



# Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)

## M.L. 2018 ENRTF Work Plan (Main Document)

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**Today's Date:** March 7, 2018

**Date of Next Status Update Report:** November 30, 2018

**Date of Work Plan Approval:** 06/05/2018

**Project Completion Date:** August 30, 2019

**Does this submission include an amendment request?** NO

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**PROJECT TITLE:** Get Outdoors After School Training

**Project Manager:** Sara Holger

**Organization:** Project Get Outdoors, Inc. (Project GO)

**College/Department/Division:**

**Mailing Address:** PO Box 244

**City/State/Zip Code:** Wabasha, MN 55981

**Telephone Number:** 507-951-5885

**Email Address:** sara.grover@yahoo.com

**Web Address:** www.mnprojectgo.org

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**Location:** State of Minnesota (All five regions)

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**Total Project Budget:** \$30,000

**Amount Spent:** \$0

**Balance:** \$30,000

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**Legal Citation:** M.L. 2018, Chp. 214, Art. 4, Sec. 02, Subd. 05c

**Appropriation Language:** \$30,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Project Get Outdoors to train and equip youth leaders at out-of-school youth organizations across Minnesota with knowledge, skills, and resources to incorporate outdoor nature activities into after-school programs for at least 6,000 children, including those from underserved populations.

**I. PROJECT STATEMENT:** This project connects low-income children and children of color to the outdoors. Research shows that low-income and under-served populations generally do not have as much access to or comfort with nature and the outdoors as white middle-class people. Communities across Minnesota and throughout the nation are in dire need of accessible programs and services that introduce children and families to information, resources and activities that promote healthy outdoor fitness in a fun and engaging way. In this era of broad-based support for building more parks and trails that encourage health and wellbeing within our communities, we are seeing many parks and trails void of people. This is not a model of “If you build it, they will come”. In our society, where kids spend an average of 10 minutes a day outdoors and 8 to 10 hours each day in front of electronic screens, successful outdoor programs must introduce people to the outdoors slowly, by helping them develop awareness of their local parks, trails and nature areas and introducing them to seasonal skills and activities they can enjoy at those locations. We learn to love the outdoors as children through our regular interactions that take place outside in our back yards, neighborhoods and nearby parks and trails. We must work to rebuild these connections to the outdoors if we truly hope to foster a healthy society that appreciates our natural resources.

The goals of this project include; 1. Training youth program providers who work with low-income children and under-served children across the state to incorporate nature into their existing after school and out of school programs, 2. Providing access to information, resources and equipment to facilitate outdoor program planning for youth program providers, and 3. Increasing outdoor participation among low-income and under-served populations in Minnesota.

By providing the Project GO Leader Certification training in each region of Minnesota, as well as access to equipment and other program planning resources, community action groups and after school program providers will be empowered and equipped to incorporate after school and out of school activities that connect low-income and vulnerable children, including immigrant, refugee and migrant children, and communities of color to the outdoors near to where they live. This is a critical issue as the demographics of our state continue to shift and diversify, we must invest in innovative programs and initiatives that work to reduce the barriers for people of color to experience the natural world so that they grow to appreciate our natural resources and increase participation in conservation and stewardship activities. Project GO has developed an 8-hour certification course/training that was piloted and evaluated in 2017 with funding through the National Park Service and with planning support from Holly Larson, Recreation Planner for the National Park Service. This training has been developed based on 11 years of Project GO program experimentation across Minnesota.

**II. OVERALL PROJECT STATUS UPDATES:** See Activity 1 below

**III. PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES:**

**ACTIVITY 1:** Project GO Training

**Description:** Offer one 8-hour Project GO Training in each region of Minnesota (NW, NE, Metro, SW and SE).

**ENRTF BUDGET:** \$30,000

<b>Outcome</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>
<i>1. 5 trainings completed</i>	<i>December 31, 2018</i>
<i>2. 125 youth program staff trained</i>	<i>December 31, 2018</i>
<i>3. At least 6000 youth participate in outdoor activities during first year</i>	<i>June 31, 2019</i>

First Update November 30, 2018  
 Second Update February 28, 2019  
 Final Update August 30, 2019

**IV. DISSEMINATION:**

**Description:** The project will be shared with communities throughout Minnesota via press releases, social media including Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/ProjectGetOutdoors/>), and via the Project GO e-Newsletter, which is also available on the Project GO website (<https://www.mnprojectgo.org/>). Project GO Board Members actively seek out opportunities to present at local and national conferences as well. Our partner organizations will also be sharing about this project via their networks.

