

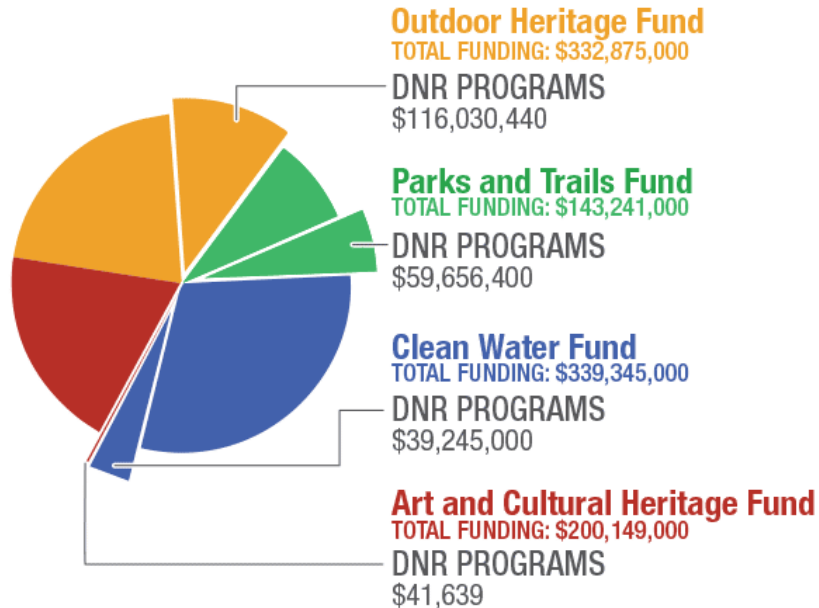


# Minnesota's Legacy Amendment

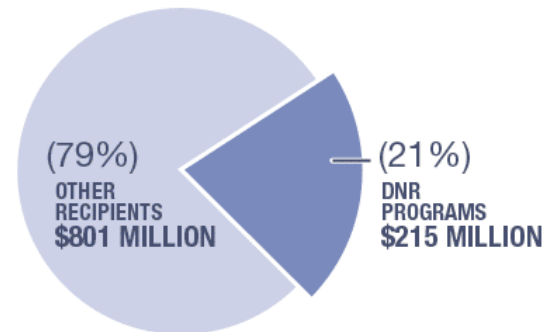
# Amendment Fundamentals

- 3/8<sup>th</sup> of 1% sales tax dedicated to 4 funds.
- Effective 2009-2034.
- 1/3 of fund is Outdoor Heritage Fund, “...*only to restore, protect, and enhance wetlands, prairie, forests, and habitat for fish, game, and wildlife...*”
- Lands acquired in fee must be open to public taking of fish and game.
- Legislature appropriates money; competitive process

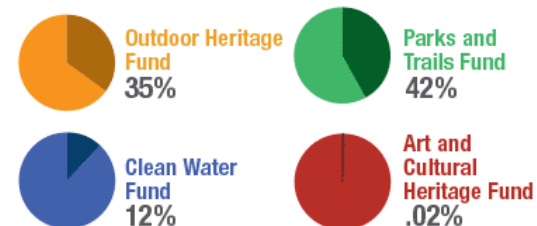
## Where the Money Goes



## DNR'S PERCENTAGE OF LEGACY DOLLARS



## DNR'S PERCENTAGE OF DOLLARS BY FUND:



# Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

- Council of 12 members established in statute
  - 4 legislators, 8 citizens
  - Governor appoints 4 citizens
  - House appoints 2 citizens, 2 House members
  - Senate appoints 2 citizens, 2 Senate members
- Make official recommendations to the legislature on how to spend Outdoor Heritage Fund each year
- Set priorities
- Annual Call for Requests competitive process (including for state agencies) to form recommendations



