

# Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) M.L. 2017 LCCMR Work Plan

Date of Submission: September 14, 2017

Date of Next Status Update Report: January 1, 2018

Date of Work Plan Approval: 06/07/2017 Project Completion Date: June 30, 2020

Does this submission include an amendment request? No

PROJECT TITLE: Mesabi Trail Development

Project Manager: Robert Manzoline

Organization: St. Louis and Lake Counties Regional Railroad Authority

Mailing Address: 111 Station 44 Road

City/State/Zip Code: Eveleth, MN 55734

**Telephone Number:** (218) 744-2653

Email Address: bamnzoline@rrauth.com

Web Address: mesabitrail.com

Location: St. Louis County

Total ENRTF Project Budget:	<b>ENRTF Appropriation:</b>	\$2,269,000
	<b>Amount Spent:</b>	\$0
	Balance:	\$2,269,000

Legal Citation: M.L. 2017, Chp. 96, Sec. 2, Subd. 09g

#### **Appropriation Language:**

\$2,269,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the St. Louis and Lake Counties Regional Railroad Authority for engineering and constructing segments of the Mesabi Trail. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2020, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

Page 1 of 14 06/27/2017 Subd. 09g

# I. PROJECT TITLE: Mesabi Trail Segments T.H. 135 to Embarrass; and McKinley to Biwabik; and Soudan to Vermillon State Park Entrance Road.

#### **II. PROJECT STATEMENT:**

**General:** The Mesabi Trail is a planned 155 mile long paved trail from Grand Rapids to Ely. Approximately 115 miles of the trail, from Grand Rapids to Embarrass, has been completed since the trail inception in year 1996. The Mesabi Trail is owned and maintained by the St. Louis and Lake Counties Regional Railroad Authority (RRA). The trail serves as an alternate transportation corridor namely for non-motorized pedestrian, bike, ski, horses, and motorized snowmobile use where designated. The trail extends from the Mississippi River in Grand Rapids to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area in Ely.

The St. Louis and Lake Counties Regional Railroad Authority (RRA) performs the trail development work including liaison with agencies & local jurisdictions, public meetings, contract administration, right-of-way acquisition and other administrative functions. LCCMR funds will be used for environmental work, engineering work and construction. The RRA is experienced at leveraging funds, meeting specific funder requirements, matching non-state & non-federal sources and completion dates. The TH 135 to Embarrass segment will be funded using State funds. The Soudan to Vermillion State Park Entrance Road will be funded using State funds. The McKinley to Biwabik segment will be funded by a combination of state, federal and local funds all with varying rules and guidelines. The most prescriptive grantor(s) rules will be used advancing this project.

Do to the extensive Mesabi Trail length, the trail has been divided into attainable segments for development and construction. Segment development entails route evaluations, right-of-way considerations, environmental impacts and other factors. We have experienced development delay because of landownership issues, endangered species avoidance and cultural resource preservation that are beyond our control. When development delay occurs that may jeopardize the use of grant funds (deadlines) we have requested from LCCMR and other grantors funds be shifted to other trail segments ready to be constructed. A funding shift using LCCMR funds is cumbersome do to Legislative procedures/actions necessary for approval. If needed, we request LLCCMR Staff be granted some latitude to approve a funding shift to other Mesabi Trail segments ready for construction.

**Specific:** grant funds will be used for Mesabi Trail construction within three segments each further described as follows:

#### T.H. 135 to Embarrass

Grant funds will be used to construct a 4,000 LF floating dock over a wetland and reconstructing the former Lane 51 road bridge (circa 1928) over the Embarrass River. These improvements will used for the Mesabi Trail and users of the MN DNR Darwin Meyers Wildlife Management Area.

The TH 135 to Embarrass segment of the Mesabi Trail is approximately 6 miles in length. The majority of the trail construction work will be done using the 2016 LCCMR appropriation ML 2016, Chapter 186, Section 2, Subd. 9e in the amount of \$1.2 million. An extensive environmental study of three alternatives routes was conducted in years 2014 and 2015. The preferred alternate has been selected. All alternative routes involved crossing of the Embarrass River and adjoining floodplain and wetland complexes. The preferred alternative route mitigates wetland impacts by using a floating bridge to cross the wetland. A floating bridge does negatively impact vegetation but allows water movement through the wetland without soil disturbance. The preferred alternative route will reuse parts of an existing roadway bridge that crosses the Embarrass River. The exiting bridge abutments, wing walls and steel girders will be used without new impacts to the Embarrass River. The existing concrete bridge deck will be removed and replaced with a wooden deck and wooden side rails. The

reconstructed bridge will achieve a live load rating of 10 tons and will be from time to time used by the MN DNR for vehicle movements within Darwin Meyers WMA.