First Update November 30, 2018

Second Update February 28, 2019

Final Update August 30, 2019

**V. PROJECT BUDGET SUMMARY:** Funds will be used to cover the costs of the five training workshops and to cover costs to assemble two sets of outdoor equipment kits for after school organizations in NW and NE Minnesota to check out for free use at their sites. The other three regions already have Project GO equipment kits.

**A. Preliminary ENRTF Budget Overview:** See attached budget spreadsheet

**Explanation of Capital Expenditures Greater Than \$5,000:** N/A

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

**Total Number of Full-time Equivalent (FTE) Directly Funded with this ENRTF Appropriation:** 0

Enter Total Estimated Personnel Hours: 0	Divide by 2,080 = TOTAL FTE:
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**Total Number of Full-time Equivalent (FTE) Estimated to Be Funded through Contracts with this ENRTF Appropriation:** 0

Enter Total Estimated Personnel Hours: 0	Divide by 2,080 = TOTAL FTE:
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**B. Other Funds:**

SOURCE OF AND USE OF OTHER FUNDS	Amount Proposed	Amount Spent	Status and Timeframe
<b>Other Non-State \$ To Be Applied To Project During Project Period:</b> <i>Project GO staff time in-kind (\$3000), Jeffers Foundation "Parents Guide to Nature Play" booklets for backpacks in-kind (\$625)</i>			
	\$ 3625	\$	
<b>Other State \$ To Be Applied To Project During Project Period:</b>			

	\$	\$	
<b>Past and Current ENRTF Appropriation:</b> <i>2010 Project GO Toolkit Activities \$15,000</i>			
	\$	\$	
<b>Other Funding History:</b>			
	\$	\$	

**VI. PROJECT PARTNERS:**

**A. Partners receiving ENRTF funding**

Name	Title	Affiliation	Role

**B. Partners NOT receiving ENRTF funding**

Name	Title	Affiliation	Role
Holly Larson	Outdoor Recreation Planner	National Park Service	Assist with partner outreach in each region
Niall Murton	Camp and Outreach Director	YMCA of the Greater Twin Cities	Assist with YMCA outreach in each region
Erin Meier	Executive Director	U of MN SE Regional Sustainable Development Director	Assist with U of MN outreach in each region

**VII. LONG-TERM- IMPLEMENTATION AND FUNDING:**

The long-term strategy is to continue to offer these trainings around the state but to begin charging a fee for youth organizations and community action groups to participate in these trainings. In the future, trained program leaders could purchase, possibly at a whole-sale or discounted rate, the Project GO equipment kits to implement outdoor programs. Ideally, we hope to work with community groups to submit grants to local community foundations that would fund these training opportunities.

Long-term impacts of this project include increased participation in outdoor recreation activities by communities of color and low-income youth which will lead to increased participation in stewardship activities and increased wellbeing and health for all Minnesota residents. This project will also help spark interest among young adults of color to explore and pursue natural resource degrees and career fields.

**VIII. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:**

- The project is for 1 year, will begin on July 1, 2018, and end on August 30, 2019.
- Periodic project status update reports will be submitted November/2018 and February/2019.
- A final report and associated products will be submitted by August 15, 2019.

**IX. SEE ADDITIONAL WORK PLAN COMPONENTS:**

**A. Budget Spreadsheet**

Attachment A: Budget Spreadsheet  
 Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund  
 M.L. 2018 Budget Spreadsheet



Project Title: Project Get Outdoors After School Training  
 Legal Citation: M.L. 2018, Chp. 214, Art. 4, Sec. 02, Subd. 05c  
 Project Manager: Sara Holger  
 Organization: Project Get Outdoors, Inc. (Project GO)  
 College/Department/Division:  
 M.L. 2018 ENRTF Appropriation: \$30,000  
 Project Length and Completion Date: 1 Year, August 2019  
 Date of Report: March 7, 2018

ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND BUDGET	TOTAL BUDGET	Amount Spent	TOTAL BALANCE
<b>BUDGET ITEM</b>			
<b>Equipment/Tools/Supplies</b>			
<i>Two sets of each of the following equipment kits; fishing, camping, bird watching, insect collecting, nature journals (\$2500 each)</i>	\$5,000		
<i>Five Project GO training workshops, includes Trainer time and mileage (at \$.50/mile) and all materials and supplies to train 25 people at each workshop; 125 activity backpacks, handbooks, flash drives with outdoor program planning resources and handouts (\$5,000/each workshop)</i>	\$25,000		
<b>COLUMN TOTAL</b>	<b>\$30,000</b>		

