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Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council Laws of Minnesota 2014 Final Report

Date: November 08, 2017

Program or Project Title: Protecting Pinelands Sands Aquifer Forestlands and Aquatic Habitat Phase 1

Funds Recommended: \$1,050,000

Manager's Name: Richard F. Peterson Organization: MN DNR Forestry Address: 1810 - 30th St. NW City: Faribault, MN 55021 Office Number: 507-333-2012 Mobile Number: 507-330-6291

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Legislative Citation: ML 2014, Ch. 256, Art. 1, Sec. 2, Subd. 3(c)

Appropriation Language: \$1,050,000 in the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources to acquire forest lands in Cass, Hubbard, and Wadena Counties for wildlife management area purposes under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05, subdivision 8; to acquire land in fee for scientific and natural area purposes under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05, subdivision 5; or to acquire land in fee for state forests under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05, subdivision 7. A list of proposed land acquisitions must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

County Locations: Hubbard

Regions in which work was completed:

Northern Forest

Activity types:

• Protect in Fee

Priority resources addressed by activity:

Forest

Summary of Accomplishments:

The Pinelands Sands Aquifer Phase 1 project protected 567 acres of priority forest habitat in the Pinelands Sands Aquifer including high quality dry pine woodlands to prevent habitat loss, protect water quality in the aquifer, and provide access. Lands protected include 352 acres of forests which will be added to the Badoura State Forest and 215 acres which will be part of the newly established Jack Pine Woodlands Scientific and Natural Area. Protected lands will provide ecological and habitat connectivity, public wildlife and recreational opportunities, help maintain water quality in the aquifer and increase management access to other public lands.

Process & Methods:

Process & Methods: The Pinelands Sands Phase 1 project was part of an interdisciplinary effort by the Department of Natural Resources to assess and prioritize for protection industrial forestland in west central Minnesota in the Pinelands Sands area. The effort has included representatives from the Divisions of Fish and Wildlife, Ecological and Water Resources, Parks and Trails, and Forestry who have identified parcels containing high ecological, water, habitat, recreational, access and timber values. The process has included the participation of county boards, county staff and Potlatch representatives. One of the two parcels acquired is the new Badoura Jack Pine Forest SNA which benefitted from additional Outdoor Heritage Funding provided to the Division of Ecological and Water Resources and who also had funding provided by the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund. The second parcel acquired will



be added to the Badoura State Forest. Both parcels are located in southeastern Hubbard County adjacent to or in close proximity to other public lands and will be open for public access including hunting.

The Badoura Jack Pine Forest SNA protects a rare jack pine woodland plant community which is considered Imperiled or Critically Imperiled (S1S2) by the DNR and Globally Rare (G2) by NatureServe and which also contains several populations of the State Special Concern plant species Hill's thistle (Cirsium hillii). These jack pine woodland plant communities are characterized by a mix of prairie and northern forest plant species and this acquisition represents one of the largest remaining stands of jack pine woodland in this part of the state.

The second parcel includes 420 acres of forestland that protects at risk pine and hardwood forest habitat. Forest lands acquired include those most at risk of near-term conversion to row crop agriculture, and parcels adjacent to already publically owned lands that would augment protection for the Pineland Sands aquifer. These parcels also provide habitat connectivity and management and public access to additional areas of state and county forest lands.

Explain Partners, Supporters, & Opposition:

The Division of Forestry partnered with the Scientific and Natural Area Program to acquire the Jack Pine Woodlands SNA. The acquisitions were supported by the Hubbard County Board who approved via Board Resolution the acquisition of the SNA and State Forest lands.

Additional Comments:

Exceptional challenges, expectations, failures, opportunities, or unique aspects of program

This project was a collaborative effort between two DNR Divisions to protect and conserve forest habitat.

Other Funds Received:

Environmental and Natural Resource Trust Fund

How were the funds used to advanced the program:

Environment and Natural Resource Trust Funds were used to supplement the acquisition of the Jack Pine Woodlands SNA as part of the Ecological and Water Resources acquisition.