#### **McKinley to Biwabik**

This trail segment is 5.5 miles long making connections to the existing Mesabi Trail in the City of McKinley and within the City of Biwabik. This segment is a "key' piece of trail filling in a gap in the overall trail system that will make the Mesabi Trail continuous from Grand Rapids to Embarrass.

This segment is typical of other trail segments within the Mesabi Iron Range traversing the former McKinley and Mary Ellen mine sites.

This segment is has been worked on for several years resolving many environmental, land ownership and mining related issues. The environmental work on the trail is done with all agency permits/approvals received. Approximately 95% of the right-of-way has been acquired. The engineering work is also approximately 95% complete.

The estimated cost for constructing this segment is \$1,500,000. Federal High Priority Funds in the amount of \$1,004,976 have been secured for construction. The remaining funds needed to complete construction and project engineering/management will be from the 2017 Trust Fund.

#### Soudan to Vermillon State Park( VSP) Entrance Road

This trail segment is 1.5 miles long making connections to the existing Mesabi Trail in Soudan and the existing trail with the Vermillion State Park.

This segment has also been worked on for several years and is prepared to begin construction in Fall 2016. The environmental work on the trail is done with all agency permits/approvals received excepting for the , MN State Historic Preservation Office do on September 19, 2016. The right-of-way has been secured by way of easements and leases from Breitung Township and the State of Minnesota. The engineering work is approximately 98% complete with final plan and specifications revisions being made.

This project is estimated to cost \$970,000 which is a very high cost in comparison to other Mesabi Trail miles built. The excessive cost is due to ledge rock removal that needs to occur near the Soudan Underground State Park in order for the trail to meet ADA accessibility. Rock removal costs are estimated to be \$300,000. This trail is currently funded by a Legacy grant in the amount of \$512,000 and DNR funds in the amount of \$300,000. Funds needed to complete construction and project engineering/management will be from the 2017 Trust Fund.

#### **III. OVERALL PROJECT STATUS UPDATES:**

Project Status as of January 1, 2018

Project Status as of July 1, 2018

Project Status as of January 1, 2019

Project Status as of July 1, 2019

Project Status as of January 1, 2020

**Overall Project Outcomes and Results:** 

#### IV. PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES:

ACTIVITY 1: Environmental work needed to comply with the Federal National Environmental Policy Act and the State of Minnesota Environmental Protection Act and Local Rules/Ordinance

**Description:** Work involves securing the necessary approvals and permits from agencies before construction work can proceed. Agencies involved are the Federal Environmental Protection Agency, Federal Highway Administration, Federal Fish & Wildlife, Federal Army Corps of Engineers, MN Department of Natural Resources, MN Department of Transportation, MN State Historic Preservation Office, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources and the Local Board of Soil and Water Conservation.

The environmental work will be supported by engineering and surveying to locate alternative trail routes, locations of cultural resources, wetlands and land ownership and land use.

Work will be performed by a person or firm accredited by the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) hereafter known as "Consultant". Consultant will perform work needed to comply with NEPA and MEPA documenting trail route alternatives, cultural resource identification, wetland delineation & mitigation, fish & wildlife, endangered species, social impacts, economic impacts, state waters impacts, land use (4f) and other. Consultant will further evaluate and assure compliance with local ordinances, planning, zoning and codes.

As said within the Project Narrative, environmental work for the McKinley/Biwabik and Soudan/VSP Entrance Road segments is complete or nearly complete. Wetland mitigations have occurred on each of these segments.

Approximately 50% of the environmental work needed on the TH 135/Embarrass segment is complete. Preliminary reviews have been conducted by the Corps of Engineers and BWSR. Remaining environmental work will be performed following design. Wetland impacts cannot be avoided and a disturbance will take place. Impacted wetlands will need to be replaced at a ratio of 1.5:1 (1.5 = new wetlands created; 1 = wetlands impacted).

If this budget amount is not used for environmental work, a request will be made to shift remaining funds to Activity 3, Construction.

Summary Budget Information for Activity 1: ENRTF Budget: \$ 40,000

Amount Spent: \$ 0
Balance: \$ 40,000

Outcome	<b>Completion Date</b>
1. COE, EPA, SHIPO, Easements, MN DNR, MPCA & Other secured	August 2018

Activity 1 as of January 1, 2018

Activity 1 Status as of July 1, 2018

Activity 1 Status as of January 1, 2019

**Final Report Summary:** 

ACTIVITY 2: Engineering design, survey, plans, specification and construction management.

