



# Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)

## M.L. 2019 ENRTF Work Plan (Main Document)

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**Today's Date:** August 27, 2018

**Date of Next Status Update Report:** March 1, 2020

**Date of Work Plan Approval:** June 5, 2019

**Project Completion Date:** November 2021

**Does this submission include an amendment request?** \_\_\_

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**PROJECT TITLE:** Mississippi National River & Recreation Area Forest Restoration

**Project Manager:** Mary Hammes

**Organization:** Mississippi Park Connection

**College/Department/Division:**

**Mailing Address:** 111 Kellogg Blvd E, Suite 105

**City/State/Zip Code:** St. Paul/MN/55101

**Telephone Number:** 651-291-9119

**Email Address:** mhammes@parkconnection.org

**Web Address:** parkconnection.org

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**Location:** Mississippi National River and Recreation Area

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**Total Project Budget:** \$199,000

**Amount Spent:** \$0

**Balance:** \$199,000

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**Legal Citation:** M.L. 2019, First Special Session, Chp. 4, Art. 2, Sec. 2, Subd. 05c

**Appropriation Language:** \$199,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Mississippi Park Connection to work with Conservation Corps Minnesota, local communities, and volunteers to address the loss of ash trees to emerald ash borer by planting approximately 15,000 native trees and plants in affected areas in the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area.

**I. PROJECT STATEMENT:**

This is a forest restoration project within the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area (MNRRA), a 72-mile corridor of the Mississippi River that runs through the metropolitan area of the Twin Cities. Through this project, we will support city and county land managers to remove hazardous ash trees that have succumbed to emerald ash borer (EAB) and proactively remove ash in areas that will soon be infested, perform shelterwood removal to create canopy gaps, inventory land with existing ash trees for emerging EAB, and plant more than 15,000 native trees, shrubs, and understory plants to build species diversity.

MNRRA is home to more than ½ million ash trees. Of the river’s canopy, more than 20% consists of green and black ash. In certain areas, ash cover exceeds 45% of the canopy. Since emerald ash borer (EAB) was discovered in Saint Paul in 2009, cities and counties have struggled to address EAB in park natural areas where erosion, habitat loss, and hazardous trees are all concerning.

This proposal supports a Mississippi River crew from the Conservation Corps of MN and IA, planting 10,000 native trees, and 5,000 native shrubs and understory plants, and coordinating with land-managers from eight river communities and three park managers to support 15 community parks within the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area (MNRRA). These parks were determined by consulting the National Park Service’s forest management plan for MNRRA and through consultation with the community partners listed below. Volunteers, managed cooperatively between the National Park Service and Mississippi Park Connection, will support planting efforts with in kind support.

**II. OVERALL PROJECT STATUS UPDATES:**

**First Update March 1, 2020**

**Second Update September 1, 2020**

**Third Update March 1, 2021**

**Fourth Update September 1, 2021**

**Fifth Update March 1, 2022**

**Final Report between project end (June 30) and August 15, 2022**

**III. PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES:**

**Activity:**

**Restore forested areas of the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area that have been or will soon be affected by Emerald Ash Borer by planting 15,000 native trees, shrubs and understory plants.**

**ENRTF BUDGET: \$ 199,000**

<b>Outcome</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>
1. Planting of 15,000 trees and shrubs in forest understory over two years.	October 2021
2. Install tree tubes to protect trees from herbivory.	October 2021
3. Identify parks that have new EAB infestations within MNRRA.	November 2021

**First Update March 1, 2020**

**Second Update September 1, 2020**

**Third Update March 1, 2021**

**Fourth Update September 1, 2021**

**Fifth Update March 1, 2022**

**Final Report between project end (June 30) and August 15, 2022**

**IV. DISSEMINATION:**

**Description:**

Many of the activities described in this plan include volunteer assistance. Volunteers will be notified of the support of ENTRF for the project at the beginning of each event. We will add the ENTRF logo to our website at [parkconnection.org/plant](http://parkconnection.org/plant) to acknowledge support of this initiative. Support will also be featured in one of our e-newsletters. Any signage that supports the projects will feature ENTRF logo and attribution language. Finally, we will acknowledge the support in our end of the year Annual Report.

The Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) will be acknowledged through use of the trust fund logo or attribution language on project print and electronic media, publications, signage, and other communications per the [ENRTF Acknowledgement Guidelines](#).

**First Update March 1, 2020**

**Second Update September 1, 2020**

**Third Update March 1, 2021**

**Fourth Update September 1, 2021**

**Fifth Update March 1, 2022**

**Final Report between project end (June 30) and August 15, 2022**

**V. ADDITIONAL BUDGET INFORMATION:**

**A. Personnel and Capital Expenditures**

**Explanation of Capital Expenditures Greater Than \$5,000:** Plant materials and deer browse protection will continue to be used to protect newly planted trees along the river for the entirety of their usable lives. Once trees have grown above the tree tubes, they will be moved onto smaller trees that need additional protection.

**Explanation of Use of Classified Staff:**

**Total Number of Full-time Equivalent (FTE) Directly Funded with this ENRTF Appropriation:** A portion of the project manager’s salary will come out of this funding.

Enter Total Estimated Personnel Hours for entire duration of project: 152	Divide total personnel hours by 2,080 hours in 1 yr = TOTAL FTE: .07
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**Total Number of Full-time Equivalents (FTE) Estimated to Be Funded through Contracts with this ENRTF Appropriation:**

Enter Total Estimated Contract Personnel Hours for entire duration of project: 8338	Divide total contract hours by 2,080 hours in 1 yr = TOTAL FTE: 4
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**VI. PROJECT PARTNERS:**

**A. Partners outside of project manager’s organization receiving ENRTF funding**

Name	Title	Affiliation	Role
Nick Cox	<b>Youth Outdoors Program Manager</b>	Conservation Corps of Minnesota and Iowa	Nick will coordinate crews in partnership with Mary. Crews will perform shelterwood cutting and planting in high ash concentration forests. Crews will also survey ash stands for EAB presence and overall forest health. Crews will prep sites for volunteer plantings that will reduce erosion and increase habitat value.

