



Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)

M.L. 2020 ENRTF Work Plan (Main Document)

Today's Date: February 23, 2020

Date of Next Status Update Report: April 1, 2021

Date of Work Plan Approval: June XX, 2020

Project Completion Date: June 30, 2023

Does this submission include an amendment request? N

PROJECT TITLE: Minnesota State Parks and State Trails In-holdings

Project Manager: Kent Skaar

Organization: State of Minnesota-Department of Natural Resources

College, Department, or Division: Parks and Trails Division

Mailing Address: 500 Lafayette Road, Box 39

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

Project Manager Direct Telephone Number: 651-259-5636

Email Address: Kent.Skaar@state.mn.us

Web Address: www.dnr.mn.us

Location: Statewide

Total Project Budget: \$3,500,000

Amount Spent: \$0

Balance: \$3,500,000

Legal Citation: M.L. 2020, Chp. xx, Sec. xx, Subd. xx

Appropriation Language:

PROJECT STATEMENT:

Acquire Minnesota's 75 State Parks and State Recreation Areas and 26 State Trails top priority in-holdings within legislatively established boundaries of from willing sellers.

This proposal is an investment in the future and fulfills State Legislature direction to acquire parcels from willing sellers within legislatively defined State Parks, Recreation Areas and Trails systems. This project will protect and enhance Minnesota's environment, promote positive economic impacts, and increase outdoor recreation opportunities for all Minnesota citizens.

Each State Park, State Recreation Area and State Trail has a master plan. These plans include public, county and local jurisdiction input and define desirable land to be acquired within legislatively defined boundaries and alignments. These parcels represent unique landscapes and natural resources to be managed for the benefit of the public statewide. In addition to preserving and protecting Minnesota's natural resources and cultural heritage, these projects also generate positive local economic impacts created by enhanced outdoor recreation and tourism opportunities.

Most Minnesota State Parks and Trails acquisition projects are once-in-a-lifetime opportunities. Interested sellers often have a vision to include their family's treasured property in the State Park and/or State Trail system so that it can be enjoyed by the public in perpetuity. If funding doesn't exist to pursue an acquisition, the property may be subdivided, developed or taken off the market for decades.

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has identified and ranked each parcel within legislatively defined boundaries and alignments for State Parks and Trails. DNR maintains a general statewide priority list that is reviewed and updated annually. Potential projects are analyzed using investment criteria established in the DNR Parks and Trails System Plan. If an acquisition is not successful, an LCCMR workplan amendment to include the next priority State Park, State Recreation Area and State Trail acquisition may be requested.

II. OVERALL PROJECT STATUS UPDATES:

First Update April 1, 2021

Second Update October 1, 2021

Third Update April 1, 2022

Fourth Update October 1, 2022

Fifth Update April 1, 2023

Final Report between project end (June 30) and August 15, 2023

III. PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES:

ACTIVITY 1 Title: Glendalough State Park, In-holding, Otter Tail County, ~155 acres

Description:

Protect over 2,200 feet of Blanche Lake shoreline and over 700 feet of pristine creek frontage with abundant emergent and aquatic vegetation. The forested area contains high quality oak stands contiguous with the State Park. This area is located in a major migratory corridor for forest birds and

waterfowl. There is also potential for additional public outdoor recreational opportunities through expansion of the State Park hiking trails.

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

Outcome	Completion Date
1. Acquire ~155 acres within Glendalough State Park boundary	<i>June 30, 2023</i>

First Update April 1, 2021

Second Update October 1, 2021

Third Update April 1, 2022

Fourth Update October 1, 2022

Fifth Update April 1, 2023

Final Report between project end (June 30) and August 15, 2023

ACTIVITY 2 Title: Tettegouche State Park, In-holding, Lake County, ~18 acres

Description:

Conserve 650 feet of Lake Superior shoreline and preserve the famous views from Palisade Head. This property is the largest private in-holding identified as the “Palisade Coast” in the State Park management plan. The property also contains the mouth of and nearly 1,500 feet of the designated trout stream “Palisade Creek”. This property also contains many unique plant communities with rare plant and animal species and significant geologic features that qualify Palisade Head for inclusion in the Minnesota Natural Areas Registry.