**Description:** Engineering work will be done in accordance with the MN Dot Standards for Bicycle Trails. Engineering work begins with route(s) identification needed for NEPA work and then to more specific survey work once a preferred trail route alternative is selected. Engineer survey includes topographic, paying particular attention to vertical alignment for Americans' with disabilities access and horizontal curve for minimum speed, and property lines and other features needed for design. Engineer trail design is in accordance with MN Dot Standards, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and ASHTO and on-site conditions such as waterways, wetlands, hills, valleys determining the final trail design and plan. Engineer is also required to provide a MN Dot Project Memorandum which is a document summarizing the project including NEPA, right-of-way, design and other elements. Engineer is required to provide a Project Specification document that includes special construction needs, bidding documents, contracts and other. Engineer is required to provide construction management that includes on-site inspections, testing oversight, processing payments and other work for a completed project.

As said within the Project Narrative, engineering design, environmental support and survey work for the McKinley/Biwabik and Soudan/VSP Entrance Road segments is complete or nearly complete. Engineering work for bidding, construction management, on-site inspections, testing oversight and processing payments will be needed.

Approximately 30% of the engineering work on the TH 135/Embarrass segment is complete.

If this budget amount is not used for environmental work, a request will be made to shift remaining funds to Activity 3, Construction.

#### **Description:**

Summary Budget Information for Activity 1: ENRTF Budget: \$300,000

Amount Spent: \$0

Balance: \$ 300,000

Outcome	Completion Date
2. Plans, specifications, bid documents for/and construction	July 1, 2020

Activity 2 Status as of January 1, 2018

Activity 2 Status as of July 1, 2018

Activity 2 Status as of January 1, 2019

Activity 2 Status as of July 1, 2019

Activity 2 Status as of January 1, 2020

**Final Report Summary:** 

**ACTIVITY 3: Trail Construction** 

**Description:** The trail will be constructed by a responsible contractor. Contractor selection is based on a bidding process acceptable to MN Dot, FHWA. Contractor constructs the trail in accordance with engineers plan and specifications. Contractor is responsible to perform construction using methods that are in accordance with OSHA, NEPA and other industry standards. The following is a general description of each trail segment:

#### T.H 135 to Embarrass

Construct a 4,000 LF floating dock over a wetland and reconstructing the former Lane 51 road bridge (circa 1928) over the Embarrass River and related trail connection work to existing trails on either side of the Darwin Meyers WMA.

#### **McKinley to Biwabik**

Construction of a 5.5 mile long, 10 feet wide bituminous surface trail beginning in the City of McKinley and making connection to the existing Mesabi Trail at County Road 21. The trail will then be constructed easterly to the City of Biwabik ending and making connection to the existing Mesabi Trail at 2<sup>nd</sup> Street North.

#### **Soudan to VSP Entrance Road**

Construction of a1.5 mile long, 10 feet wide bituminous surface trail beginning in Soudan and making connection to the existing Mesabi Trail west of Stuntz Bay Road, The trail will then be constructed easterly to the Vermillion State Park Entrance Road and making connection to the existing Mesabi Trail.

Summary Budget Information for Activity 1: ENRTF Budget: \$ 1,929,000

Amount Spent: \$0

Balance: \$1,929,000

Outcome	<b>Completion Date</b>
3. Construction	July 1, 2020

Activity 3 Status as of January 1, 2018

Activity 3 Status as of July 1, 2018

Activity 3 Status as of January 1, 2019

Activity 3 Status as of July 1, 2019

Activity 3 Status as of January 1, 2020

**Final Report Summary:** 

**V. DISSEMINATION:** 

**Description:** Mesabi Trail news and updates are provided through a variety of media, marketing and publications. Web site is: Mesabitrail.com. The following are some of the groups & organizations that disseminate Mesabi Trail information and typically include updates of newly completed trail segments:

- Club Mesabi (15,000 maps & web site)
- Iron Range Tourism (30,000 brochures & web site)
- MN Office of Tourism
- MPR
- Parks & Trails, Home & Away, other private magazines
- 180,000 trail users per year
- Named by the Star Tribune as "Best of Minnesota" in year 2013

Status as of January 1, 2018

Status as of July 1, 2018

Status as of January 1, 2019

Status as of July 1, 2019

Status as of January 1, 2020

**Final Report Summary:** 

**Final Report Summary:** 

#### **VI. PROJECT BUDGET SUMMARY:**

A. Preliminary ENRTF Budget Overview:

\*This section represents an overview of the preliminary budget at the start of the project. It will be reconciled with actual expenditures at the time of the final report.

