



# Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) M.L. 2018 ENRTF Work Plan (Main Document)

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**Today's Date:** February 22, 2018

**Date of Next Status Update Report:** January 31, 2019

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

**Project Completion Date:** June 30, 2020

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

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**PROJECT TITLE:** Minnesota State Trail Development

**Project Manager:** Kent Skaar

**Organization:** Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

**College/Department/Division:** Division of Parks and Trails

**Mailing Address:** 500 Lafayette Road

**City/State/Zip Code:** St. Paul, MN 55155

**Telephone Number:** (651) 259-5636

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**Web Address:** www.dnr.state.mn

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**Location:** See attached map.

\*Map includes proposed Gateway and Gitchi Gami State Trail projects and locations of alternative projects.

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**Total Project Budget:** \$2,500,000

**Amount Spent:** \$0

**Balance:** \$2,500,000

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**Legal Citation:** M.L. 2018, Chp. 214, Art. 4, Sec. 02, Subd. 09j

**Appropriation Language:** \$2,500,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to expand high-priority recreational opportunities on Minnesota's state trails by developing new trail segments and rehabilitating, improving, and enhancing existing state trails. High-priority trail segments to develop and enhance include but are not limited to the Gateway, Gitchi Gami, Paul Bunyan, and Heartland State Trails. A proposed list of trail projects on legislatively authorized state trails is required in the work plan. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2021, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

**I. PROJECT STATEMENT:** This project is to focus on expanding recreational opportunities on Minnesota's State Trails through the development or acquisition of new trail segments and/or the rehabilitation, improvement and enhancement of existing State Trails. This project is proposed to include the engineering, design, and construction associated with the development or improvement of discrete Trail segments and/or Trail infrastructure that meet the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Trail Planning, Design and Development Guidelines, the Minnesota Department of Transportation Bikeways Facility Design Manual and the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) guide for the development of bicycle facilities. Each of the State Trail development or enhancement proposals to be considered for this project, including the following. The projects will be put out for bid. It is anticipated that the funding will be enough for items 1 and 2 below. If either of those is delayed or cannot be completed for other reasons, the other projects will be done based on other available funding, priorities and readiness, most likely one of the other 4 segments listed below.

(1) the Gateway State Trail – CSAH 35/Hadley Ave. Trail Tunnel;

(2) Gitchi Gami State Trail – Tofte South Segment represent opportunities to enhance to recreational opportunities and improve trail user safety by completing the final phase of a phased project and by providing matching funds for a new state trail connection and safety improvement that has received a Federal Trail Grant. Should the above referenced projects be subject to unanticipated delays or are not be able to be completed as proposed, one or more of the following projects would be funded as alternatives:

(3) Paul Bunyan State Trail – Bemidji - Clausen Ave (Bemidji) Connection;

(4) Gateway State Trail – St. Paul - L'Orient Avenue Separated Grade (Tunnel) Crossing;

(5) Heartland State Trail – Cass County - Steamboat Loop/Co Rd. 142 Segment;

(6) Gitchi Gami State Trail – Silver Bay to Tettegouche State Park Segment.

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

**First Update January 31, 2019**

**Second Update June 30, 2019**

**Third Update January 31, 2020**

**Final Update June 30, 2020**

## **III. PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES:**

### **ACTIVITY 1: Trail Enhancement – Gateway State Trail – CSAH 35/Hadley Avenue Trail Tunnel**

**Description:** This project proposes the development of an improved trail crossing of CSAH 35/Hadley Avenue, a Washington County road, in the City of Oakdale. The improved trail crossing is to be constructed in conjunction with the development of a new TH. 36 and CSAH 35/Hadley Avenue interchange, a cooperative project between the Washington County, the City of Oakdale, the Minnesota Department of Transportation and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. The existing Gateway State Trail crossing of CSAH 35/Hadley Ave. is an at-grade surface crossing of the roadway. Due to the location of the existing trail crossing and the increasing traffic volumes on Hadley Ave., which currently exceeds 8000 vehicles per day, trail users have difficulty safely traversing the roadway. The installation of the improved trail crossing will eliminate the need for the trail user to interact with the personal and commercial vehicle traffic on Hadley Ave., dramatically enhancing user safety. The improved trail crossing as proposed, is to consist of the construction of a 120 ft. long reinforced concrete

tunnel under Hadley Ave. and the realignment of 0.25 miles of the recreational trail. The ENRTF Budget for this project will provide the required 20% State match for the previously awarded \$1,080,000 Transportation Alternatives Program Grant as well as providing for unanticipated construction costs. MnDNR Parks and Trails Division Legacy Fund Appropriations are proposed to fund final project engineering and design. The estimated cost of the Gateway State trail / Hadley Avenue Crossing is currently \$1,550,000.