# A Few Key DNR Accomplishments

- Upper Mississippi-UPM Forests for the Future permanent conservation easement with public access – 190,000 acres
- Conservation Partners Legacy Grant Program
  - Grants \$5,000 - \$400,000 focused on local organizations, rod & gun clubs, LGUs, and many more
  - Currently ~ \$8 million per year
  - Statewide, Metro area, and Expedited grants available
  - Focused on building local conservation capacity
- Rapidly accelerated prairie, grassland, wetland, forest, and shoreland habitat restoration and enhancement work - >150,000 acres in first 5 years
- Protection of more than 40,000 acres in fee title and permanent conservation easement in first 5 years







*Hay Creek trout stream before & after (2010)*



## Funds at Work



*Whispering Ridge Aquatic  
Management Area Acquisition*



*Water control structure on State Line Lake*



## Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council



*"...restore, protect, and  
enhance Minnesota's wetlands,  
prairies, forests, and habitat  
for fish, game, and wildlife..."*



## Who We Are

The Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council (LSOHC) is responsible for providing Outdoor Heritage Fund (OHF) appropriation recommendations to the legislature. Recommendations must directly relate to: “restoration, protection, and enhancement of wetlands, prairies, forests, and habitat for fish, game, and wildlife, and to prevent forest fragmentation.”

The OHF was established as the result of the Clean Water, Land, and Legacy constitutional amendment passed by Minnesota voters in November 2008. The amendment established a dedicated sales tax increase of 3/8<sup>th</sup> of one percent to be deposited in one of four dedicated funds. One-third of the dollars raised are deposited into the Outdoor Heritage Fund for expenditure to protect, restore, and enhance habitat in Minnesota.

## What is Funded

- Council recommendations focus on funding programs that protect, restore, or enhance prairies, wetlands, forests, wildlife and aquatic management areas, waterfowl production areas, and scientific and natural areas
- The Council seeks conservation focused, science-based programs that ensure measureable, long-lasting impacts on the environment and habitat for game, fish, and wildlife
- Projects seeking funding less than \$400,000 should apply to the Conservation Partners Legacy Program: [www.lsohc.leg.mn/sm\\_grants.html](http://www.lsohc.leg.mn/sm_grants.html)



## How to Apply

The LSOHC request submission process is a web-based application

- Visit our website: [www.lsohc.leg.mn](http://www.lsohc.leg.mn)
- Proposal submission window is April to early June each year
- Seeking early assistance will assure you received the help you need and time to make any changes necessary by deadlines
- It is estimated that \$100 million is available to be recommended for appropriation each year

### Contact Us

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# **Fiscal Year 2016**

## **Outdoor Heritage Fund**

### **Recommendations Bill Summary**

The tables and figures that follow summarize the expected impacts of the appropriations recommended by the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council for fiscal year 2016, the seventh year of outdoor heritage funding. The Council recommended 35 proposals for \$100 million. The data omit the expected impacts of the Conservation Partners Legacy grant programs, which are recommended for funding at \$8,440,000.

#### **WHAT:**

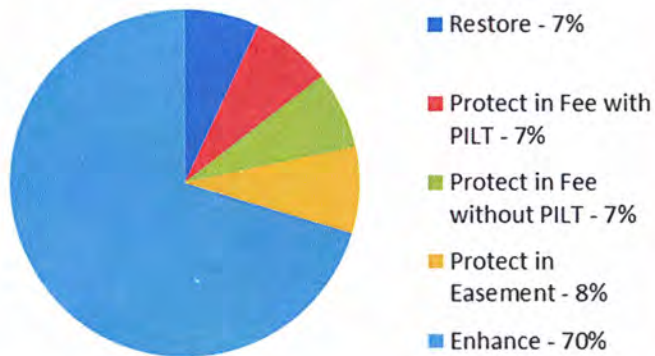
- The majority of activity (60,020 out of 77,551 acres, or 77%) is in enhancement and restoration, which incurs no PILT liability.
- The majority of funding (\$67,894,500 or 75%) is in acquisition. Of this amount, approximately 54% is fee acquisition and 21% in easement acquisition.
- PILT obligations from fee acquisition are estimated to be \$174,180
- 50 FTE (6% of total) will be funded with the appropriations. Of that figure, 32 FTE will be in state government, 17 in NGOs, and 1 in local units of government.
- Outcomes associated with programs include
  - o improved aquatic indicators;
  - o remnant native prairies and wetlands are perpetually protected;
  - o protected, restored, and enhanced habitat for migratory waterfowl, upland birds, and species of greatest conservation need;
  - o forestlands are protected from development and fragmentation;
  - o wetland and upland complexes will consist of native prairies, restored prairies, quality grasslands, and restored shallow lakes and wetlands; and
  - o core areas protected with highly biologically diverse wetland and plant communities, including native prairie, Big Woods, and oak savanna.

