

Final Abstract

Final Report Approved on March 27, 2026

M.L. 2020 Project Abstract

For the Period Ending June 30, 2026

Project Title: Grants for Local Parks, Trails, and Natural Areas

Project Manager: Jenni Bubke

Affiliation: MN DNR - State Parks and Trails Division

Mailing Address: 500 Lafayette Road

City/State/Zip: St. Paul, MN 55155-4039

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E-mail: jennifer.bubke@state.mn.us

Website: https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/parks_trails/index.html

Funding Source:

Fiscal Year:

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

Appropriation Amount: \$2,400,000

Amount Spent: \$2,127,063

Amount Remaining: \$272,937

Sound bite of Project Outcomes and Results

Provide 15 matching grants to local units of government for local parks, acquisition of locally significant natural areas and trails to connect people safely to desirable community locations and regional or state facilities. Park development includes nature-based recreation facilities and does not include playgrounds, sports courts or sport fields.

Overall Project Outcome and Results

The primary project results include,

- 4 Outdoor Recreation grants to provide nature based outdoor recreation opportunities including acquiring 79.35 acres, a river walk, park trails, camping facilities, and picnic facilities.
- 4 Natural and Scenic Area grants to help protect 568.91 acres of significant natural and scenic areas in Washington County, Chisago County, Sherburne County, and City of Cottage Grove through fee title and permanent conservation easement. This included 19.91 acres, with 1,900 linear feet of Mississippi River shoreline, in the City of Cottage Grove, helping establish a new park within the city.
- 7 Local Trail Connection grants to provide safe, accessible trails to parks, schools, and other significant locations. This

included developing 1.88 miles of new trail and one new trailhead, rehabilitating 1.57 miles of existing trail, and 10 bridges/culverts developed.

- Project administration for the grants was completed for \$54,163. Two application cycles were completed, applications reviewed and selected for grants. Active projects were monitored, financial review completed, grantees reimbursed, final site visits completed as needed, projects close, land acquisition report filed.

The Outdoor Recreation (Local Parks), Natural and Scenic Area and Local Trail Connections Grant Programs provide competitive matching grants for local parks, natural areas and trails to local governments for land acquisition and improvements related to parks and trails. Many projects include renovation of existing facilities to improve safety and accessibility, acquisition of locally significant natural and scenic areas, completion of trail linkages to safely connect where people live to desirable locations within the community and/or connecting local trails to regional or state facilities.

Project Results Use and Dissemination

A Request for Proposal is announced for the programs in December of each year through our park and trail contacts e-mail list and regional and statewide organization. Regional and Statewide organizations are encouraged to forward to their members. Program information and applications are available to download on the DNR Recreation Grants webpage (<https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/grants/recreation/index.html>) under each specific program. A list of the awarded projects is posted on the program webpages under recent grants. Posted funding acknowledgment signs are also verified for the completion of each project.



Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

M.L. 2020 Approved Final Report

General Information

Date: April 13, 2026

ID Number: 2020-028

Staff Lead: Mike Campana

Project Title: Grants for Local Parks, Trails, and Natural Areas

Project Budget: \$2,400,000

Project Manager Information

Name: Jenni Bubke

Organization: MN DNR - State Parks and Trails Division

Office Telephone: (651) 259-5638

Email: jennifer.bubke@state.mn.us

Web Address: https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/parks_trails/index.html

Project Reporting

Final Report Approved: March 27, 2026

Reporting Status: Project Completed

Date of Last Action: March 27, 2026

Project Completion: August 31, 2025

Legal Information

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

Appropriation Language: \$2,400,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to solicit, rank, and fund competitive matching grants for local parks, trail connections, and natural and scenic areas under Minnesota Statutes, section 85.019. This appropriation is for local nature-based recreation, connections to regional and state natural areas, and recreation facilities and may not be used for athletic facilities such as sport fields, courts, and playgrounds.

Appropriation End Date: June 30, 2024

Narrative

Project Summary: Provide approximately 15 matching grants for local parks, acquisition of locally significant natural areas and trails to connect people safely to desirable community locations and regional or state facilities.