**ENRTF BUDGET: \$600,000**

<b>Outcome</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>
1. Project Bidding Complete and Construction Contract Awarded	September 1, 2018
2. Project Construction Complete	December 31, 2019

**First Update January 31, 2019**

**Second Update June 30, 2019**

**Third Update January 31, 2020**

**Final Update June 30, 2020**

**ACTIVITY 2: Trail Development– Gitchi Gami State Trail – Tofte “South” Segment**

This project proposes the development of a critical 0.75 mile long connection of the Gitchi Gami State Trail in the Community of Tofte, Cook County. Presently two discrete, existing segments of the Gitchi Gami State Trail terminate on either side of the community. The completion of this proposed project will provide a direct, off road trail connection between these existing segments, resulting in a contiguous off-road trail corridor between the Communities of Schroeder and Tofte, Temperance River State Park, the Ray Berglund State Wayside and the Lutsen Resort Area. Presently recreational trail users must negotiate a difficult, informal corridor through Tofte, including: a crossing of TH61 on Tofte’s southern limits; the shared use of an existing local roadway, a segment of a privately developed pedestrian pathway through Blue Fin Bay Resort and the TH 61 road shoulder in the community’s congested commercial area. A 0.25 mile segment of the trail on Tofte’s northern limits is to be completed during 2018 utilizing funding provide through a Transportation Alternatives Grant awarded in 2014. This project is to consist of the development of a trail tunnel under TH 61 on Tofte’s southern margins, a 0.75 mile long segment of bituminous recreational trail, and a defined connection to the existing Tofte/Lake Superior Lake Shore Park that has been designated by the community as a formal Trailhead. A portion of the recreational trail along the Lake Superior shoreline, extending approximately 0.25 miles, will be placed on an elevated reinforced embankment that will provide for a lake viewing and observation area. The ENRTF Budget for this project will provide for the construction of the proposed 0.75 mile recreational trail segment and the trail crossing (tunnel) under TH 61. MnDNR Parks and Trails Division 2017 Bond Appropriations will fund all project engineering and design, including final plans and construction specifications. The estimated cost of the Gitchi Gami State Trail – Tofte South Segment is currently \$1,900,000.

**ENRTF BUDGET: \$1,900,000**

<b>Outcome</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>
1. Project Bidding Complete and Construction Contract Awarded	June 1, 2019
2. Project Construction Complete	June 30, 2020

**First Update January 31, 2019**

**Second Update June 30, 2019**

**Third Update January 31, 2020**

**Final Update June 30, 2020**

#### **IV. DISSEMINATION:**

**Description:** The projects to be completed under this budget/activity will be completed in cooperation with each of the associated communities and the local Trail Association or Friends Organization. Project planning and design will be completed with the complete participation of the State Trail local partners. At the direction of the local project partners, open houses may be scheduled to provide local residents and interested parties a opportunity to view and comment on the project design plans. Notifications regarding trail development schedules and impacts to existing trail use will be placed on the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Web pages for the specific project trails (see web address for activities one and two below) and published in local newspapers should the anticipated impacts warrant.

[http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/state\\_trails/gateway/index.html](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/state_trails/gateway/index.html)

[http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/state\\_trails/gitichigami/index.html](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/state_trails/gitichigami/index.html)

Additionally the local trail organizations will also play a role in notifying the public of project planning and construction.

<http://gatewaybrowns creektrail.org/>

<http://www.ggta.org/>

**First Update January 31, 2019**

**Second Update June 30, 2019**

**Third Update January 31, 2020**

**Final Update June 30, 2020**

#### **V. PROJECT BUDGET SUMMARY:**

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

**Explanation of Capital Expenditures Greater Than \$5,000:** The ENRTF Budget for this project of \$2,500,000 is proposed to be expended entirely on the construction of the identified segments of the Gateway and Gitchi Gami State Trails. Construction is to consist of the development of segments of 10 foot wide bituminous surfaced recreational trail and two designated trail tunnels. All state trail improvements will be confined to lands owned and administered by the State of Minnesota and will be continuously open to the public for all designated uses.