## WHO:

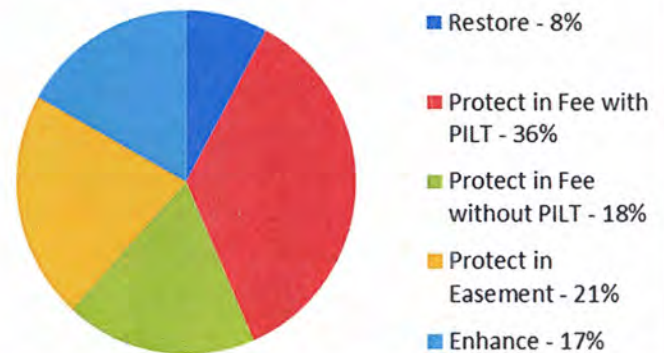
- Organizations recommended to receive funding include seven local units of government, one tribe, two state agencies, and ten non-governmental organizations.
- The continued investment in robust on-going programs constitutes 66% of the recommendations, including Cannon River Watershed Habitat Complex, Ph. V, Wild Rice Shoreland Protection, Ph. IV, and Minnesota Trout Unlimited Coldwater Fish Habitat enhancement, Ph. VII.
- 14% of recommended programs involve two or more entities working in partnership to leverage resources to accomplish conservation objectives.
- Investments in public and private conservation partnerships involve 24 programs, which brings over \$20 million of leverage into play.

Acres	Wetlands	Prairies	Forests	Habitats	TOTAL	% of total
Restore	673	4,111	0	615	5,399	7%
Protect in Fee with PILT	524	2,817	1,898	567	5,806	7%
Protect in Fee without PILT	729	1,998	2,644	187	5,558	7%
Protect in Easement	261	2,377	2,093	1,436	6,167	8%
Enhance	9,685	38,790	3,231	2,915	54,621	70%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11,872</b>	<b>50,093</b>	<b>9,866</b>	<b>5,720</b>	<b>77,551</b>	<b>100%</b>
<i>As a percent of total</i>	<i>15%</i>	<i>65%</i>	<i>13%</i>	<i>7%</i>		