ACTIVITY 2 ENRTF BUDGET: \$1,000,000

Outcome	Completion Date
1. Acquire ~18 acres within Tettegouche State Park boundary	<i>June 30, 2023</i>

First Update April 1, 2021

Second Update October 1, 2021

Third Update April 1, 2022

Fourth Update October 1, 2022

Fifth Update April 1, 2023

Final Report between project end (June 30) and August 15, 2023

ACTIVITY 3 Title: Tettegouche State Park, In-holding, Lake County, 146 acres

Description:

Preserve and protect over 1,300 feet of undeveloped shoreline and high quality northern hardwood tract. Reduce fragmentation and secure contiguous park-like experiences from possible future development pressure. Potential for backcountry hiking trail through hardwood forest with views of Lax Lake and Cedar Creek Valley. The County Biological Survey ranks the property as Outstanding Biodiversity.

ACTIVITY 3 ENRTF BUDGET: \$ 1,000,000

Outcome	Completion Date
1. Acquire ~146 acres of land within Tettegouche State Park boundary	<i>June 30, 2023</i>

First Update April 1, 2021

Second Update October 1, 2021

Third Update April 1, 2022

Fourth Update October 1, 2022

Fifth Update April 1, 2023

Final Report between project end (June 30) and August 15, 2023

ACTIVITY 4 Title: Legislatively Authorized State Trails In-Holdings

Description:

Acquire high priority in-holdings along legislatively authorized State Trails from willing sellers statewide to fulfill master plans throughout the State of Minnesota. Potential high priority parcels include in-holdings in the following locations: Gitchi Gami State Trail – Lutsen Trailhead, Gitchi Gami State Trail – Community of Tofte, Blufflands State Trail-City of Preston to Forestville-Mystery Cave State Park, Goodhue-Pioneer State Trail in-holdings and Great River Ridge State Trail in-holdings.

ACTIVITY 4 ENRTF BUDGET: \$500,000

Outcome	Completion Date
1. Acquire ~5 acres of in-holdings along Legislatively Authorized State Trails	<i>June 30, 2023</i>

First Update April 1, 2021

Second Update October 1, 2021

Third Update April 1, 2022

Fourth Update October 1, 2022

Fifth Update April 1, 2023

Final Report between project end (June 30) and August 15, 2023

IV. DISSEMINATION:

Description: The properties to be acquired under this ENTRF budget/activity will be completed in consultation with respective Counties, and in cooperation with nearby communities, local State Park Friends Organizations, local Trail Associations and specific user groups. State Trail project planning, corridor selection and required property acquisitions will be completed with the complete participation of the respective State Trail local partners. Public acknowledgement regarding the acquisition of State Park, State Recreation Area and State Trail lands may be placed on the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Web pages for the specific Unit. Public notifications may also be published directly by the Department of Natural Resources in local newspapers.

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 April 1, 2021

Second Update October 1, 2021

Third Update April 1, 2022

Fourth Update October 1, 2022

Fifth Update April 1, 2023

Final Report between project end (June 30) and August 15, 2023

V. ADDITIONAL BUDGET INFORMATION:

A. Personnel and Capital Expenditures – Not Applicable

Explanation of Use of Classified Staff: N/A

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

Enter Total Estimated Personnel Hours for entire duration of project: 0	Divide total personnel hours by 2,080 hours in 1 yr = TOTAL FTE: 0
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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: 0	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
Not Applicable
- B. Partners outside of project manager's organization NOT receiving ENRTF funding
Parks and Trails Council of Minnesota, non-governmental organization, like-minded organization, partner

VII. LONG-TERM- IMPLEMENTATION AND FUNDING:

Acquire critical in-holding parcels located within statutory boundary of State Parks and State Recreation Areas as well as acquire in-holdings of land located within legislatively authorized State Trail corridors outlined in each master plan.