Budget Category	\$ Amount	Overview Explanation
Professional/Technical/Service Contracts:	\$340,000	Consultant services for Environmental &
		Engineering,
Capital Expenditures over \$5,000:	\$1,929,000	Trail, bridge and facility construction
TOTAL ENRTF BUDGET:	\$2,269,000	

**Explanation of Use of Classified Staff:** N/A

**Explanation of Capital Expenditures Greater Than \$5,000:** Trail construction costs vary depending on the type of terrain or base being used. For example, constructing trail on an abandon railroad grade may cost a \$100,000 per mile while construction through a rocky terrain with bridges may cost in excess of \$500,000 per mile. This Project also includes one bridge rehabilitation and construction of a new floating bridge estimated to cost \$1.2 million.

Total Number of Full-time Equivalents (FTE) Directly Funded with this ENRTF Appropriation: 18

Total Number of Full-time Equivalents (FTE) Estimated to Be Funded through Contracts with this ENRTF Appropriation: 6

**B. Other Funds:** 

	\$ Amount	\$ Amount	
Source of Funds	Proposed	Spent	Use of Other Funds
Non-state			
Federal	\$1,004,000	\$0	McKinley/Biwabik Construction
State			
Legacy	\$512,000	\$0	Soudan/VSP Entrance Construction
DNR	\$300,000	\$0	Soudan/VSP Entrance Construction
TOTAL OTHER FUNDS:	\$1,816,000	\$	

#### VII. PROJECT STRATEGY:

#### A. Project Partners:

- Lead St. Louis and Lake Counties Regional Railroad Authority with assistance from St. Louis County Public Works
- Local Assistance Breitung & Eagles Nest Townships, St. Louis County Land Department, MN DNR Forestry
- Funding and Trail Development Contributors MN DNR, MNDOT, FHWA Enhancements, MN Legacy and Local Funds

#### Partners receiving ENRTF funding: None

#### **Partners NOT receiving ENRTF funding**

• Name, Title, Affiliation, Role

#### **B. Project Impact and Long-term Strategy:**

Long-term strategy for the Mesabi Trail has not changed since 1995 which is to construct a trail from Grand Rapids to Ely connecting 26 communities along the way as seen on enclosed map. A key component in this strategy is to maintain the completed trail as some parts/segements will be over 20 years old by the time the overall trail is finished. The Regional Railroad Authority has committed to maintain the trail and currently budgets over \$300,000 per year for maintenance costs.

Short-term impacts make local trails connections between communities and destinations.

#### C. Funding History:

LCCMR 1999 to present	5,380,000
State Legacy 2014 to present	2,300,000
State Bond 2006 to present	3,450,000
Federal 1999 to present	10,534,981
Local 1996 to present	3,000,000

#### **VIII. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:**

The project is for 3 years, will begin on July 1, 2017, and end on July 1, 2010.

**Periodic project status update reports will be submitted** Periodic work plan status update reports will be submitted no later than at six month intervals beginning January 1, 2018 and ending July 1, 2020. A final report and associated products will be submitted between July 1 and August 15, 2020.

#### IX. VISUAL COMPONENT or MAP(S): see attached

# Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund M.L. 2017 Project Budget

Project Title: Mesabi Trail Development

Legal Citation: M.L. 2017, Chp. 96, Sec. 2, Subd. 09g

Project Manager: Bob Manzoline

Organization: St. Louis and Lake Counties Regional Railroad Authority

M.L. 2017 ENRTF Appropriation: \$2,269,000

3 years, June 30, 2020

Date of Report: September 14, 2016



ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND BUDGET	Activity 1 Budget	Amount Spent	Activity 1 Balance	Activity 2 Budget	Amount Spent	Activity 2 Balance	Activity 3 Budget	Amount Spent	Activity 3 Balance	TOTAL BUDGET	TOTAL BALANCE
BUDGET ITEM	Environmental			Engineering			Construction				
Professional/Technical/Service Contracts											
Environmental work preliminary to construction in accordance	\$40,000	\$0	\$40,000							\$40,000	\$40,000
with Federal NEPA & EPA; Minnesota MPCA, SHIPO, DNR;											
Local jurisdictions.											
Engineer for trail design, plans, specifications, bidding and				\$300,000	\$0	\$300,000	)			\$300,000	\$300,000
construction administration.											
Capital Expenditures Over \$5,000											
Trail, bridge and facility construction							\$1,929,00	\$0	\$1,929,00	\$1,929,00	\$1,929,00
COLUMN TOTAL	\$40,000	\$0	\$40,000	\$300,000		\$300,000	\$1,929,00	\$0	\$1,929,00	\$2,269,00	\$2,269,00