### Acres by Activity



### Funds by Activity

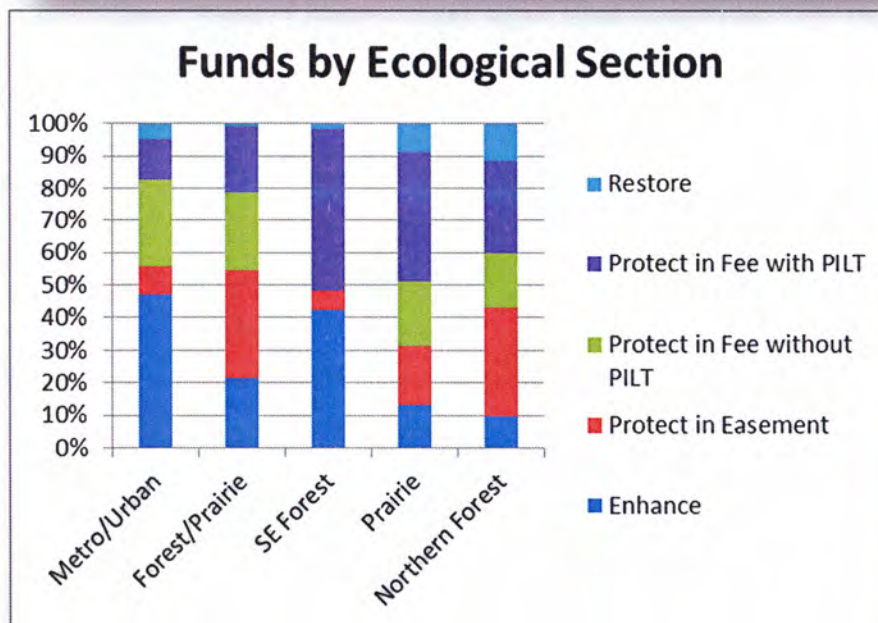
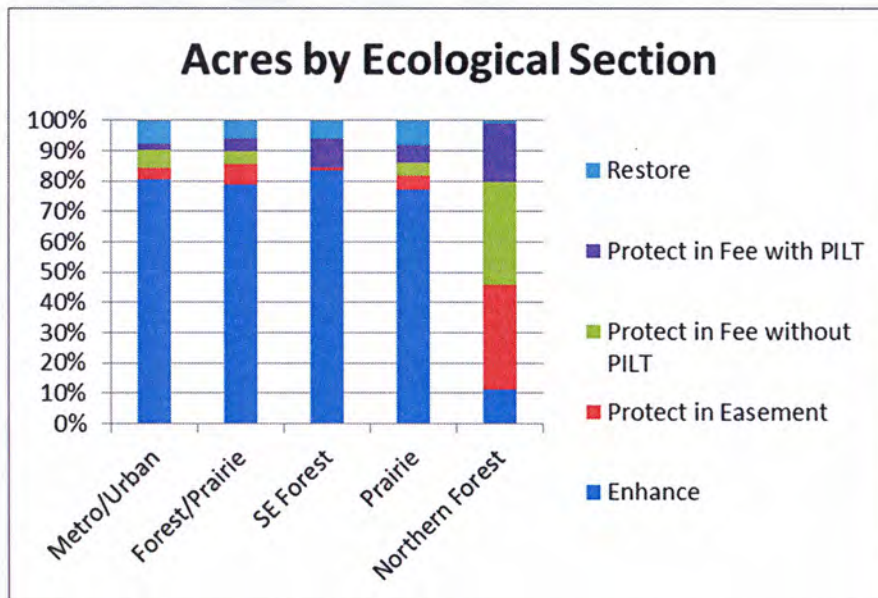


Funds	Wetlands	Prairies	Forests	Habitats	TOTAL	% of total
Restore	\$1,816,200	\$941,300	\$0	\$4,314,000	\$7,071,500	8%
Protect in Fee with PILT	\$3,620,500	\$19,857,400	\$6,099,400	\$2,553,000	\$32,130,300	36%
Protect in Fee without PILT	\$3,072,000	\$10,166,500	\$2,657,600	\$551,300	\$16,447,400	18%
Protect in Easement	\$820,100	\$11,159,200	\$4,063,500	\$3,274,000	\$19,316,800	21%
Enhance	\$2,834,600	\$7,498,900	\$1,416,000	\$3,372,500	\$15,122,000	17%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$12,163,400</b>	<b>\$49,623,300</b>	<b>\$14,236,500</b>	<b>\$14,064,800</b>	<b>\$90,088,000</b>	<b>100%</b>
<i>As a percent of total</i>	<i>14%</i>	<i>55%</i>	<i>15%</i>	<i>16%</i>		



## WHERE:

- The majority of activity (76%) and funding (69%) recommended will be focused on the prairie and prairie transition areas of the state and supports the goals and objectives of the Minnesota Prairie Plan.
- 1,865 acres of native prairie is anticipated to be acquired and 2,143 acres of native prairie will be restored and enhanced with these recommendations.
- Forests in the northern and southeastern regions of the state are anticipated to see 20% of the activity with 26% of the recommended funds dedicated to this activity.
- Three percent of the activity will be in the metro/urbanizing area, constituting 5% of funding recommended. (This figure does not include the Conservation Partners grant program, which directs \$3.692 million to grants in the seven county-metropolitan area and cities with a population of 50,000 or greater.)
- 162 miles of shoreline will be restored, enhanced and/or protected.



