



Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

M.L. 2020 Approved Work Plan

General Information

ID Number: 2020-097

Staff Lead: Michael Varien

Date this document submitted to LCCMR: August 13, 2021

Project Title: Birch Lake Recreation Area Campground

Project Budget: \$350,000

Project Manager Information

Name: Cathy Hoheisel

Organization: City of Babbitt

Office Telephone: (218) 827-0364

Email: cathy@babbitt-mn.com

Web Address: <https://www.babbitt-mn.com/>

Project Reporting

Date Work Plan Approved by LCCMR: August 13, 2021

Reporting Schedule: April 1 / October 1 of each year.

Project Completion: July 31, 2024

Final Report Due Date: September 14, 2024

Legal Information

Legal Citation: M.L. 2021, First Special Session, Chp. 6, Art. 5, Sec. 2, Subd. 09v

Appropriation Language: \$350,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for a grant to the city of Babbitt to expand the Birch Lake Recreation Area by adding a new campground to include new campsites, restrooms, and other facilities. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2025.

Appropriation End Date: June 30, 2025

Narrative

Project Summary: 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/tents.

Describe the opportunity or problem your proposal seeks to address. Include any relevant background information.

The City of Babbitt has an existing recreation area that is used by residents of the region and visitors throughout the state. The Babbitt region is lacking camping sites. The City of Babbitt is undertaking this project to create additional camping opportunities and outdoor experiences for people of all ages throughout the region. 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.

What is your proposed solution to the problem or opportunity discussed above? i.e. What are you seeking funding to do? You will be asked to expand on this in Activities and Milestones.

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.

What are the specific project outcomes as they relate to the public purpose of protection, conservation, preservation, and enhancement of the state's natural resources?

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.

Project Location

What is the best scale for describing where your work will take place?

Statewide

What is the best scale to describe the area impacted by your work?

Region(s): NE

When will the work impact occur?

During the Project

Activities and Milestones

Activity 1: Construction Administration

Activity Budget: \$100,000

Activity Description:

Construction administration will be performed by the consulting engineer. The activities will include oversight of all work done on the campground and amenities sites to make sure the work is completed in accordance with all plans and specifications, verify all materials will meet specifications and quantities and will assist in any issues between the city and the general contractor. A representative of the engineering firm will be onsite until all construction is completed.

Activity Milestones:

Description	Completion Date
Construction Administration Will Be Ongoing Until The Project Is Completed	June 30, 2024

Activity 2: Project Construction Will Be The Responsible Of The General Contractor That Will Be Hired Through A Competitive Bidding Process

Activity Budget: \$250,000

Activity Description:

Construction of the camp sites, campground buildings and campground infrastructure. The General Contractor will be responsible of all construction activities related to the project. General Contractor will work very closely with the City of Babbitt staff and council, the Consulting Engineer and all neighboring land owners.

Activity Milestones:

Description	Completion Date
Project Bid	May 31, 2021
Construction Start	August 31, 2021
Construction Complete	June 30, 2024

Project Partners and Collaborators

Name	Organization	Role	Receiving Funds
MN DNR Staff	MN DNR	Project Advisor and Potential Funder	No
IRRRB Staff	IRRRB	Project Funder	No

Dissemination

Describe your plans for dissemination, presentation, documentation, or sharing of data, results, samples, physical collections, and other products and how they will follow ENRTF Acknowledgement Requirements and Guidelines.

Description: Upon receipt of a signed grant agreement, the City will issue a press release announcing the project, the plans for the reconstruction of the Campground project and will include special thanks and acknowledgement to the Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund for their assistance.

The City of Babbitt shall use the City web site to disseminate project updates through commentary, photos of progress of project, and status updates. On the webpage, an acknowledgement will be located at the bottom of the page that states "Funding for this project was provided by the Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund as recommended by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR)".

The City's Facebook page will be used to advertise trail closures, project updates, address comments and questions, etc. Each post by the City related to this project will include the Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund logo or acknowledgement such as "Funding for this project was provided by the Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund as recommended by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR)".

At the project site, in at least two (2) locations, signage will be constructed approximately 30 days prior to construction and shall remain until completion of the project in order to identify project name, scope, and parties that funded the project. These signs will include the verbiage "Funding for this project was provided by the Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund as recommended by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR)" as well as the Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund logo.

