was anticipated.
5(c)	Dakota County Habitat Protection/Restoration Phase VII	Dakota County	84% spent, AQ spent – 2 parcels not reimbursed due to ineligible costs. McMenomy parcel closed in April 2023. Have until 2028 to finish R/E, other R/E progressing.
5(f)	Minnesota Trout Unlimited Coldwater Fish Habitat Enhancement and Restoration, Phase 11	Minnesota Trout Unlimited	82% spent, Staff approved a retroactive amendment in March 2025 to add 3 parcels to conclude spending of this appropriation in addition to an unexpected MCC contract. Final Report is expected soon. Manager states, "on track to accomplish stated outcomes within the grant period", ML 24 Extension to 2025

ML 2020 – Acquisition closed in 2024, R/E ends by 2025 or the 5+ after AQ

Generally, programs appear to be on track. Spending differs, but on average we see 80-95% spent to date. All AQ programs have completed their work with little to be turned back in monies while R/E continues.

5 open due to legislative extension – see last page

9 still open due to IDP

7 programs have closed with final reports accepted:

2(e)	Lower Wild Rice River Corridor Habitat Restoration - Phase III	Wild Rice WD
2(g)	RIM Grassland Reserve - Phase II	BWSR
2(m)	Enhanced Public Land – Grasslands - Phase IV	Pheasants Forever
3(a)	Camp Ripley Sentinel Landscape ACUB Protection Program - Phase VIII	BWSR/Morrison SWCD
3(c)	Northern Forest Habitat Conservation	MLT
3(e)	Southeast Forest Habitat Enhancement Phase II	DNR
5(f)	Targeted RIM Easement Program to the Individual Parcel: Pine and Leech Watersheds Phase 1	Crow Wing SWCD

Programs with notes

2(c)	MN Prairie Recovery Program Phase 10	TNC	88% program spent to date; No AQ spent so transferred \$750,000 from AQ to R/E in April 2024, stated they could spend it within 1 year. Expires in June 2025.
2(i)	Heron Lake Area Conservation Partnership	Heron Lake WD, PF, DU, MLT	26% of program spent to date, AQ was a challenge in this part of the state; \$2.5 million to be returned once program is fully closed. MLT accomplish 2 easements and are finishing up R/E expected to be completed in Nov 2028.
5(c)	Resilient Habitat for Heritage Brook Trout	MN Trout Unlimited, TPL, TNC, MLT	63% program spent to date; MLT easement spent, TPL Fee unspent and may turn back about \$600,000
5(h)	Hennepin County Habitat Conservation Program - Phase 2	Hennepin County; MLT	55% of program spent to date; AQ easements 53% spent; ML 2023 legislative extension to 2025.

5(a)	Protecting Coldwater Fisheries on Minnesota's North Shore	MLT	96% of program spent to date; Most recent status update shows stewardship spent was \$96,000, AQ easements (MLT) completed. \$20,000 left to spend in contracts for R/E work expected to begin spring 2025. ML 2023 legislative extension to 2025 and increased stewardship from \$144,000 to \$240,000, but the legislative increase was not needed.
5(d)	Fisheries Habitat Protection on Strategic North Central Minnesota Lakes - Phase VI	Northern Waters Land Trust / MLT	73% program spending to date; Since Jan 2024 only small personnel amounts spent; MLT easements 56% spent may turn back \$600,000, Fee all spent; Final Report needs to be completed. ML 2022 Legislative Extension to 2024;
5(i)	MN Trout Unlimited Coldwater Fish Habitat Enhancement & Restoration, Phase 12	MN Trout Unlimited	No status update submitted in Feb 2025, Aug 2024 update showed 68% program spent to date, construction is underway, manager states "on track to accomplish all stated outcomes within the grant period". Expires June 30, 2025.