# Mesabi Trail™

From the Mississippi to the Boundary Waters

The Mesabi Trail offers an abundance of natural and outdoor experiences. Bike, hike, skate, ski, snowshoe and in some areas snowmobile, along the Trail as it

traverses over 120 miles through 28 communities. Explore historic buildings, mining artifacts, early industry and ethnic history, plus other treasures well worth the discovery. Forests teeming with wildlife can be found between rolling hills. Streams and creeks provide habitat for birds and animals. Grand heaps of earth provide man-made mountains that are becoming regrowth forests lining the edges of some of the world's largest mines. These former mines are fast becoming a linked chain of watery passageways. Come enjoy a quality guest experience in

### **Get your Mesabi Trail Wheel Pass:**

the Land of Mesabi, via the Mesabi Trail.

- · Online at mesabitrail.com
- · At any local Wheel Pass vendor
- · At self pay boxes along the Trail

# **Lodge to Lodge Bicycling**

Let us design a package to suit your style! A romantic B&B getaway, a family bike camping trip, a trip for two . . . or a trip for 20! We can help you plan lodging, luggage shuttles, box lunches and we can shuttle you and your bikes back to your vehicle.

Packages include suggestions on great places to eat, awesome overlooks, cool historical sites to visit, and practical things like convenience stores and rest stops! Hosted rides, group rides for up to 25, and sagwagon supported rides are available too.

The Mesabi Trail Shuttle Service is based at the Giants Ridge Golf and Ski Resort in Biwabik:

- · 1-800-688-7669 ext. 8025
- · 218-865-8025
- · chris.johnson@giantsridge.com

# Love the trail?

Join the Club! Have you fallen in love with the Mesabi Trail? Show your love by joining Club Mesabi! Membership supports the Mesabi Trail, plus you get some great perks like your annual wheel pass, discounts from

Mesabi Trail Town merchants, on Trail merchandise and the Great River Energy Mesabi Trail Tour.

> Join the Club: mesabitrail.com 218-749-4331 PO Box 139, Virginia, MN 55792 tourinfo@mesabitrail.com

## **Rules for Conduct**

- · Wheel Pass required for ages 18 years and older using a bicycle, inline skates or other nonmotorized wheeled device.
- Passes must be displayed while on the Trail.
- The Mesabi Trail is a non-motorized trail, except snowmobiles where designated.
- Non-motorized vehicles and motorized wheelchairs shall not exceed 36" in width.
- · Keep pets on a leash no longer than 6' long
- · Holes or trenches may not be dug.
- No signs or advertisements.
- · Start fires only in officially designated fire rings, stove or grills. Do not leave a fire unattended. Be sure fire is extinguished before leaving the area.
- · No hunting, loaded weapons or alcohol.
- · Do not remove, alter, injure or destroy any tree, plant, rock, soil or mineral.
- · Camping and horseback riding are allowed only in designated areas.
- · EMERGENCY CALL 911.
- · Report all violations to the Mesabi Trail office at
- (218) 744-1388
- Audible signal when passing: "on your left"

Snowmobiles allowed within the corridor of these areas only: Grand Rapids to Hwy 61; Coleraine to connection of Taconite Trail, and; Hibbing to Buhl.

# Mesabi Trail™ Shuttle Service

Call the Mesabi Trail Shuttle Service and we'll "portage" you and/or your gear to your hotel or to the next completed trail segment - all you have to do is enjoy the ride! We can also help you plan your trip. Email us at: chris.johnson@giantsridge.com

### **Hours & Dates of Operation**

May 1-31: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. June 1 - August 31: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. September 1 - October 15: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For more information and to make reservations: 218-865-8024 or 800-688-7669 (ext 8024 or 8025) or 218-780-4541 (cell) or 218-749-9278 (cell)

The Mesabi Trail Shuttle Service is based out of Giants Ridge Golf & Ski Resort near Biwabik

### **Service Areas and Pricing**

Shuttle services are available to trail users from Grand Rapids to Aurora and all points in between, up to 12 bikes and passengers per trip. Prices vary with distance traveled but are packaged into two zones. For regular shuttle service, please call at least one day in advance.



Zone 2: Nashwauk-West 1Person: \$54 2 People: \$64 3 People: \$74 4 People: \$84

5 or 6 People: \$104

Zone 1: Nashwauk-East 1 Person: \$39 2 People: \$49 3 People: \$59 4 People: \$69 5 or 6 People: \$89 7+ people: Call for details 7+ people: Call for details

Due to fuel cost, printed prices are subject to change without notice. Shuttle must be booked with a credit card. Cancellations less than 24 hours prior to scheduled shuttle will be charged a 25% cancellation fee (inclement weather is an exception).