The State currently owns about 85% of the 268,000 acres within State Park and State Recreation Area boundaries, which means the state does not own, and manage on behalf of the citizens of Minnesota, about 15% of land within designated boundary. The State currently owns, on behalf of the public, about 50% of land needed to fulfill State Trail legislation, which means we still need to acquire about 50% of land to build each State Trail according to master plans created based on State legislation. Each year approximately \$5 million worth of private in-holding parcels inside statutory boundary and legislatively authorized corridors will become available from willing sellers.

With the continued support of the LCCMR, the Department of Natural Resources-Division of Parks and Trails expects to keep moving forward to fulfill each of the 75 State Park and Recreation Area and 25 State Trails master plans and acquire critical parcels within statutory boundary for preservation, recreation, education and habitat restoration on behalf of the public. These land acquisitions positively contribute towards local community economy.

VIII. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:

- Project status update reports will be submitted April 1 and October 1 each year of the project
- A final report and associated products will be submitted between June 30 and August 15, 2023

IX. SEE ADDITIONAL WORK PLAN COMPONENTS:

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

Attachment A: Project Budget Spreadsheet
 Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund
 M.L. 2020 Budget Spreadsheet

Legal Citation: TBD

Project Manager: Kent Skaar

Project Title: Minnesota State Parks and State Trails In-holdings

Organization: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Project Budget: \$3,500,000

Project Length and Completion Date: 3 years, June 30, 2023

Today's Date: February 23, 2020



ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND BUDGET		Budget	Amount Spent	Balance
Fee Title Acquisition				
		\$ 3,395,000	\$ -	\$ 3,395,000
Professional Services for Acquisition				
		\$ 105,000	\$ -	\$ 105,000
		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
COLUMN TOTAL		\$ 3,500,000	\$ -	\$ 3,500,000
SOURCE AND USE OF OTHER FUNDS CONTRIBUTED TO THE PROJECT	Status (secured or pending)	Budget	Spent	Balance
State: Parks and Trails Legacy Fund (FY20)	Pending	\$ 500,000	\$ -	\$ 500,000
Other ENRTF APPROPRIATIONS AWARDED IN THE LAST SIX YEARS	Amount legally obligated but not yet spent	Budget	Spent	Balance
ENRTF M.L. 2019, M.L. 2019, First Special Session, Chp. 4, Art. 2, Sec. 2, Subd. 09c	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 2,000,000	\$ -	\$ 2,000,000
ENRTF M.L. 2018, Chap. 214, Art. 4, Sec. 02, Subd. 09k	\$ 2,488,685	\$ 2,500,000	\$ 11,315	\$ 2,488,685
ENRTF M.L. 2017, Chap. 96, Sec. 2, Subd. 09c	\$ 28,465	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 1,471,535	\$ 28,465
ENRTF M.L. 2015, Chap. 76, Sec. 2, Subd. 9a		\$ 1,500,000	\$ 1,500,000	\$ -
ENRTF M.L. 2013, Chap. 52, Sec. 2, Subd. 04a		\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,000,000	\$ -

Attachment C:
Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund
M.L. 2020 Acquisition/Restoration Parcel List Spreadsheet
Project Title: Minnesota State Parks and State Trails In-holdings
Legal Citation: TBD
Project Manager: Jennifer Christie
Organization: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
College/Department/Division: Parks and Trails Division
M.L. 2020 ENRTF Appropriation: \$ 5,000,000
Project Length and Completion Date: 3 Years, June 30, 2023
Today's Date: August 2, 2019