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

FY20 Re-submission of recommended project: The Outdoor Recreation Grant Program (Local Parks), Natural and Scenic Area Grant Program and Local Trail Connections Program provide competitive matching grants, as authorized under MN Statutes 85.019, to local governments for land acquisition and improvements related to parks and trails. The grant programs are for local projects improving parks, acquiring natural areas and providing trail connections statewide. These programs are at the front line of the DNR's effort to partner with local communities in providing access to outdoor recreation opportunities. It is especially important given that most funding sources have greatly diminished for these local programs, and they are not eligible for the Parks and Trails Legacy Fund, which only funds projects of state or regional significance. Connecting citizens with the outdoors through park and trail facilities enhances Minnesota's stewardship ethic and further the goals of the Department's Strategic Conservation Agenda. Many projects include renovation of existing facilities to improve safety and accessibility, acquisition of locally significant natural and scenic areas, completion of trail linkages to safely connect people from where they live to desirable locations within the community and/or connecting local trails to regional or state trails.

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

Outdoor Recreation (Local Park) Grants: The goal of this program is to increase and enhance close to home recreation facilities and to provide safe and accessible recreation facilities. This aim is achieved through competitive, matching grants that provide financial incentive and ensure the parks acquired and developed under this program are retained for public use in perpetuity.

Natural and Scenic Area Grants: Opportunities for local governments and school districts to acquire and protect natural and scenic areas statewide are diminishing due to development, especially in high growth areas, shore lands, bluff tops and areas where land use changes may limit future opportunities. The goal of this program is to ensure protection of natural and scenic resources by helping and encouraging local governments to acquire and protect such land for appropriate public use, protection of natural communities, species protection, appreciation of scenic vistas, and scientific and environmental education purposes.

Local Trail Connections Grants: Local Trail Connections grants fund projects to acquire, develop and re-develop local trail connections across Minnesota. The projects are primarily for shorter distance connections between residential areas, schools, businesses, parks, and regional and/or state facilities. These projects help to expand the connections between individuals and the outdoors.

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?

This funding will provide approximately 15 matching grants to cities and counties for acquisition, development and/or redevelopment of local parks, natural and scenic areas and trail connections. The local match for each project will meet or exceed the match required under the specific program that the project was funded. The required match for each program is listed in MN Statutes 85.018. The match level is expected to exceed \$1.7 million.

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?

Statewide

When will the work impact occur?

During the Project

Activities and Milestones

Activity 1: Grants for the Local Parks, Natural and Scenic Areas and Trail Connections

Activity Budget: \$2,340,000

Activity Description:

This funding will provide approximately 15 matching grants to cities and counties for acquisition, development and/or redevelopment of local parks, natural and scenic areas and trail connections. Two grant rounds are proposed. The local match for each project will meet or exceed the match required under the specific program that the project was funded. The required match for each program is listed above and in MN Statues 85.018. The match level is expected to exceed \$1.7 million.

Local governments are struggling to acquire, develop and redevelop their local and community parks and trails. The goal of this funding is to increase and enhance close to home natural resource based recreation facilities, to provide safe and accessible recreation amenities and to provide trail connections between residential areas, schools, businesses, parks, and the regional park and trail system and/or the State Outdoor Recreation System. This does not include athletic facilities such as sport fields, courts, and playgrounds. Parks and naturals areas acquired and developed under this program are retained for public use in perpetuity. Trails developed under this program are retained for public use for a minimum of 20 years. Land acquisition is permanent.

Activity Milestones:

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Provide approximately 4 matching grants for Local Parks.	October 31, 2022
Provide approximately 4 matching grants for Natural and Scenic Areas.	October 31, 2022
Provide approximately 7 matching grants for Trail Connections.	October 31, 2022

Activity 2: Grant Program Administration

Activity Budget: \$60,000

Activity Description:

The requested funding will be used to support personnel costs for administering the grant programs and DNR direct and necessary costs associated with this funding. Grant staff are involved in grant solicitation, evaluation and ranking, grant agreement management, project billings, project inspections, compliance monitoring and project close out.