### Recommendation Summary

2(a) DNR WMA and SNA Acquisition, Ph. VII	DNR	\$4,570,000
2(b) Accelerating the Wildlife Management Area Program, Ph. VII	Pheasants Forever	\$7,452,000
2(c) MN Prairie Recovery Project, Ph. VI	The Nature Conservancy	\$4,032,000
2(d) Northern Tallgrass Prairie Nat'l Wildlife Refuge Land Acquisition, Ph. VI	The Nature Conservancy	\$3,430,000
2(e) Accelerated Native Prairie Bank Protection, Ph. IV	DNR	\$3,740,000
2(f) Minnesota Buffers for Wildlife and Water, Ph. V	BWSR	\$4,544,000
2(g) Cannon River Watershed Habitat Complex, Ph. V	Trust for Public Land	\$1,380,000
2(h) Prairie Chicken Habitat Partnership of the Southern Red River Valley	Pheasants Forever	\$1,800,000
2(i) Protecting and Restoring Minnesota's Important Bird Areas	Audubon of MN, MN Land Trust	\$1,730,000
2(j) Wild Rice River Corridor Habitat Restoration	Wild Rice River Watershed District	\$2,270,000
2(k) DNR Grassland, Ph. VII	DNR	\$4,880,000
2(l) Enhanced Public Land – Grasslands, Ph. II	Pheasants Forever	\$1,120,000
3(a) Protecting Forest Wildlife Habitat in the Wild Rice River Watershed	White Earth Nation	\$2,188,000
3(b) Camp Ripley ACUB, Ph. V	BWSR, Morrison County SWCD	\$1,500,000
3(c) Southeast Minnesota Protection and Restoration, Ph. III	The Nature Conservancy	\$2,910,000
3(d) Protecting Pinelands Sands Forest and Aquatic Habitat, Ph. II	DNR	\$2,180,000
3(e) Protect (Acquire) Key Forest Habitat Lands Cass County, Ph. VI	Cass County	\$442,000
3(f) Critical Shoreland Habitat Protection Program, Ph. III	Minnesota Land Trust	\$1,690,000
3(g) Mississippi Headwaters Habitat Partnership	Trust for Public Land, MN Land Trust, DNR	\$3,002,000
3(h) Southeast Forest Habitat Enhancement	DNR	\$910,000
4(a) Accelerating the Waterfowl Production Area Program, Ph. VII	Pheasants Forever	\$7,620,000
4(b) Shallow Lake & Wetland Protection Program, Ph. IV	Ducks Unlimited	\$9,040,000
4(c) Wild Rice Shoreland Protection, Ph. IV	BWSR, DNR	\$1,600,000
4(d) Accelerated Shallow Lakes and Wetland Enhancement, Ph. VII	DNR	\$2,130,000
5(a) Aquatic Habitat Protection, Restoration, and Enhancement, Ph. VII	DNR	\$4,540,000
5(b) Metro Big Rivers Partnership, Ph. VI	Great River Greening, Friends of the Mississippi, Trust for Public Land, MN Land Trust, MN Valley National Wildlife Trust	\$2,000,000
5(c) Minnesota Trout Unlimited Coldwater Fish Habitat Enhancement, Ph. VII	Minnesota Trout Unlimited	\$1,890,000
5(d) Lake Bemidji South Shore Restoration and Enhancement	City of Bemidji	\$1,650,000
5(e) Sand Hill River Fish Passage	Sand Hill Watershed District	\$990,000
5(f) Shell Rock River Watershed Habitat Restoration Program, Ph. IV	Shell Rock River Watershed	\$2,414,000
5(g) Lake Nokomis Shoreline Habitat Enhancements	Minneapolis Park Board	\$444,000
5(h) Conservation Partners Legacy Grant Program, Ph. VII	DNR	\$8,440,000
6(a) Contract Management	DNR	\$150,000
6(c) Restoration Evaluations	DNR	\$100,000