#	Acquisition or Restoration Parcel Name	Geographic Coordinates		Estimated Cost	Estimated Annual PILT Liabilities	County	Site Significance (please include what ecosystem (e.g., prairie, forest, wetland, savanna) is represented as well as the ecological significance, site importance, conservation value, and public benefits)	Activity Description	# of Acres	# of Shoreline Miles	Type of Landowner	Proposed Fee Title or Easement Holder (if applicable)	Status of work (e.g. engaged in landowner negotiations, no longer in consideration, restoration activities underway)
		Latitude	Longitude										
1	Glendalough State Park	46° 20' 36.4"	95° 40' 49.0"	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 7,500	Otter Tail	Shoreline protection of 2,200 feet of Blanche Lake and 700 feet of creek frontage with emergent and aquatic vegetation. High quality oak stands.	Fee Title Acquisition	155	2,900 feet	Private	MnDNR	Landowner is a willing seller
2	Tettegouche State Park	47° 19' 28.2"	91° 12' 38.5"	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 7,500	Lake	Preserve 650 feet of Lake Superior shoreline and 1,500 feet of Palisade Creek, a designated trout stream plus many unique and rare plants, animal species and geologic features.	Fee Title Acquisition	18	2,150 feet	Private	MnDNR	Landowner is a willing seller
3	Tettegouche State Park	47° 20' 4.0"	91° 18' 23.2"	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 7,500	Lake	Preserve and protect over 1,300 feet of undeveloped shoreline and high quality northern hardwood tract.	Fee Title Acquisition	146	1,300 feet	Private	MnDNR	Landowners have indicated willingness to sell in-holdings in the future
4	State Trails Top Priority In-holdings			\$ 500,000	\$ 3,750	Statewide	Pursue high priority State Trails in-holdings from willing sellers to enhance public outdoor recreation opportunities.	Fee Title Acquisition	5	TBD	Private	MnDNR	Landowners have indicated willingness to sell in-holdings
NOTES:													

Attachment D. Additional Work Plan Information for Acquisition, Easements, and Restoration

Acquisition Information:

State Parks, State Recreation Areas and State Trails maintain an active priority list for future acquisitions. The priority list evolves as new parcels are added to the statutory boundary of a park, when the status of a parcel changes after additional information is evaluated or when willing seller approaches the MnDNR to sell their land to the State.

Fee Title Acquisition

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

The MnDNR-Parks and Trails Division utilizes a two-filter evaluation process to initially identify and help prioritize parcels based on the active willing sellers list. Division selected parcels are then reviewed by the MnDNR regional managers from other MnDNR Divisions within the Department to ensure parcels meet and exceed Department's Strategic Land Asset Management (SLAM) goals and objectives, which include proactive and frequent communication with local governmental agencies.

The first filter is for each state park manager to assign a priority ranking for the private parcels located within the statutory boundary, also known as in-holdings, for the park. The regional parks and trails staff and managers review these rankings before submitting the priority report to the Acquisition and Development Section of the Division of Parks and Trails. This first filter priority ranking helps us decide if a greater assessment is needed. The ranking is divided into four levels of priority, A through D. Lands considered the highest importance to the mission of the state park, such as high resource or high recreational potential, is given an A-ranking.

This second filter evaluation looks into greater detail at a wide range of factors that determine the importance for acquiring the parcel. These factors include, but are not limited to, the following: rare geological feature, quality or quantity of natural or cultural resource present, historic buildings or cultural sites, riparian and watershed protection, high restoration potential, view shed preservation, threat due to development or timber harvesting, buffer potential, provide link to other recreation opportunities, such as a trail connection, develop new recreational facility, or improved trail system, expand a facility, provide better access to park or facilities, eliminate fragmented parcels for better management, address urgency to acquire due to landowner's needs, resolve visitor safety concerns, funding leverage with potential partnerships and bargain sale opportunity.

Then internal discussions determine which parcels should be included in the upcoming funding request for proposals (RFP) and parcels that match LCCMR RFP criteria. During a funding cycle, the identified funding proposal list may be revised due to failed negotiations or another priority parcel being identified.

When a parcel is identified for acquisition, the Park Manager discusses the priority ranking with the Regional Manager and/or the Acquisition Program Consultant. If they determine the site merits greater review and evaluation, the park manager is asked to fill out a Real Estate Action Proposal Form.

The Regional Parks and Trails Manager, Resource and Asset Management Manager, and Division Acquisition Program Consultant evaluates various factors and land attributes described on the Real Estate Action Proposal Form. They discuss what other priority acquisitions are available, the current funding availability, and then decide whether to present the new parcel to the Division Director.