Activity Milestones:

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Administer RFP, application process and grant contracts	June 30, 2024

Project Partners and Collaborators

Name	Organization	Role	Receiving Funds
Local Governments	Cities, counties, townships	They will acquire, own, develop, and manage the parks or trails. The local governments will provide at least \$1.7 million match with approximately \$1.6 million in cash match and approximately \$100,000 in in-kind services. In addition, they cover the costs of appraisals, land transaction costs, and required archeological/historical surveys and assume all ongoing operations and maintenance costs.	Yes

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.

A Request for Proposal is announced for the programs in December of each year through our park and trail contacts e-mail list and regional and statewide organization. Regional and Statewide organizations are encouraged to forward to their members. Program information and applications are available to download on the DNR Recreation Grants webpage under each specific program. A list of the awarded projects will be posted on the program webpages.

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.

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 work be funded?

The local government recipients are responsible for the ongoing operations and maintenance costs. All property acquired must be kept for public outdoor recreation purposes permanently.

Other ENRTF Appropriations Awarded in the Last Six Years

Name	Appropriation	Amount Awarded
Grants for Local Parks, Trails, and Natural Areas	M.L. 2018, Chp. 214, Art. 4, Sec. 2, Subd. 09a	\$2,000,000
Grants for Local Parks, Trails and Natural Areas	M.L. 2019, First Special Session, Chp. 4, Art. 2, Sec. 2, Subd. 09b	\$3,000,000

Budget Summary

Category / Name	Subcategory or Type	Description	Purpose	Gen. Ineligible	% Benefits	# FTE	Classified Staff?	\$ Amount	\$ Amount Spent	\$ Amount Remaining
Personnel										
Grants Specialist Position		Manage grant program and funded projects			30%	0.75	X	\$52,752	-	-
							Sub Total	\$52,752	\$47,253	\$5,499
Contracts and Services										
							Sub Total	-	-	-
Equipment, Tools, and Supplies										
							Sub Total	-	-	-
Capital Equipment										
		Capital Construction Costs	Development/ Redevelopment of Parks and Trails. Estimated amount, final amount TBD based on grant applications.	X				\$1,310,000	\$1,042,900	\$267,100
							Sub Total	\$1,310,000	\$1,042,900	\$267,100
Acquisitions and Stewardship										
	Fee Title Acquisition	Acres: 569 Parcels: 4						\$954,125	\$954,125	-
	Conservation Easement Acquisition	Acres: 79 Parcels: 1						\$75,875	\$75,875	-
							Sub Total	\$1,030,000	\$1,030,000	-
Travel In Minnesota										
							Sub Total	-	-	-

Travel Outside Minnesota										
							Sub Total	-	-	-
Printing and Publication										
							Sub Total	-	-	-
Other Expenses										
		Direct and Necessary Expenses	To support the costs related to the program administration *Direct and Necessary expenses: HR Support (~\$1149), Safety Support (~\$208), Financial Support (~\$631), Communication Support (~\$1,388), IT Support (~\$2,734), and Planning Support (~\$1,139) necessary to accomplish funded programs/projects.					\$7,248	\$6,910	\$338
							Sub Total	\$7,248	\$6,910	\$338
							Grand Total	\$2,400,000	\$2,127,063	\$272,937

Classified Staff or Generally Ineligible Expenses

Category/Name	Subcategory or Type	Description	Justification Ineligible Expense or Classified Staff Request
Personnel - Grants Specialist Position		Manage grant program and funded projects	Classified : Classified positions paid for with LCCMR funds will either be 1) back filled with a new position or 2) the work previously done by this position will be delayed, eliminated, or completed by the start of the project.
Capital Equipment		Capital Construction Costs	Eligible capital expenses Additional Explanation : Trails will be maintained for a minimum of 20 years and park facilities will be maintained for the useful life by the local unit of government receiving the grant.