Longer distance shuttles beyond zones one and two are available with advance notice and a deposit. Group rates available for more than six people. Please call for details.

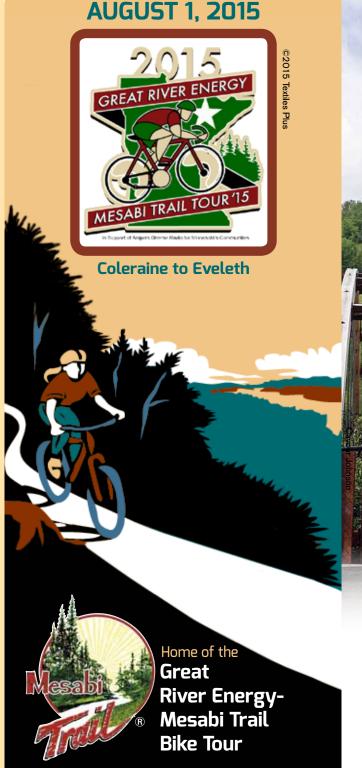
# Mesabi Trail™wheel pass vendors

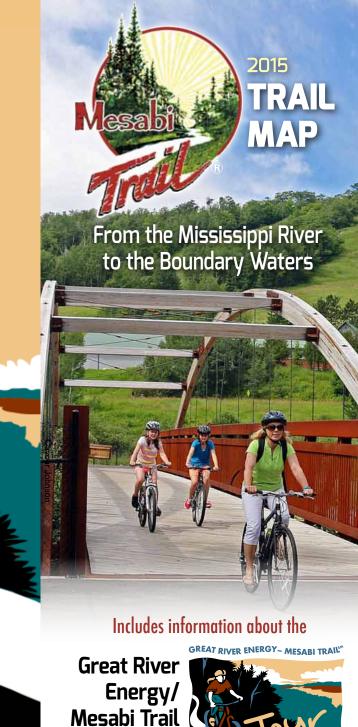
A wheel pass is required for ages 18 and over using a wheeled device such as a bicycle or inline skates. Hikers, joggers and walkers are not required to purchase a pass. Cost is \$15 for an annual and \$5 for a three-day pass. Revenue from Wheel Pass sales helps support the Mesabi Trail. Passes are available at mesabitrail.com, at any of these vendors, or at self-pay boxes along the Trail.



Towns are listed from West to East. All Numbers (218) Area Code

iowiis die ti	sted from West to East.	All Humbers (210) Area code
Grand Rapids	Itasca Trail Sports	326-1716 316 NE 4th St.
Grand Rapids	Reed Drug Store	326-3453 417 NW 1st Ave
Grand Rapids	Glen's Army-Navy Store	326-1201 701 NW 4th St.
Grand Rapids	Morning Glory B & B	326-3978 726 NW 2nd Ave
Grand Rapids	TimberLake Lodge	866-800-2200 144 SE 17th St.
Bovey	Hollywood Bait Shop	245-1612 50 County Rd 10
Marble	Ron's Korner Market	247-7351 Hwy 169
Pengilly	Swan Lake Sinclair	885-3806 31277 Hwy 65
Nashwauk	Nashwauk Little Store	885-3105 121 1st St.
Keewatin	Keewatin Sinclair	778-6140 210 N First St.
Hibbing	Bikes on Howard	262-0899 407 E Howard St.
Hibbing	HIbbing Park Hotel	262-3481 1402 E Howard St.
Hibbing	Hibbing Parks & Rec.	362-5940 400 E 23rd St.
Hibbing	Hibbing Tourism Center	262-4166 1202 E Howard St.
Hibbing	Hull-Rust Mineview	262-4900 401 Penobscott Rd.
Chisholm	Chisholm Inn & Suites	254-2000 501 Iron Dr. (Hwy 169
Chisholm	Chisholm Area Chamber	800-422-0806 223 West Lake St
Chisholm	Minnesota Discovery Center	800-372-6437 801 Hwy 169
Buhl	Buhl City Hall	258-3226 300 Jones Ave
Mtn. Iron	Spring Creek Outfitters	735-8719 8873 Main St.
Mtn. Iron	Holiday Inn Express/Suites	741-7411 8570 Rock Ridge Rd
Mtn. Iron	AmericInn Lodge & Suites	741-7839 5480 Mtn. Iron Drive
Virginia	Mesabi Recreation	749-6719 720 9th St. N
Virginia	Natural Harvest Foods	741-4663 505 3rd St. N
Virginia	The Shop Coffee House	248-8157 235 Chestnut Street
Eveleth	Iron Range Tourism Bureau	749-8161 111 Station Road
Eveleth	Super 8	744-1661 US Hwy 53
Gilbert	Sherwood Forest Cmpgnd	748-2221 301 Ore-Be-Gone Dr.
Biwabik	Biwabik City Hall	865-4183 321 Main St.
Biwabik	Giants Ridge Bike Shop	865-8024 6325 Giants Ridge Rd
Biwabik	The Villas at Giants Ridge	865-4155 6266 Giants Ridge Ro
Ely	Piragis Northwoods Co.	365-6745 105 N. Central Ave.