What is the plan to sustain and/or maintain this work after the Outdoor Heritage Funds are expended:

Operation and Maintenance costs of lands acquired in the Badoura State Forest come from the General Fund, Forest Management Investment Account (FMIA) and Bonding for Roads and Silviculture. If lands acquired are forested and in an active growing state, no additional costs are needed to manage these lands. Costs may actually be reduced if the acquired land reduces the miles of state/private boundaries, as these boundaries will not need to be surveyed or posted. Some acquired properties may require some forest restoration, including tree planting. In these cases these costs will come from the Bonding for Roads and Silviculture and FMIA funds. Revenue produced from acquired lands from tree harvest will be deposited in the FMIA fund and used for future management. Lands acquired in this project become part of the Minnesota State Forest system. The State Forest lands acquired lie within the Chippewa Plains-Pine Moraines and Outwash Plains Subsection and all future management will be consistent with the subsection forest resource management plan (SFRMP) for this subsection.

Outcomes:

The original accomplishment plan stated the program would

Programs in the northern forest region:

- Forestlands are protected from development and fragmentation
- Healthy populations of endangered, threatened, and special concern species as well as more common species
- · Increased availability and improved condition of riparian forests and other habitat corridors
- Landlocked public properties have increased access for land managers
- Greater public access for wildlife and outdoors-related recreation

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How will the outcomes be measured and evaluated?

Approximately 567 acres of forestland were protected from development and fragmentation including a rare jack pine woodland plant community. The state forest acquisitions increased access to state lands and county lands for land managers and all acquired lands provide public access for wildlife and outdoors related recreation. Acquired parcels provided connectivity between existing public lands. Protected properties provide habitat for several rare species and plant communities.

Budget Spreadsheet

Final Budget line item reallocations are allowed up to 10% and do not need require an amendment to the Accomplishment Plan

Total Amount: \$1,050,000

Budget and Cash Leverage

BudgetName	Request	Spent	Cash Leverage (anticipated)	Cash Leverage (received)	Leverage Source	Total (original)	Total (final)
Personnel	\$8,000	\$6,200	\$2,000	\$2,000	U.S. Forest Service	\$10,000	\$8,200
Contracts	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	\$990,000	\$1,007,900	\$0	\$0		\$990,000	\$1,007,900
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0
Easement Acquisition	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0
Easement Stewardship	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0
Travel	\$2,000	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$2,000	\$0
Professional Services	\$45,000	\$33,000	\$0	\$0		\$45,000	\$33,000
Direct Support Services	\$4,000	\$2,400	\$0	\$0		\$4,000	\$2,400
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0
Capital Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0
Other Equipment/Tools	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0
Supplies/Materials	\$1,000	\$500	\$0	\$0		\$1,000	\$500
DNR IDP	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0
Total	\$1,050,000	\$1,050,000	\$2,000	\$2,000		\$1,052,000	\$1,052,000

Personnel

Position	FTE	Over#ofyears	Spent	Cash Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Project Coordinator	0.10	2.00	\$6,200	\$2,000	U.S. Forest Service	\$8,200
Total	0.10	2.00	\$6,200	\$2,000		\$8,200

Explain any budget challenges or successes:

We were used approximately \$96,000 from 2015 Protecting Pinelands Sands Aquifer Forestlands - Phase II grant to acquire the State forest parcels.

All revenues received by the recipient that have been generated from activities on land with money from the OHF:

Total Revenue: \$0
Revenue Spent: \$0
Revenue Balance: \$0

Output Tables

Table 1a. Acres by Resource Type

Туре	Wetlands (original)	Wetlands (final)	Prairies (o riginal)	Prairies (final)	Forest (original)	Forest (final)	Habitats (original)	Habitats (final)	Total (original)	Total (final)
Restore	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	0	0	0	500	567	0	0	500	567
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Easement	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Enhance	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0	500	567	0	0	500	567

Table 2. Total Funding by Resource Type

Туре	Wetlands (original)	Wetlands (final)	Prairies (o riginal)	Prairies (final)	Forest (original)	Forest (final)	Habitats (original)	Habitats (final)	Total (original)	Total (final)
Restore	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,050,000	\$1,050,000	\$0	\$0	\$1,050,000	\$1,050,000
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Easement	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Enhance	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,050,000	\$1,050,000	\$0	\$0	\$1,050,000	\$1,050,000