Non ENRTF Funds

Category	Specific Source	Use	Status	\$ Amount	\$ Amount Spent	\$ Amount Remaining
State						
			State Sub Total	-	-	-
Non-State						
Cash	Local units of governments	Local unit of governments will provide required match for capital construction and acquisition of land.	Secured	\$1,473,497	\$1,473,497	-
In-Kind	Local units of government, contractors and/or volunteers.	Donations of time, materials and/or labor.	Secured	\$100,000	\$100,000	-
Cash	Local units of governments	Excess match	Secured	\$1,831,994	\$1,831,994	-
			Non State Sub Total	\$3,405,491	\$3,405,491	-
			Funds Total	\$3,405,491	\$3,405,491	-

Acquisition and Restoration

Parcel List

Name	County	Site Significance	Activity	Acres	Miles	Estimated Cost	Type of Landowner	Easement or Title Holder	Status of Work
Big Woods Park	Wright	Acquire 79.35 acres and preserve natural amenities in Big Wood Park. Mix of wetlands, forest and open space	Fee Title	79.35	-	\$250,000	Private	City of Delano	Purchased
Carnelian Creek Ecological Area	Washington	Open space, scenic views, habitat, surface water, likely groundwater and other high quality natural features on four parcels fully or partially located in a Washington County top ten high priority protection area called the Carnelian Creek Corridor.	Conservation Easement	79	-	\$75,875	Private	Washington County	Purchased
Checkerboard County Park	Chisago	Acquire and preserve special and unique natural areas directly adjacent to Checkerboard County Park.	Fee Title	40	-	\$44,800	Private	Chisago County	Purchased
Elk Lake	Sherburne	Spanning along one mile of Elk lake's north shore, the property is also flanked by stream systems with nearly one mile of Elk River winding through the west edge and 2,400 feet of Lilly Creek feeding in on the east edge.	Fee Title	430	-	\$374,721	Private	Sherburne County	Purchased
Mississippi Dunes	Washington	Acquire 19.91 acres including 1,900 linear feet of Mississippi River shoreline.	Fee Title	19.91	0.36	\$284,604	Private	City of Cottage Grove	Purchased
Totals				648.26	0.36	\$1,030,000			

Fee Acquisition

1. Describe the selection process for identifying and including proposed parcels on the parcel list, including an explanation of the criteria and decision-making process used to rank and prioritize parcels.

Acquisitions under the Natural and Scenic Area Grant Program are reviewed and ranked by program staff using selection criteria developed with guidance by a group of internal and external people when the program was created. The project review assesses the natural resource qualities of the site such as endangered, threatened, rare or special concern species or communities, high quality native terrestrial or aquatic ecosystems, ecological viability, outstanding geological or physiographic features, protection of water quality and potential vulnerability to invasive species. Scenic qualities such as, blufflands or other elevated terrain that afford an opportunity for viewing scenic vistas, viewing unique natural features, viewing unique historical or cultural features, and shoreland properties that offer scenic vistas across lakes or streams will be assessed. Other review components include adjacent lands, educational and scientific values, open space and historical/cultural values and local government commitment. Any acquisitions under the Outdoor Recreation Grant and/or Local Trail Connections Grant Program are selected based on program criteria. Projects are recommended based on the highest ranking and reviewed and approved by the Commissioner.

2. List all adopted state, regional, or local natural resource plans in which the lands included in the parcel list are identified for the acquisition purposes you propose. Include the URL to the plan if one is available.

Land Acquisition projects selected for funding under the Outdoor Recreation and Natural and Scenic Area Grant Program are based on priorities in the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), https://files.dnr.state.mn.us/aboutdnr/reports/scorp_final_2024.pdf.

3. For any parcels acquired in fee title, a restoration and management plan must be prepared. Summarize the components and expected outcomes of restoration and management plans for parcels acquired by your organization, how these plans are kept on file by your organization, and overall strategies for long-term plan implementation, including how long-term maintenance and management needs of the parcel will be financed into the future.

These acquisitions provide public natural and scenic areas, open space and park areas. Natural resource restoration is not a required component of the programs. In some instances, restoration may occur, otherwise most are primarily maintaining the resources on the site, which may include natural or scenic qualities. If applicable, a restoration plan will be required and maintained in the project file, and is available upon request.

4. For each parcel to be conveyed to a State of Minnesota entity (e.g., DNR) after purchase, provide a statement confirming that county board approval will be obtained.

N/A

5. If applicable (see M.S. 116P.17), provide a statement confirming that written approval from the DNR Commissioner will be obtained 10 business days prior to any final acquisition transaction.