At the time of bid solicitation and contractor selection, the City shall include in all documents language that acknowledges Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund as a participating sponsor of the project.

Long-Term Implementation and Funding

Describe how the results will be implemented and how any ongoing effort will be funded. If not already addressed as part of the project, how will findings, results, and products developed be implemented after project completion? If additional work is needed, how will this be funded?

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.

Other ENRTF Appropriations Awarded in the Last Six Years

Name	Appropriation	Amount Awarded
Birch Lake Recreation Area Campground	M.L. 2019, First Special Session, Chp. 4, Art. 2, Sec. 2, Subd. 09h	\$350,000

Budget Summary

Category / Name	Subcategory or Type	Description	Purpose	Gen. Ineligible	% Benefits	# FTE	Classified Staff?	\$ Amount
Personnel								
							Sub Total	-
Contracts and Services								
Consulting Engineer Hired Through A Qualifications Process	Professional or Technical Service Contract	Consulting Engineer Will Be Responsible For Construction Administration Including Onsite Observation, Plan And Specifications Monitoring And Working Closely With The City Staff, The General Contractor And Adjacent Land Owners				4		\$100,000
General Contractor Hired Through A Competitive Bidding Process	Professional or Technical Service Contract	The General Contractor Is Responsible Of All Aspects Of The Project Construction				24		\$250,000
							Sub Total	\$350,000
Equipment, Tools, and Supplies								
							Sub Total	-
Capital Expenditures								
							Sub Total	-
Acquisitions and Stewardship								
							Sub Total	-
Travel In Minnesota								

							Sub Total	-
Travel Outside Minnesota								
							Sub Total	-
Printing and Publication								
							Sub Total	-
Other Expenses								
							Sub Total	-
							Grand Total	\$350,000

Classified Staff or Generally Ineligible Expenses

Category/Name	Subcategory or Type	Description	Justification Ineligible Expense or Classified Staff Request
---------------	---------------------	-------------	--

Non ENRTF Funds

Category	Specific Source	Use	Status	Amount
State				
Cash	Bonding Bill Funds	Project Construction	Secured	\$1,300,000
			State Sub Total	\$1,300,000
Non-State				
Cash	City	Project Construction	Secured	\$2,000,000
Cash	IRRRB	Construction	Secured	\$500,000
			Non State Sub Total	\$2,500,000
			Funds Total	\$3,800,000

Attachments

Required Attachments

Visual Component

File: [d6707744-280.pdf](#)

Alternate Text for Visual Component

Visual Shows Campground Layout...

Board Resolution or Letter

Title	File
Resolution	ed6c2e0f-16d.pdf

Optional Attachments

Support Letter or Other

Title	File
Background Check Certification Form	b60fddb1-12b.pdf

Difference between Proposal and Work Plan

Describe changes from Proposal to Work Plan Stage

The budget was upgraded to reflect actual award, activities upgraded, budget upgraded, project collaborators upgraded

Additional Acknowledgements and Conditions:

The following are acknowledgements and conditions beyond those already included in the above workplan:

Do you understand and acknowledge the ENRTF repayment requirements if the use of capital equipment changes?

N/A

Do you agree travel expenses must follow the "Commissioner's Plan" promulgated by the Commissioner of Management of Budget or, for University of Minnesota projects, the University of Minnesota plan?

N/A

Does your project have potential for royalties, copyrights, patents, or sale of products and assets?

No

Do you understand and acknowledge IP and revenue-return and sharing requirements in 116P.10?

N/A

Do you wish to request reinvestment of any revenues into your project instead of returning revenue to the ENRTF?