ML 2021 Programs – Acquisition expires June 2025, R/E goes until 2026 or 4+

0 legislative extensions

3 programs closed with final reports accepted:

3(c)	Camp Ripley Sentinel Landscape ACUB Phase IX	BWSR / Morrison County SWCD
2(m)	Enhanced Public Land – Grasslands – Phase 5	Pheasants Forever
5(m)	Shell Rock River Habitat Restoration	SRWD

ML 2021 - Acquisition is completed for the following:

2(a)	DNR WMA, SNA Acquisition, Phase XIII	DNR
2(b)	Accelerating the Wildlife Management Area Program - Phase XIII	Pheasants Forever

2(d)	Northern Tallgrass Prairie National Wildlife Refuge, Phase XII	The Nature Conservancy with USFWS
2(e)	Cannon River Watershed Habitat Protection and Restoration Program - Phase 10	TPL; GRG
2(h)	Prairie Chicken Habitat Partnership of the Southern Red River Valley - Phase VII	PF with Prairie Chicken Society
2(j)	Martin County WMA Acquisition Phase 5	Fox Lake Conservation League, DU, Conservation Fund
2(k)	RIM Grassland Reserve - Phase III	BWSR
3(a)	Southeast Minnesota Protection and Restoration Phase 9	The Nature Conservancy, TPL Fee complete, MLT easement 6% spent
4(a)	Accelerating the Waterfowl Production Area Program - Phase XIII	Pheasants Forever
4(b)	Shallow Lake & Wetland Protection & Restoration Program - Phase X	Ducks Unlimited
5(a)	St. Croix Watershed Habitat Protection and Restoration Phase 2	TPL, MLT, St. Croix River Watershed
5(b)	Metro Big Rivers Phase 11	MVT & TPL Fee complete; MLT easements spent 27%
5(d)	Fisheries Habitat Protection on Strategic North Central Minnesota Lakes - Phase VII	NWLT Fee complete; MLT easements 45% spent
5(e)	Mississippi Headwaters Habitat Corridor Project, Phase 6	TPL Fee complete; BWSR easements spent 63%
5(i)	Targeted RIM Easement & Acquisition to the Parcel Level Pine & Leech Watersheds Phase II	Crow Wing County SWCD, Fee title completed; BWSR easements spent 13%
5(o)	Sauk River Watershed Habitat Protection & Restoration, Phase 3	MLT easements completed, PF Fee spent 67%

ML 2022 – Acquisition closes 2026, R/E ends by 2027 or the 4+ after AQ

0 legislative extension

1 program closed with final reports accepted

3d	Big Woods Protection at Stieg Woods	City of Rogers
----	-------------------------------------	----------------

Listed below are programs who have spent 80% or more on acquisition funds, those fully expended show “complete”.

2(a)	Accelerating the Wildlife Management Area Program - Phase XIV	PF	complete
2(b)	RIM Grasslands Reserve Phase IV	BWSR	
2(c)	Prairie Chicken Habitat Partnership of the Southern Red River Valley - Phase VIII	PF with Prairie Chicken Society	complete

2(e)	Enhanced Public Land - Open Landscapes - Phase II	PF with Sharp Tailed Grouse Society	
3(b)	2022 Camp Ripley Sentinel Landscape ACUB Phase X	Morrison County SWCD / BWSR	
4(c)	Wild Rice Shoreland Protection - Phase VIII	DNR	
4(d)	Shallow Lake & Wetland Protection & Restoration Program - Phase XI	DU	
4(e)	RIM Wetlands - Restoring the most productive habitat in Minnesota's Prairie Pothole Region	BWSR	
4(f)	Living Shallow Lake Enhancement & Wetland Restoration Initiative - Phase VIII	DU	
5(h)	Cannon River Watershed Habitat Protection and Restoration Program - Phase 11	Clean Rivers Partners; TPL, GRG,	TPL Fee is complete
5(j)	Metro Big Rivers Phase 12	MVT; FMR; MLT; TPL	TPL Fee is complete, MVT Fee 80% spent, MLT Easement 0% spent
5(k)	St. Croix Watershed Habitat Protection and Restoration Phase 3	Wild Rivers Conservancy; MLT; TPL;	TPL Fee complete, MLT Easement 64% spent

ML 2023 – Acquisition closes 2027, R/E ends by 2028 or the 4+ after AQ

Listed below are programs who have spent 80% or more on acquisition funds, those fully expended show “complete”.