All grants are approved by the Commissioner prior to contract.

Easement (Other) Acquisition

1. Describe the selection process for identifying and including proposed parcels on the parcel list, including an explanation of the criteria and decision-making process used to rank and prioritize parcels.

Acquisitions under the Natural and Scenic Area Grant Program are reviewed and ranked by program staff using selection criteria developed with guidance by a group of internal and external people when the program was created. The project review assesses the natural resource qualities of the site such as endangered, threatened, rare or special concern species or communities, high quality native terrestrial or aquatic ecosystems, ecological viability, outstanding geological or physiographic features, protection of water quality and potential vulnerability to invasive species. Scenic qualities such as, blufflands or other elevated terrain that afford an opportunity for viewing scenic vistas, viewing unique natural features, viewing unique historical or cultural features, and shoreland properties that offer scenic vistas across lakes or streams will be assessed. Other review components include adjacent lands, educational and scientific values, open space

and historical/cultural values and local government commitment. Any acquisitions under the Outdoor Recreation Grant and/or Local Trail Connections Grant Program are selected based on program criteria. Projects are recommended based on the highest ranking and reviewed and approved by the Commissioner.

2. List all adopted state, regional, or local natural resource plans in which the lands included in the parcel list are identified for the acquisition purposes you propose. Include the URL to the plan if one is available.

Land Acquisition projects selected for funding under the Outdoor Recreation and Natural and Scenic Area Grant Program are based on priorities in the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), https://files.dnr.state.mn.us/aboutdnr/reports/scorp_final_2024.pdf.

3. For any parcels acquired in fee title, a restoration and management plan must be prepared. Summarize the components and expected outcomes of restoration and management plans for parcels acquired by your organization, how these plans are kept on file by your organization, and overall strategies for long-term plan implementation, including how long-term maintenance and management needs of the parcel will be financed into the future.

These acquisitions provide public natural and scenic areas, open space and park areas. Natural resource restoration is not a required component of the programs. In some instances, restoration may occur, otherwise most are primarily maintaining the resources on the site, which may include natural or scenic qualities. If applicable, a restoration plan will be required and maintained in the project file, and is available upon request.

4. For each parcel to be conveyed to a State of Minnesota entity (e.g., DNR) after purchase, provide a statement confirming that county board approval will be obtained.

N/A

5. If applicable (see M.S. 116P.17), provide a statement confirming that written approval from the DNR Commissioner will be obtained 10 business days prior to any final acquisition transaction.

All grants are approved by the Commissioner prior to contract.

Attachments

Required Attachments

Map

File: [6e12ef0b-eb2.pdf](#)

Alternate Text for Map

Map showing project locations for 2020-028 as of 5/10/22 and map of all projects funded in FY22....

Supplemental Attachments

Capital Project Questionnaire, Budget Supplements, Support Letter, Photos, Media, Other

Title	File
2020-028 projects List of awarded projects as of 6/10/2022	5e073b92-f45.pdf
2020-08 ENRTF Project Status as of 11/28/23	80f8bb8f-3a1.xlsx
Background Check Form	9fb0988a-8b5.pdf
2020 ENRTF Projects 08 08 24	c894fb56-9af.xlsx
2020-028 Final Map of Awarded projects	f3ba0fc9-969.pdf
OR22-012 Kandiyohi Co Procurement Photos	9720072e-276.pdf
2020-028 Compiled Funding Acknowledgment	8f6373cf-80d.pdf
2020-028 Compiled photos of acquisitions	d47ffd43-df6.pdf
2020 ENRTF Projects 02 10 25	0e57cc9d-0b9.xlsx
2020 ENRTF Projects 10 07 25	de00e3ee-bcc.xlsx
2020 ENRTF Projects 1 20 26	cea2f379-5cc.xlsx

Media Links

Title	Link
Recreation Grants MNDNR	https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/grants/recreation/index.html

Difference between Proposal and Work Plan

Describe changes from Proposal to Work Plan Stage

No changes in project or outcomes.

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?

Yes

Do you understand that travel expenses are only approved if they 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, sale of products and assets, or revenue generation?