The Division Director determines if staff proceeds with the acquisition. Depending on the funding availability and/or urgency of the acquisition, staff pursues the acquisition with current funds or the parcel is placed on our priority list for

future acquisitions as funding is available. The Commissioner of Natural Resources delegated authority to the Division Directors and Regional Directors to approve acquisitions when the land acquisition property is identified as a high priority based on system priority plans which meets the objectives and criteria identified in the master plan for each outdoor recreation unit. The proposed land acquisitions are reviewed, evaluated and approved within each region's respective spring SLAM meeting, which includes a representative from the Commissioner's office, to ensure proposed acquisitions meet and exceed program criteria and that proactive, effective communications occurs with local governmental agencies to enhance relationship building opportunities.

- 2. List all adopted state, regional, or local natural resource plans in which the lands included in the parcel list are identified. Include a link to the plan if one is available.**

http://files.dnr.state.mn.us/input/mgmtplans/parks/strategic/0212_pat_strategic_plan.pdf

- 3. For any parcels acquired in fee title, a restoration and management 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.**

The State Parks and Trails resource management staff is responsible for the restoration and management of the natural/undeveloped areas not planned for facilities. For restoration efforts like converting an old field to a prairie, bonding and Legacy funds are eligible and used. Legacy monies and other sources, such as general fund and the State Parks working capital fund are used for long-term maintenance of the communities once the site has been restored.

Any restoration needs will be determined in accordance with each state park and/or state trail master plan. Any additional operations, maintenance and/or restoration costs required to manage the additional land will be determined and taken into consideration during the next budget planning cycle. Additional costs are not anticipated to be a significant amount of increase, and will be absorb with existing staffing and within pre-existing Division restoration plans.

- 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.**

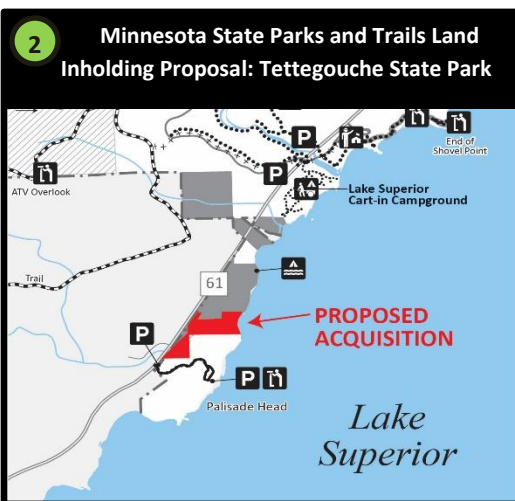
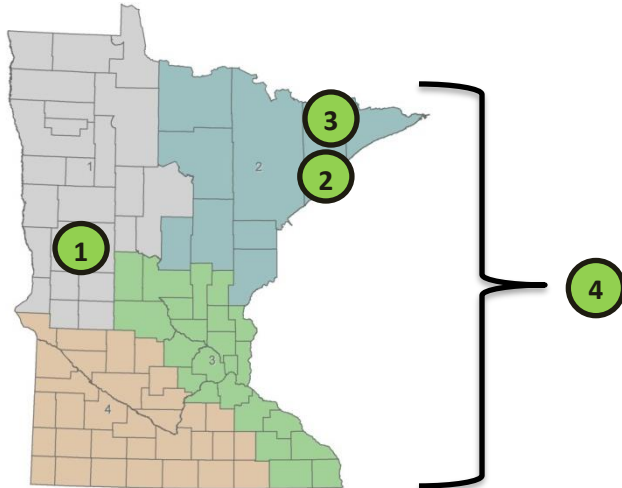
For State Park and State Trail land acquisitions, county board approval is not required, nor obtained. However, when legislation is proposed to change the statutory authorized boundary, an informational presentation to the county board is offered to respective county.

To enhance and maintain positive working relationships on mutually beneficial state park and state trail acquisitions, DNR follows Ops Order 6 procedures, which includes county notification communications and supporting verification.

- 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.**

Land acquisition projects selected for ENRTF funding are vetted and reviewed through MnDNR internal fact sheet acquisition approval process.

Minnesota State Parks and State Trails Inholding Proposal



Map #	Facility Name	County	Acres
1	Glendalough State Park	Otter Tail	155
2	Tettegouche State Park	Lake	18
3	Tettegouche State Park	Lake	146
4	State Trails-Top Priority Inholdings	Statewide	5