2(d)	Prairie Chicken Habitat Partnership of the Southern Red River Valley - Phase IX	PF	complete
4(b)	Shallow Lake & Wetland Protection & Restoration Program - Phase XII	DU	complete
5(j)	Metro Big Rivers Phase 13	MVT; FMR; GRG; TPL; MLT	TPL Fee complete, MVT Fee 0% spent, MLT Easement 0% spent
5(k)	St. Croix Watershed Habitat Protection and Restoration Phase 4	MLT, TPL, WRC	TPL Fee is 89% spent, MLT Easement 0% spent

ML 2024 – Very little spent – nothing to report

The only program with significant spending/accomplishments is DU Shallow Lake/Wetland Protection and Restoration with 31% spent. Most all programs are around 0-10% spent.

Programs still open due to Council approved Legislative Extensions

Yr	Subd	Program	Lead Organization	Open until	Notes
2017	2(g)	RIM Buffers for Wildlife and Water - Phase VII	BWSR	2025	96% spent and near closing
2017	3(a)	Carnelian Creek Conservation Corridor	MLT	2025	2 Extensions given, 1 easement closed, \$823,000 spent out of \$2.4 million
2018	2(j)	Protect and Restore MN IBAs within the Tallgrass Aspen Parklands, Phase 2	Audubon Minnesota and MLT	2022	MLT finishing up R/E
2018	2(k)	Grassland Conservation Partnership, Phase III	CF and MLT	2023	MLT finishing up R/E
2018	5(c)	Fisheries Habitat Protection on Strategic North Central MN Lakes - Phase IV	NWLT	2023	Supposed to close in March 2025
2018	5(i)	Lower Mississippi River Habitat Partnership (Phase 4) Backwater Enhancement	DNR	2027	R/E was more difficult than anticipated and required extra time.
2018	5(n)	Buffalo River Watershed Stream Habitat Program – Phase 1	Buffalo-Red River WD	2025	94% spent to date – expect final report soon.
2019	5(o)	Restoring the Upper Mississippi River at Lake Pepin: Phase 1	Lake Pepin Legacy Alliance	2028	OHF Advanced appropriation monies, working with USACE so it is on their timeframe
2019	5(f)	Minnesota Trout Unlimited Coldwater Fish Habitat Enhancement and Restoration, Phase 11	Minnesota Trout Unlimited	2025	Retroactive Amendment given in March 2025 to spend remaining on 2 parcels and MCC contract underway should close out soon.
2019	4(g)	Big Rice Lake Wild Rice Enhancement	Minnesota DNR	2026	Three components to R/E, finishing up on the final one.
2020	5(a)	Protecting Coldwater Fisheries on Minnesota's North Shore	MLT	2026 *	Most recent status update shows stewardship spent was \$96,000, AQ easements (MLT) completed, \$20,000 left to spend in contracts for R/E work which are expected to begin spring of 2025. * and increased stewardship from \$144,000 to \$240,000
2020	5(b)	Metro Big Rivers Phase 10	MVT, FMR, GRG, MLT, TPL	2026	Extension given for MVT to finish up R/E on Ikes Creek
2020	5(d)	Fisheries Habitat Protection on Strategic North Central Minnesota Lakes - Phase VI	NWLT, MLT	2024	NWLT completed Fee, MLT easements has 50% spent, but has exceeded the acre goals.
2020	5(h)	Hennepin County Habitat Conservation Program - Phase 2	Hennepin County; MLT	2025	Extension was requested in January 2023 when \$415,200 had been spent. Most recent update states \$1.4 million spent out of \$3.1 million appropriation.

2020	5k	St. Louis River Restoration Initiative Phase 7	DNR/partners	2026	This was a general extension to finish up work in lieu of turning back monies and asking for new appropriation.
------	----	--	--------------	------	---