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

Work Plan Amendments

Amendment ID	Request Type	Changes made on the following pages	Explanation & justification for Amendment Request (word limit 75)	Date Submitted	Approved	Date of LCCMR Action
1	Amendment Request	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attachments • Acquisition and Restoration - Parcel List 	At the time of work plan approval, the acquisition were not identified pending application review and grant awards. This amendment provides a parcel list based on projects selected for funding to date. One addition project will be awarded in June and updated in the next project update.	June 13, 2022	Yes	June 15, 2022
2	Amendment Request	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget - Capital, Equipment, Tools, and Supplies • Budget - Acquisition • Acquisition and Restoration - Parcel List 	One Outdoor Recreation Grant to the City of Delano was for acquisition and was not added to the original acquisition list. This project was awarded in the first application round for acquisition only.	November 29, 2022	Yes	December 1, 2022
3	Amendment Request	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget • Narrative • Activities and Milestones • Budget - Capital, Equipment, Tools, and Supplies • Budget - Acquisition • Budget - Other • Attachments • Acquisition and Restoration - Parcel List 	I am changing the number of projects funded overall and in each program from the approximate number to actual funded with this work plan. Adjusting acres acquired that was incorrect.	June 6, 2023	Yes	June 6, 2023
4	Project Manager	<p>Previous Manager: Audrey Mularie (audrey.mularie@state.mn.us) New Manager: Jenni Bubke (jennifer.bubke@state.mn.us)</p>	Retirement	September 12, 2023	Yes	September 13, 2023
5	Completion Date	<p>Previous Completion Date: 06/30/2024 New Completion Date: 08/31/2025</p>	Additional time to wrap-up a project (City of Frazee) that is partially funded under another active workplan.	January 31, 2025	Yes	January 31, 2025
6	Amendment Request	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget - Non-ENRTF Funds Contributed 	Adjusted the "Non-ENRTF Contribution" tab in the budget. Updated to reflect required match based on actual spending and include excess match that was	February 6, 2026	Yes	March 24, 2026

			provided by the local units of government.			
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Status Update Reporting

Final Status Update October 7, 2025

Date Submitted: February 6, 2026

Date Approved: March 24, 2026

Overall Update

2,340,000 in funding under this work program, was awarded to 15 projects, 4 Outdoor Recreation, 4 Natural and Scenic Area and 7 Local Trail Connections projects. All projects under this work plan are completed.

While \$2,340,000 was awarded under the workplan, three grants ended up with overall grant underspends. A fourth grant, was underspent on funding for the project under this workplan and the remaining balance was shifted to a different workplan. The attached project spreadsheet reflects both the awarded and actual spent amounts.

The primary project results include,

- 4 Outdoor Recreation grants to provide nature based outdoor recreation opportunities including acquiring 79.35 acres, a river walk, park trails, camping facilities, and picnic facilities.
- 4 Natural and Scenic Area grants to help protect 568.91 acres of significant natural and scenic areas in Washington County, Chisago County, Sherburne County, and City of Cottage Grove through fee title and permanent conservation easement.
- 7 Local Trail Connection grants to provide safe, accessible trails to parks, schools, and other significant locations. This included developing 1.88 miles of new trail and one new trailhead, rehabilitating 1.57 miles of existing trail, and 10 bridges/culverts

Activity 1

All four Natural and Scenic Area projects are closed, as the recorded. A sample of photos from the acquisition grants is included under Attachments.

For Town lake Park (City of Frazee), eligible expenses under this work plan have been reimbursed. Remaining award balance is being funded under a different work plan, as the grant faced some delays, including DNR approvals. The amount expended under this workplan is updated in the project list attachment. The project is now completed. Big Kandiyohi Lake Park East (Kandiyohi County) is also now completed.

(This activity marked as complete as of this status update)

Activity 2

All contracts were executed. Status reports, reimbursement requests and project closeouts are being processed.

(This activity marked as complete as of this status update)

Dissemination

FY22 and FY23 Grant awards are posted on the above website for public view. Completed projects have posted funding acknowledgement sign. A sample of posted funding acknowledgment signs is included under Attachments.