**B. Partners outside of project manager’s organization NOT receiving ENRTF funding**

Name	Title	Affiliation	Role (Responsible for Park Management at the listed Park)
Carrie Taylor	Restoration Ecologist	Anoka Conservation District	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mississippi River Community Park</li> </ul>
Lisa LaCasse	Recreation Supervisor	City of Anoka	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kings Island</li> </ul>
Brian Swoboda	Parks Superintendent	City of Inver Grove Heights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>River Road Park</li> </ul>
Virginia Gaynor	Open Space Coordinator	City of Maplewood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fish Creek</li> </ul>
Alex Roth	Ecologist	Friends of the Mississippi River	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nicollet Island</li> </ul>
Scott Hagen	Natural Resources	Dakota County Parks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Spring Lake Park Preserve</li> </ul>
Eric Ogdahl/ Rebecca Tucker	Project Assistant Ecologist	Great River Greening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pilot Knob Hill Open Space Restoration</li> </ul>

Maggie Barnick/ Emily Dunlap	Natural Resources Technicians	Saint Paul Parks and Recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Highwood Park</li> <li>• Henry Park</li> <li>• Hidden Falls Regional Park</li> <li>• Indian Mounds Regional Park</li> <li>• Mississippi River Boulevard</li> </ul>
Missy Anderson	Invasive Species Coord.	Three Rivers Park District	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mississippi Gateway (Coon Rapids Dam West)</li> </ul>
Nancy Duncan	Natural Resources Mgr.	Mississippi National River & Recreation Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Island 108 (Near Coldwater Spring)</li> </ul>
Kelli Bruns	Park Manager	MN Department of Natural Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fort Snelling State Park</li> </ul>

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

Pike Island within Fort Snelling State Park and parks within the City of Saint Paul have been hit hard by EAB, now in its 9<sup>th</sup> year of infestation. Lessons learned from forest restoration projects in these hard-hit communities can be shared with land managers in areas of MNRRRA that are currently less far along in their infestations. The City of Anoka and Dakota County, for example, have not found EAB in their river parks yet. Working together throughout the river corridor, we can improve restoration outcomes as new infestations are found and need to be addressed. Through this request, we will build capacity during the most critical years of EAB’s spread through the Mississippi River Corridor while cities are ramping up their internal capacity to deal with this issue in the long-term.

**VIII. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:**

- Project status update reports will be submitted March 1 and September 1 each year of the project
- A final report and associated products will be submitted between June 30 and August 15, 2022

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

- A. Budget Spreadsheet**
- B. Visual Component or Map**
- C. Parcel List Spreadsheet**
- D. Acquisition, Easements, and Restoration Requirements**
- E. Research Addendum**

**Attachment A:**

**Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund**

**M.L. 2019 Budget Spreadsheet**

**Legal Citation: M.L. 2019, First Special Session, Chp. 4, Art. 2, Sec. 2, Subd. 05c**

**Project Manager:** Mary Hammes

**Project Title:** Working Across Geographic Boundaries to Address Emerald Ash Borer along the Mississippi

**Organization:** Mississippi Park Connection

**Project Budget:** \$199,000

**Project Length and Completion Date:** 2 Years and June 30, 2021

**Today's Date:** October 18, 2018



<b>ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND BUDGET</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Amount Spent</b>	<b>Balance</b>
<b>BUDGET ITEM</b>			
<b>Personnel (Wages and Benefits)</b>	\$ 6,500	\$ -	\$ 6,500
Environmental Stewardship and Volunteer Manager (\$6,500) 15%FTE			
<b>Professional/Technical/Service Contracts</b>	\$ 177,500	\$ -	\$ 177,500
Conservation Corps of MN and IA - Field Crew - Forest Restoration			
<b>Equipment/Tools/Supplies</b>			
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Capital Expenditures Over \$5,000</b>			
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Fee Title Acquisition</b>			
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Easement Acquisition</b>			
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Professional Services for Acquisition</b>			
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Printing</b>			
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Travel expenses in Minnesota</b>			
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Other</b>	\$ 15,000		\$ 15,000
Tree Tubes (\$8,000)			
Trees (\$7,000)		\$ -	\$ -
<b>COLUMN TOTAL</b>	\$ 199,000	\$ -	\$ 199,000

<b>OTHER FUNDS CONTRIBUTED TO THE PROJECT</b>	<b>Status (secured or pending)</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Spent</b>	<b>Balance</b>
<b>Non-State:</b>	secured	\$ 121,568	\$ -	\$ 121,568
3M (\$50,000)				
NFWF (\$30,568)				
Mississippi Park Connection - Individual Donors (\$20,000)				
Tennant Company (\$11,000)				
Surly Brewing Company (\$5,000)				
Mortenson Family Foundation (\$5,000)				
<b>State:</b>		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>In kind:</b>	secured	\$ 80,000	\$ -	\$ 80,000
National Park Service (\$22,100)				
Volunteers (\$80,000 = 2,400 hrs X \$24.69)				
<b>PAST AND CURRENT ENRTF APPROPRIATIONS</b>	<b>Amount legally obligated but not yet spent</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Spent</b>	<b>Balance</b>
<b>Current appropriation:</b>		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Past appropriations:</b>		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -