



# Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)

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

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**Today's Date:** 8/20/18

**Date of Next Status Update Report:** 3/1/20

**Date of Work Plan Approval:** 6/5/2019

**Project Completion Date:** 6/30/22

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

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**PROJECT TITLE:** Birch Lake Recreation Area Campground

**Project Manager:** Cathy Bissonette

**Organization:** City of Babbitt

**College/Department/Division:**

**Mailing Address:** 71 South Drive

**City/State/Zip Code:** Babbitt/MN/55706

**Telephone Number:** 218-827-3646

**Email Address:** cathy@babbitt-mn.com

**Web Address:**

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**Location:** Statewide

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**Total Project Budget:** \$350,000

**Amount Spent:** \$0

**Balance:** \$350,000

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**Legal Citation:** M.L. 2019, First Special Session, Chp. 4, Art. 2, Sec. 2, Subd. 09h

**Appropriation Language:**

\$350,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Babbitt to expand Birch Lake Recreation Area by adding a new campground for recreational vehicles and tent campers. This project requires a match of at least \$2,800,000 that must be secured before trust fund money is spent. At least \$800,000 of this match must come from the city of Babbitt. Net income generated from admissions to the campground created as a result of trust fund contributions may be reinvested into the campground's long-term operations as described in the work plan approved by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources according to Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10.

**I. PROJECT STATEMENT**

This project consists of expanding the existing Birch Lake Recreation Area to add a new 22 acre campground that will include 49 new campsites that will accommodate recreational vehicles as well as tent campers. Two restrooms and a camp office/shower/restroom facility will be constructed at the campground to serve campers. City utilities (water, sewer, electrical) will be extended to the campground and to the existing facilities in the recreation area. The extension of this infrastructure will also open up areas for new commercial and housing development. The Birch Lake Recreation Area sits on a 37 acre, city owned parcel located on Birch Lake. The campground will be connected to an existing paved pedestrian/bike trail that connects to the City of Babbitt and eventually to the Mesabi Trail. The campground will also connect to the new Prospector ATV trail that will serve campers looking for off trail vehicle opportunities. The City of Babbitt and the surrounded area are very limited in camping sites and the existing sites are always filled.

The existing recreation area has a beach house equipped with changing rooms, restrooms, life guard/first aid room and a concession stand. The beach area has two rafts, a water slide, a picnic area with shelters, outdoor grills, a fully, equipped playground area with activities for all ages and area lighting.

The City of Babbitt has completed a total reconstruction of the boat landing area along Birch Lake. The area includes a new parking area with handicapped parking, two new docks, a new concrete boat landing ramp, a boat cleaning area and a rain garden for storm water runoff.

The Birch Lake Recreation Area is located on the shores of Birch Lake. Birch Lake is a 7,000 acre lake that is one of the most heavily fished lakes in the Tower Fisheries Management Area. The lake is 75% undeveloped and provides a BWCA experience. The BWCA is only two portages away from Birch Lake.

Birch Lake and the Birch Lake Recreation Area serves numerous tourists from all over Minnesota, the U.S. and Canada.

The total estimated cost of this project is \$4,300,000. The City of Babbitt is requesting \$700,000 from the ENRTF and has submitted applications to the IRRRB, State Bonding Bill and Greater MN Regional Parks and Trails Commission (See Budget Page).

**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 1 Title:** Design and Construction Administration

**Description:** Project Engineering, Design, Staking and Construction Administration for the Campground Sites/Campground Buildings/ Municipal Utilities

**ACTIVITY 1 ENRTF BUDGET: \$150,000**

Outcome	Completion Date
1. Completion of Plans and Specifications	August 2019
2. Final Design Review	September 2019
3. Completion of Bidding Documents	November 2019

**ACTIVITY 2 Title:** Construction

**Description:** Expand Birch Lake Recreation Area by constructing a 22-acre campground.

**ACTIVITY 2 ENRTF BUDGET: \$200,000**

Outcome	Completion Date
1. Project Bid	February 2020
2. Construction Commencement	May 2020
3. Construction Completed	June 2022

**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:**

The City has regular project meetings. Documentation of these meetings are developed in the form of meeting minutes that are presented and approved by the City Council. All council meetings are public and reports discussed are available to the general public.

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:**

Expenditures Greater Than \$5,000 will be used for the design and construction of the campground.

**Explanation of Use of Classified Staff:**

“N/A”

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

“N/A”

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

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

Consulting Engineer – Role: Project Design/Construction Administration/Project Management

General Contractor – Role: Project Construction – Hired Through Competitive Bidding Process

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

City Mayor and Clerk – Role: Project Administration

City Parks and Recreation Director – Role: Park Maintenance

City Campground Manager – Role: Park Operations

City Campground Committee – Role: Park Planning and Funding

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

The long-term implementation consists of constructing a new campground at the Birch Lake Recreation Area in Babbitt that will provide a high quality nature and recreation experience for people of all ages. The campground will be open to the general public and will be open annually from May – September. The campground will provide a variety of activities including water recreation, access to non-motorized trails, access to an ATV trail system and tent and RV camping sites. The future funding for the maintenance and/or expansions of the campground will be provided by the City of Babbitt through their annual budget and through campground user fees. **Any revenue generated from the campground will be reinvested in the campground.**