Additional Status Update Reporting

Additional Status Update January 10, 2025

Date Submitted: February 10, 2025

Date Approved: February 17, 2025

Overall Update

\$2,340,000 in funding under this work program, was awarded to 15 projects, 4 Outdoor Recreation, 4 Natural and Scenic Area and 7 Local Trail Connections projects. All projects under this work plan are committed and are under contract. 13 projects are completed. For one project, all procurement is done and is pending a final inspection after the winter, but submitting photos in the meantime. The second project faced delays and will utilize funding under a new work plan.

While \$2,340,000 was awarded under the workplan, three grants ended up with underspends. The attached project spreadsheet reflects both the awarded and actual spent amounts.

Activity 1

All four Natural and Scenic Area projects are closed, as the recorded deed restriction for Checkerboard County Park is now received. A sample of photos from the acquisition grants is included under Attachments.

Pavilion Park (City of Cromwell) is now completed and final inspection conducted. For Town lake Park (City of Frazee), eligible expenses under this work plan will be reimbursed, otherwise we will utilize funding under the new work plan as the grant faced some delays, including DNR approvals. The amount expended under this workplan is updated in the project list attachment. For Big Kandiyohi Lake Park East (Kandiyohi County), camper cabins, minus the decks, are completed in place. The decks for the cabins and all the other components are just waiting to be put out in the spring. A final inspection will also be completed in the spring, but submitting photos to the report in the meantime.

(This activity marked as complete as of this status update)

Activity 2

All contracts were executed. Status reports, reimbursement requests and project closeouts are being processed, particularly for the 2 remaining active grants.

(This activity marked as complete as of this status update)

Dissemination

FY22 and FY23 Grant awards are posted on the above website for public view. Completed projects have posted funding acknowledgement sign. A sample of posted funding acknowledgment signs is included under Attachments.

Additional Status Update Reporting

Additional Status Update August 14, 2024

Date Submitted: August 8, 2024

Date Approved: January 10, 2025

Overall Update

\$2,340,000 in funding under this work program, was awarded to 15 projects, 4 Outdoor Recreation, 4 Natural and Scenic Area and 7 Local Trail Connections projects. All projects under this work plan are committed and are under contract. 11 projects are completed. The remaining four projects are nearing completion or pending a final inspection.

Activity 1

Of the four active projects, one Natural and Scenic Area project remains open (Checkerboard County Park, Chisago County). The land is acquired and the grant is fully reimbursed. Only the deed restriction recorded with the county is pending.

The remaining three active projects are Outdoor Recreation grants. The first is Pavilion Park (City of Cromwell). The open house is scheduled for August 23rd and determining if will have a final inspection before then. The second is Town lake Park (City of Frazee). Any eligible expenses under this work plan will be reimbursed, otherwise we will utilize funding under the new work plan as the grant faced some delays, including DNR approvals. The third is Big Kandiyohi Lake Park East (Kandiyohi County). The county was able to get a revised scope of work approved by MIAC. The new scope of work involves procurement and installation work instead of ground disturbance activities. Everything purchased and pending a final inspection.

(This activity marked as complete as of this status update)

Activity 2

All contracts were executed. Status reports, reimbursement requests and project closeouts are being processed, particularly for the 4 remaining active grants.

(This activity marked as complete as of this status update)

Dissemination

FY22 and FY23 Grant awards are posted on the above website for public view. Completed projects have posted funding acknowledgement sign.

Status Update Reporting

Status Update December 1, 2023

Date Submitted: November 30, 2023

Date Approved: December 12, 2023

Overall Update

\$2,340,000 in funding under this work program, was awarded to 15 projects, 4 Outdoor Recreation, 4 Natural and Scenic Area and 7 Local Trail Connections projects. All projects under this work plan are committed and are under contract. 9 projects are complete. All are under construction or pending acquisition. However, waiting confirmation for 1 Outdoor Recreation on possible cancellation.

Activity 1

All projects are underway. Nine projects are complete: six trails, Dakota county and cities of Detroit Lakes, Lindstrom, North Branch, Owatonna and St. Paul; two natural and scenic area grants, Washington and Sherburne counties; and one outdoor recreation grant, City of Delano. See updated ENRTF project status report attached to the work plan. Waiting confirmation for County of Kandiyohi on possible cancellation due to archaeological findings/cultural significance. Grant is funded by 2020-028 and 2021-043 workplans.