Table 3. Acres within each Ecological Section

Туре	Metro Urban (original)	Metro Urban (final)	Forest Prairie (original)	Forest Prairie (final)	SE Forest (original)		Prairie (original)	Prairie (final)			Total (original)	Total (final)
Restore	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	500	567	500	567
Pro tect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Easement	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Enhance	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	500	567	500	567

Table 4. Total Funding within each Ecological Section

Туре	Metro Urban (original)	Metro Urban (final)	ForestPrairie (original)	Forest Prairie (final)	SEForest (original)		Prairie (original)	Prairie (final)	N Forest (original)	N Forest (final)	Total (original)	Total (final)
Restore	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,050,000	\$1,050,000	\$1,050,000	\$1,050,000
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Easement	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Enhance	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,050,000	\$1,050,000	\$1,050,000	\$1,050,000

Target Lake/Stream/River Feet or Miles (original)

Target Lake/Stream/River Feet or Miles (final)

0

Explain the success/shortage of acre goals:

We were successful in achieving and exceeding our targets by 67 acres. Our acre goals consisted of 352 acres fee title State Forest acquisition and 215 acres of Scientific and Natural Area acquisitions.

Parcel List

Section 1 - Restore / Enhance Parcel List

No parcels with an activity type restore or enhance.

Section 2 - Protect Parcel List

Hubbard

Name	TRDS	Acres	OHF Cost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?	Description
Pinelands Sands	13932212	215	\$500,000	No	Full	Full	Forest
Pinelands Sands	14032235	352	\$501,951	No	Full	Full	Forest

Section 2a - Protect Parcel with Bldgs

No parcels with an activity type protect and has buildings.

Section 3 - Other Parcel Activity

No parcels with an other activity type.

Completed Parcel: Pinelands Sands

# of T o tal Acres:	352
County:	Hubbard
Township:	140
Range:	32
Direction:	2
Section:	35
# of Acres: Wetlands/Upland:	
# of Acres: Fo rest:	352
# of Acres: Prairie/Grassland:	
Amo unt of Shorline:	
Name of Adjacent Body of Water (if applicable):	
Has there been signage erected at the site:	Yes
Annual Reporting Organization Name:	MN DNR Forestry
Annual Reporting Manager Name:	Richard F. Peterson
Annual Reporting Address:	1810 - 30th St. NW
Annual Reporting City:	Faribault
Annual Reporting State:	MN
Annual Reporting Zip:	55021
Annual Reporting Email:	richard.f.peterson@state.mn.us
Annual Reporting Phone:	507 333 2012
Purchase Date:	March 10, 2016
Acquisition T itle:	
Purchase Price:	\$598,000
Appraised Value:	\$598,000
Professional Service Costs:	\$0
Assessed Value:	\$673,400
Total Project Cost:	\$598,000
Fees Received:	\$0
Donations:	\$0
Related Parties:	
Property Managed By:	DNR - Fo restry -
Name of the unitarea or location government unit or land manager:	Park Rapids Area Forest Supervisor

Completed Parcel: Pinelands Sands

# of T otal Acres:	215
County:	Hubbard
Township:	139
Range:	32
Direction:	2
Section:	12
# of Acres: Wetlands/Upland:	
# o f Acres: Fo rest:	215
# of Acres: Prairie/Grassland:	
Amount of Shorline:	
Name of Adjacent Body of Water (if applicable):	
Has there been signage erected at the site:	
Annual Reporting Organization Name:	MN DNR
Annual Reporting Manager Name:	Peggy Booth (Melissa Driscoll)
Annual Reporting Address:	500 Lafayette Rd
Annual Reporting City:	St. Paul
Annual Reporting State:	MN
Annual Reporting Zip:	55155
Annual Reporting Email:	melissa.driscoll@state.mn.us
Annual Reporting Phone:	651-259-5098
Purchase Date:	June 19, 2014
Acquisition T itle:	
Purchase Price:	\$2,070,000
Appraised Value:	\$1,890,000
Professional Service Costs:	\$0
Assessed Value:	\$773,500
Total Project Cost:	\$0
Fees Received:	\$0
Do nations:	\$0
Related Parties:	
Property Managed By:	-
Name of the unit area or location government unit or land manager:	Park Rapids Ecological and Water Resources

Parcel Map