**Explanation of Use of Classified Staff:** NA

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

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:**

Enter Total Estimated Personnel Hours: 16,640	Divide by 2,080 = TOTAL FTE: 8
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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>			
Transportation Alternatives Grant – Gateway State Trail – Hadley Ave.	\$1,080,000	\$ 0	Secured. Grant Awarded 2014. Funding available July 1, 2018.
<b>Other State \$ To Be Applied To Project During Project Period:</b>			
MNDNR Parks and Trails Legacy Fund M.L. 2017, Chap. 091, Sec. 03, Subd. 03(a)	\$ 100,000	\$ 0	Secured. Gateway State Trail – Final Engineering and Design. Washington County.
Bond 17 / M.L. 2017, Chap. 181, Sec. 6, Subd. 6(g)	\$ 250,000	\$ 0	Secured. Gitchi Gami State Trail – Preliminary and final engineering and construction administration.
<b>In-Kind Services To Be Applied To Project During Project Period:</b>			
NA	\$ 0	\$ 0	NA
<b>Past and Current ENRTF Appropriation:</b>			
ENRTF-Minnesota State Trails Acquisition, Development and Enhancement. M.L. 2017, Chap. 96, Sec. 2, Subd. 9(d)	\$1,038,000	\$ 0	Secured. \$999,000 in first year 2018. \$39,000 in second year 2019. Development on the Casey Jones and Mill Towns State Trails
<b>Other Funding History:</b>			
NA	\$0	\$ 0	NA

**VI. PROJECT PARTNERS:**

**A. Partners receiving ENRTF funding**

Name	Title	Affiliation	Role
NA			

**B. Partners NOT receiving ENRTF funding**

Name	Title	Affiliation	Role
Gitchi Gami Trail Assoc.			Advocate/Contributor to Trail Design
Gateway/Browns Creek Trail Assoc.			Advocate/Contributor to Trail Design
City of Tofte			Contributor to Trail Design

City of Oakdale			Contributor to Trail Design
Minnesota Department of Transportation			Direct Plan approval for both proposed projects.

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

The development of the two referenced trail projects will have an immediate impact of the residents of the communities of Tofte, Schroeder, North St. Paul and Oakdale by providing for expanded recreational opportunities and improved safety for users of all abilities. The proposed development of the identified segment of the Gitche Gaim State Trail in Tofte will provide for the completion of the final phase of a continuous, off-highway, bituminous surfaced recreational trail connection between Tofte and Schroeder and providing direct trail access to Temperance State Park. The proposed development of the Gateway State Trail crossing of CSAH 35/Hadley Ave. will eliminate the last significant at-grade roadway crossing between St. Paul and I-694 in Oakdale. The engineering and design of the Gitche Gami State Trail Segment is to be completed by the MnDNR in 2018. Construction of this segment will be administered by the MnDNR. The engineering and construction of the Gateway State Trail / Hadley Ave. trail tunnel are to be completed by Washington Co. through a Cooperative Agreement with the MnDNR. Upon completion of these projects, it is not anticipated that significant revision, rehabilitation or repair will be required for twenty to twenty five years. Seasonal maintenance, including trail surface crack sealing and limited surface repairs, vegetation management, fencing and regulatory and informational sign maintenance will be completed by the MnDNR Trail Operations staff who currently administer, operate and maintain the existing Gitche Gami and Gateway State Trails.

**VIII. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:**

- **The project is for 2 years, will begin on 7/1/2018, and end on 6/30/2020.**
- **Periodic project status update reports will be submitted 1/31 and 6/30 of each year.**
- **A final report and associated products will be submitted between June 30 and August 15, 2020.**

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

- A. Budget Spreadsheet**
- B. Visual Component or Map**

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



Project Title: Minnesota State Trail Development  
 Legal Citation: M.L. 2018, Chp. 214, Art. 4, Sec. 02, Subd. 09j  
 Project Manager: Kent Skaar  
 Organization: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources  
 College/Department/Division: Division of Parks and Trails  
 M.L. 2018 ENRTF Appropriation: \$2,500,000  
 Project Length and Completion Date: 2 Years, June 30, 2020  
 Date of Report: 02/22/2018

ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND BUDGET	Budget	Amount Spent	Balance
<b>BUDGET ITEM</b>			
<b>Capital Expenditures Over \$5,000 - overall</b>	\$2,463,134	\$0	\$2,463,134
<i>Gateway State Trail - CSAH35/Hadley Ave Tunnel (Estimate \$591,152)</i>			
<i>Gitche Gami State Trail - Tofte South Segment (Estimate \$1,870,982)</i>			
<b>Other</b>			
<i>Direct and Necessary Costs: Financial Support:\$32,181; Communication Support:\$2,541; Planning Support:\$2,144.</i>	\$36,866	\$0	\$36,866
<b>COLUMN TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,500,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$2,500,000</b>