# **EXPERIENCE**

Ride for the fun or for the challenge either way, mark your

calendar for August 1, 2015, when Great River Energy and the Mesabi Trail join forces in northern Minnesota to support two state traditions: recreational trails and Ampers -Diverse Radio for Minnesota's Communities. The Great River Energy Mesabi Trail Tour

'15 offers great food, music and family entertainment. Charitable proceeds will be donated to Ampers and the Mesabi Trail.





For more information, registration and event updates:

mesabitrail.com 877-637-2241

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# August 1, 2015 Color Charles on Minnesota's Premier paved bike trail!



Choose from // // // ///// routes – and they all lead to fun!

The Great River Energy Mesabi Trail™ Tour is designed for families and serious trail riders alike. Four starting points allow riders to customize their route, from 11 to 72 miles. At the end of the day, all trails lead to Eveleth, for a picnic and concert. Whichever start point you choose, you'll encounter historic and scenic points of interest with fun stops along the way. We'll even transport you and your bike to your start point.



(72 MILES) Coleraine

The start point for the "CenturyLink Ride" is the Hodgkins-Berardo



Center. This is also a rest

stop, with music, food

and refreshments.

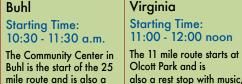
Nashwauk 9:00 - 10:00 a.m.

Buhl Start the 53 mile route at the Nashwauk Recreation



Starting Time: 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. The Community Center in Buhl is the start of the 25

rest stop with music, food





The finish for all routes

is at Mesabi Station in Eveleth. Riders can catch food and refreshments.

the FREE bus shuttle here on Saturday morning to all start points. The finish line party is here with a picnic and concert.

## For more detailed schedule information: mesabitrail.com or 877-637-2241

**Bicycle Transportation:** Since this is not a circular route, you will end your ride at a different location from where you start. The goal is to get your bike to your chosen start point and have your vehicle waiting for you at the finishing point. We can do it for you, or you can do-ityourself on Friday night or Saturday morning.

Rider Bus Transportation: Saturday morning from the finish line in Eveleth to all start locations:

· 7:00 a.m. to Coleraine · 10:00 a.m. to Buhl · 8:00 a.m. to Nashwauk · 10:30 a.m. to Virginia There is no transportation of bikes/riders at the end of day.

Eveleth, and at most start points. Food: Snacks and beverages at five rest stops. Picnic dinner at Mesabi Station/11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**GREAT RIVER** ENERGY® **Entertainment:** 12:30 – 5:00 p.m. Mesabi Station in A Touchstone Energy Cooperative



TITLE SPONSOR



PRESENTING SPONSORS

for Minnesota's Communities

# What riders said about the 2014 tour:

"Best Ride in Minnesota."

"A number one, class act event"

"A delightful tour. Done top notch year in and year out

# **Great River Energy** Mesabi Trail™ Tour '15

**Bike Tour '15** 

in support of Ampers and THE MESABI TRAIL™ A Great Deal for a Great Cause

To register online, and for more information mesabitrail.com

or toll free: 877-637-2241

**Registration Fees: AFTER JULY 22, 2015** Individual: \$ 60.00 Individual: \$ 45.00 \$ 90.00 Couple: \$ 90.00 Family: \$ 120.00 Family:

## Kids 18 and under ride free when accompanied by an adult. **ŪJoin Club Mesabi**∫ and SAVE 10%

Contact Club Mesabi at 218-749-4331 about group discounts including – scout troops, church groups, bike clubs, family reunions or workplace wellness programs

**SUPPORTING SPONSORS** 



Range

in touch.