N/A

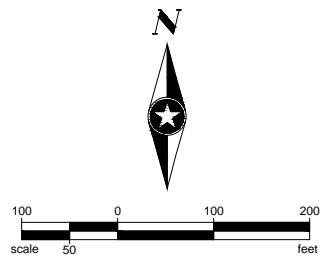
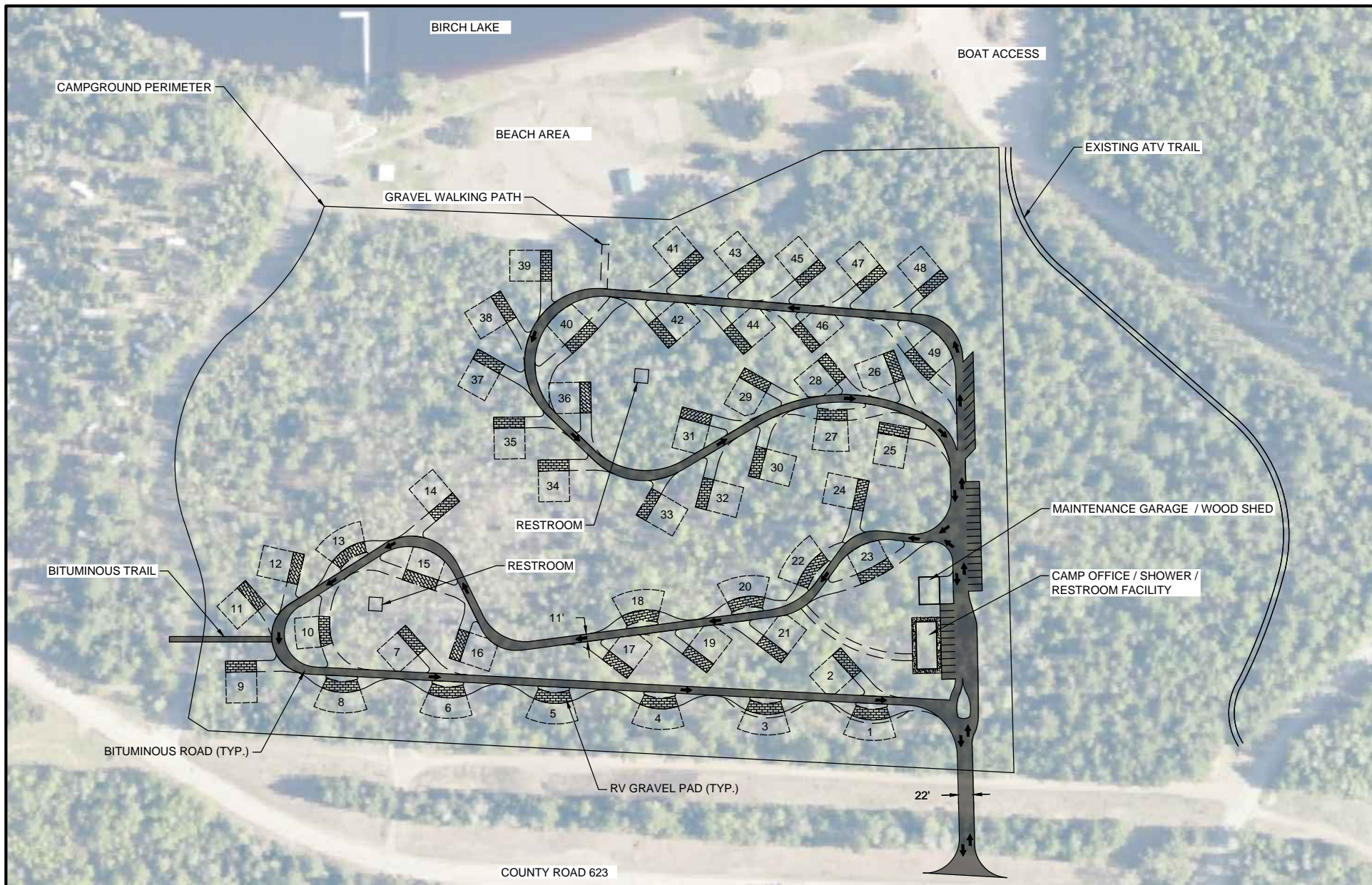
Does your project include original, hypothesis-driven research?

No

Does the organization have a fiscal agent for this project?

No

Save: 3/1/2018 4:54 PM thompson Plot: 3/1/2018 4:54 PM P:\AE\B\BABB\144900\5-final-dgn\51-drawings\10-Civil\cad\dwg\sheet\100 8X11 Exhibit.dwg



SEH
 PHONE: 218.741.4284
 615 9TH STREET NORTH
 VIRGINIA, MN 55792-3761
 www.sehinc.com

FILE NO.
 BABB 144900

DATE:
 03/02/2018

**CONCEPT LAYOUT
 BIRCH LAKE CAMPGROUND
 BABBITT, MN**

**EXHIBIT
 NO. 1**