**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. 09h**  
**Project Manager:** Cathy Bissonette  
**Project Title:** Birch Lake Recreation Area Campground  
**Organization:** City of Babbitt  
**Project Budget:** \$700,000  
**Project Length and Completion Date:** June 30, 2022 (3 yrs)  
**Today's Date:** 8/20/18

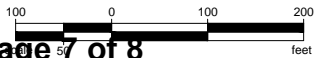
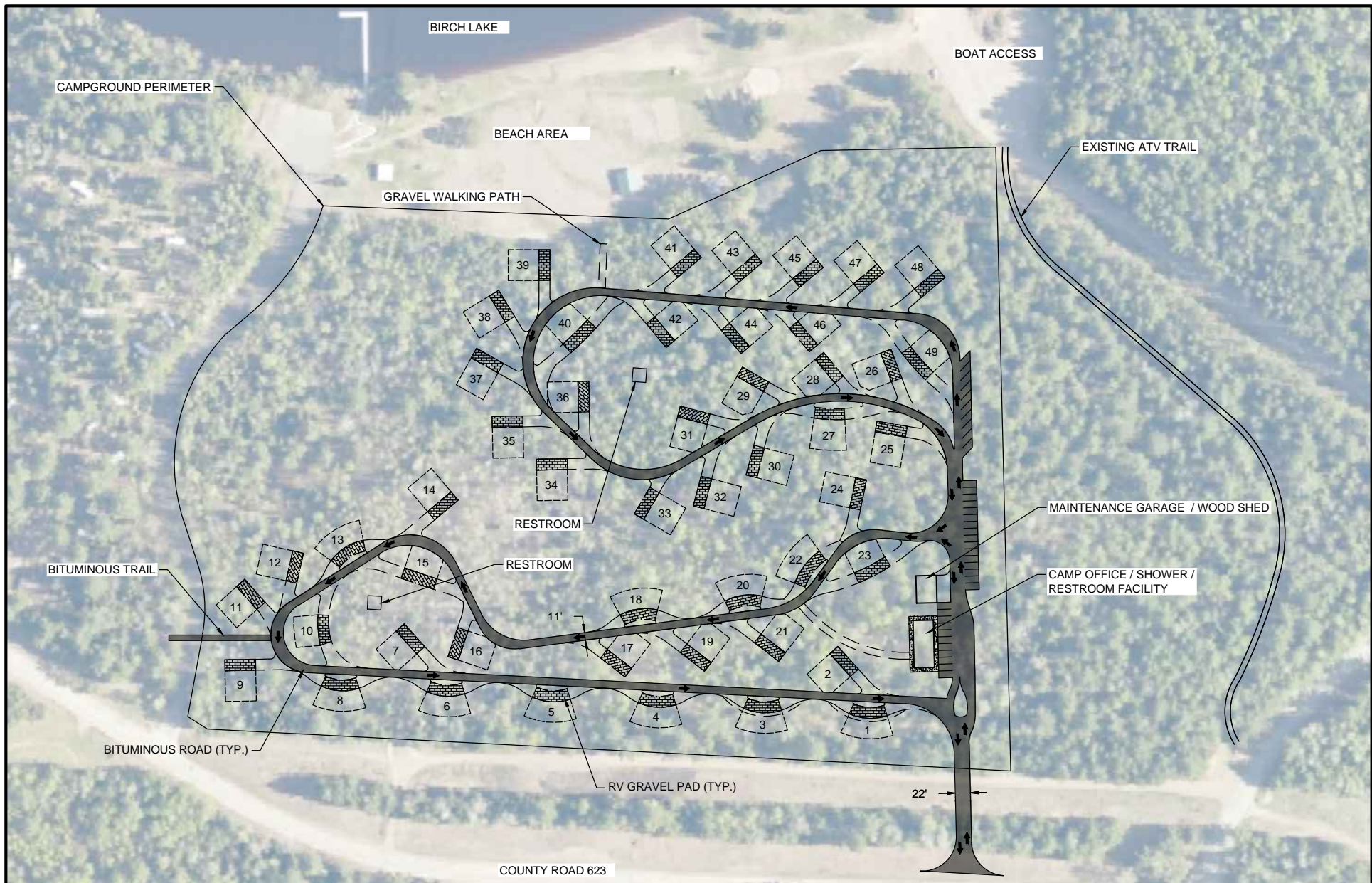


ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND BUDGET	Budget	Amount Spent	Balance
<b>BUDGET ITEM</b>			
Project Engineering/Design/Construction Administration	\$ 150,000	\$ -	\$ 150,000
Project Construction	\$ 200,000	\$ -	\$ 200,000
<b>A competitive bidding process will be used.</b>			
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<b>COLUMN TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 350,000</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 350,000</b>

OTHER FUNDS CONTRIBUTED TO THE PROJECT	Status (secured or pending)	Budget	Spent	Balance
Non-State: City Bonding		\$ 1,000,000	\$ -	\$ 1,000,000
State: Bonding Bill		\$ 1,300,000	\$ -	\$ 1,300,000
State: IRRRB		\$ 500,000	\$ -	\$ 500,000

PAST AND CURRENT ENRTF APPROPRIATIONS	Amount legally obligated but not yet spent	Budget	Spent	Balance
Current appropriation:		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Past appropriations:		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

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 www.sehinc.com

06/26/2019

FILE NO.  
 BABB 144900

DATE:  
 03/02/2018

CONCEPT LAYOUT  
 BIRCH LAKE CAMPGROUND  
 BABBITT, MN

Subd. 09h

EXHIBIT  
 NO. 1