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**COMMUNITY SPONSORS** 











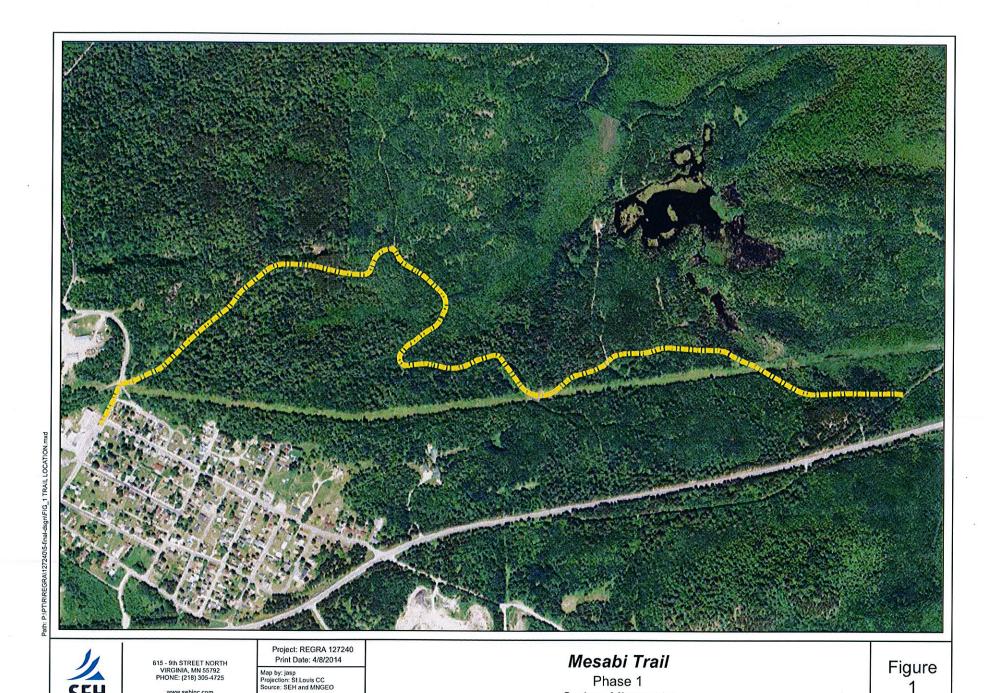








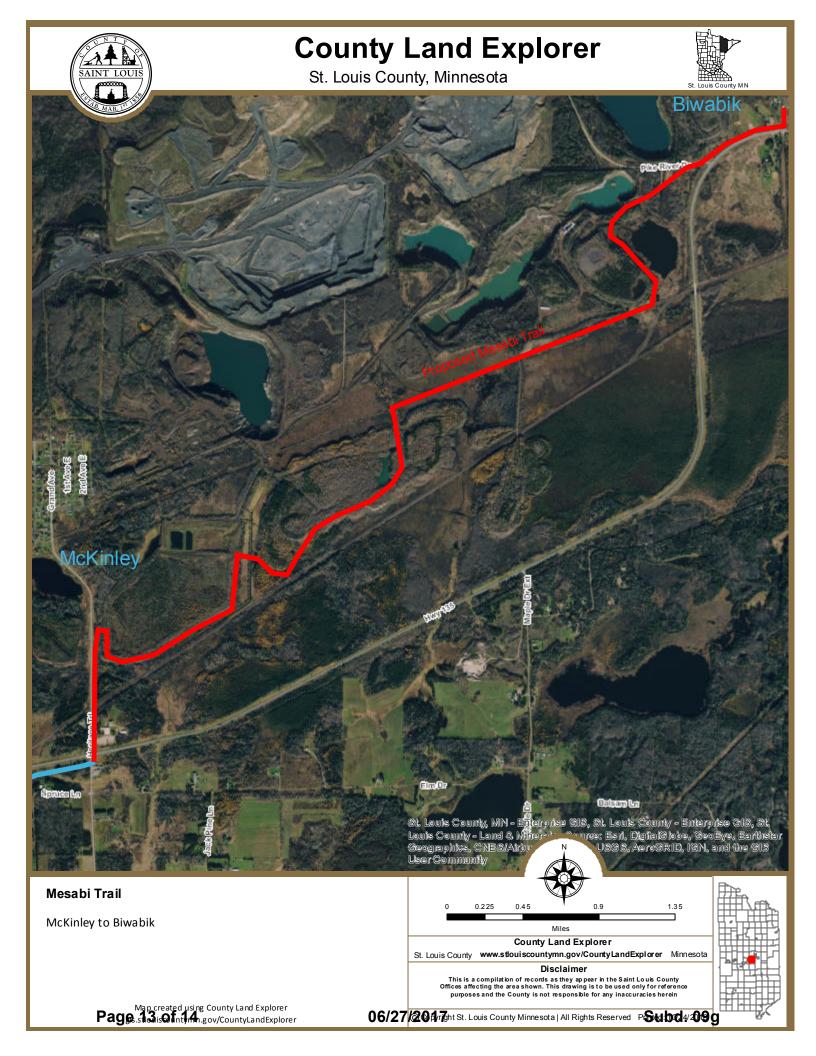




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Sudan, Minnesota



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