Activity 2

All contracts are executed. Status reports, reimbursement requests and project closeouts are being processed. Following up with County of Kandiyohi on cancellation status.

Dissemination

FY22 and FY23 Grant awards are posted on the above website for public view.

Status Update Reporting

Status Update June 1, 2023

Date Submitted: June 6, 2023

Date Approved: June 6, 2023

Overall Update

\$2,340,000 in funding under this work program, was awarded to 15 projects, 4 Outdoor Recreation, 4 Natural and Scenic Area and 7 Local Trail Connections projects. All projects under this work plan are committed and are under contract. 3 projects are complete. All remaining are under construction or pending acquisition.

Activity 1

All projects are underway. Three projects are complete, one trail, City of Lindstrom and two natural and scenic area grants, Washington and Sherburne counties. See updated ENRTF project status report attached to the work plan.

Activity 2

All contracts are executed. Status reports, reimbursement requests and project closeouts are being processed.

Dissemination

FY22 and FY23 Grant awards are posted on the above website for public view.

Status Update Reporting

Status Update December 1, 2022

Date Submitted: November 29, 2022

Date Approved: December 1, 2022

Overall Update

All funding for projects under this work plan has been committed and is under contract or pending a contract.

FY2022 Application round deadline was March 29, 2021. 81 applications were received for the Outdoor Recreation, Natural and Scenic Area and Local Trail Connections Grant programs requesting \$ 11.74 million in grant assistance. 51 projects were awarded grants with \$8.13 million in available federal and state funding. 62 percent of the applications received were awarded grants. The match is expected to exceed \$3.6 million. The FY23 Application round deadline was March 31, 2022. 99 applications were received for the Outdoor Recreation, Natural and Scenic Area and Local Trail Connections Grant programs requesting \$ 12.5 million in grant assistance. 38 projects were awarded grants with \$8.56 million in available federal and state funding. 38 percent of the applications received were awarded grants. For these application rounds, \$2,340,000 in LCCMR funding under this work program, was awarded to 15 projects, 4 Outdoor Recreation, 4 Natural and Scenic Area and 7 Local Trail Connections projects.

Activity 1

All funding for projects the 15 projects awarded under this work plan has been committed and is under contract or pending a contract.

Activity 2

The FY22 application process is complete, contracts are executed and/or underway.

Dissemination

FY22 Grant awards are posted on the DNR website for public view.

Status Update Reporting

Status Update June 1, 2022

Date Submitted: June 13, 2022

Date Approved: June 15, 2022

Overall Update

FY2022 Application round deadline was March 29, 2021. 81 applications were received for the Outdoor Recreation, Natural and Scenic Area and Local Trail Connections Grant programs requesting \$ 11.74 million in grant assistance. 51 projects were awarded grants with \$8.13 million in available federal and state funding. 62 percent of the applications received were awarded grants. The match is expected to exceed \$3.6 million. The FY23 Application round deadline was March 31, 2022. 99 applications were received for the Outdoor Recreation, Natural and Scenic Area and Local Trail Connections Grant programs requesting \$ 12.5 million in grant assistance. 38 projects were awarded grants with \$8.56 million in available federal and state funding. 38 percent of the applications received were awarded grants. For these application rounds, \$2,340,000 in LCCMR funding under this work program, was awarded to 15 projects, 4 Outdoor Recreation, 4 Natural and Scenic Area and 7 Local Trail Connections projects.

Activity 1

For these application rounds, \$2,340,000 in LCCMR funding under this work program, was awarded to 15 projects, 4 Outdoor Recreation, 4 Natural and Scenic Area and 7 Local Trail Connections projects. The match is expected to exceed \$5.1 million. A listing of the projects and map is attached. Grants are for reimbursement, funds are being encumbered but have not been reimbursed yet.

Activity 2

The FY22 application process is complete, contracts are executed and/or underway. The FY23 application cycle is underway with awards announced in June 2022.

Dissemination

FY22 Grant awards are posted on the above website for public view. FY23 Grant awards will be posted in June 2022