



# Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)

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

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**Today's Date:** 08-21-19

**Date of Next Status Update Report:** April 1, 2021

**Date of Work Plan Approval:**

**Project Completion Date:** 06-30-2022

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

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**PROJECT TITLE:** Chippewa County Acquisition, Recreation and Education

**Project Manager:** Scott Williams

**Organization:** Chippewa County

**College, Department, or Division:** Land and Resource Management

**Mailing Address:** 629 N 11<sup>th</sup> ST

**City, State, Zip Code:** Montevideo, MN 56265

**Project Manager Direct Telephone Number:** 320-269-2653

**Email Address:** [swilliams@co.chippewa.mn.us](mailto:swilliams@co.chippewa.mn.us)

**Web Address:** [www.co.chippewa.mn.us](http://www.co.chippewa.mn.us)

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**Location:** Project is located in Chippewa County and will benefit Chippewa, Lac qui Parle and Yellow Medicine county residents as well as Southwest MN Regional visitors

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**Total Project Budget:** \$160,000

**Amount Spent:** \$0

**Balance:** \$160,000

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

**Appropriation Language:**

## **PROJECT STATEMENT:**

Chippewa County will acquire 51 acres of riverine wetland/floodplain forest complex, floodplain and abandoned gravel pits along the Minnesota River southwest of Montevideo. Following acquisition, Chippewa County and partners within the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MN DNR) will develop an implementation plan to protect and expand the ecological benefits the land has for the area's ecosystem. Lastly, portions of the land will be developed to provide recreational access and educational opportunities along the Minnesota River.

The 51 acres to be acquired, plus the adjacent 45 acres of tax forfeited land, provide multiple benefits to numerous native species of fish and wildlife, including nesting, spawning, feeding, resting, and winter cover. Public ownership of these two parcels would allow for active management of the habitats through partnerships with the MN DNR and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (US FWS). Habitat segmentation due to historical diking and abandoned roadways could be mitigated. Future management activities that restore more natural connectivity between the wetlands and the Minnesota River would be beneficial, especially for numerous native fish species that rely on riverine wetlands for numerous life history functions. A Minnesota's Natural Heritage Information (NHIS) review was completed on January 25, 2019. Within a one-mile radius of the proposed project area, there are 18 documented features including threatened mussel species (mucket, elktoe, spike and fluted-shell) and special concern species (Iowa skipper, creek heelsplitter, black sandshell and round pigtoe).

Both parcels provide water quality benefits to the Minnesota River by filtering water that flows through them. As cumulative impacts of upstream drainage continue to impact water quality in the Minnesota River, any amount of riverine wetlands that can be restored or protected will have cumulative impacts that will help mitigate the impacts of drainage. The filtering value of these wetlands could be enhanced by restoring more natural water pathways through them that have been disrupted by the abandoned roadways, resulting in additional water quality benefits.

These parcels also provide numerous opportunities for environmental learning studies relating to water quality, insects, fish and wildlife, to name just a few. The flow-through nature of the riverine wetland complex provides a unique opportunity to evaluate how wetlands filter nutrients and sediment from water. Water enters the upstream end of the wetland complex from the Minnesota River during high flow events and exits downstream, resulting in improved water quality.

## **II. OVERALL PROJECT STATUS UPDATES:**

**First Update April 1, 2021**

**Second Update October 1, 2021**

**Third Update April 1, 2022**

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

## **III. PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES:**

**Activity 1 Title: Land Acquisition**

**Description:**

This property also provides an important function of water filtration of upland runoff before it flows into the river. Preservation of these filter lands are crucial to improving water quality on the Minnesota River. A management plan will be developed considering the natural benefits of the area and to identify additional practices that could be implemented in the future.

Both of the properties to be acquired became available from willing sellers in an effort to continue the conservation practices currently on their land. Due to the proximity of these properties in relation to the tax forfeited properties adjacent to them, these pieces become part of a much bigger puzzle in the MN River valley.

**ENRTF BUDGET: \$85,000**

Outcome	Completion Date
1. Acquire two parcels of land totaling 51 Acres	December 31, 2020

**II. PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES**

**Activity 2 Title: Management Plan and Implementation**

**Description:**

Chippewa County will hire an expert or firm to study the property acquired and develop a long-term management plan to protect water quality and benefit the many species native to the specific area. Working with MN DNR Fisheries specialists from Ortonville, the plan will address water quality, spawning and nesting grounds and general ecological concerns. Based on the plan recommendations, projects will be implemented to address the goal.

Contracts for Plan development as well as implementation will be carried out following a competitive bid process.

**ENRTF BUDGET: \$ 60,000**

Outcome	Completion Date
1. Develop Plan to manage terrestrial and aquatic habitats to benefit natural heritage features in the area	August 2020 to June 2021
2. Implementation Projects	June 30, 2022

**Activity 3 Title: Recreation**

**Description:**

Chippewa County will, through a competitive bid process, award a contract to construct and install a 40' long fishing pier with a 30' long cross dock at the end. This pier will be handicapped accessible and will be installed by the County Highway Department.

Chippewa County will construct a parking area in the most upland portion of the acquired property. The parking area will have access from the adjacent township gravel road and provide space for

approximately 10 vehicles. Chippewa County will utilize existing funds in the County Park Reserve fund to pay for the parking lot along with in kind design work from the Chippewa County Highway Department.

**ENRTF BUDGET: \$15,000**

<b>Outcome</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>
1. Fishing Pier	June 30, 2022
2. Parking Area	June 30,2022

**First Update April 1, 2021**

**Second Update October 1, 2021**

**Third Update April 1, 2022**

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

**IV. DISSEMINATION:**

**Description:**

Chippewa County will share information about the acquisition project on its website located at [www.co.chippewa.mn.us](http://www.co.chippewa.mn.us) . We will also utilize local press for news stories, public meetings and general input from citizens.

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**

**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:** Chippewa County is proposing to purchase a fishing pier in the amount of \$15,000. This pier will give visitors recreational access to the property acquired through the ENRTF. The pier will be maintained by the county throughout its useful life and repaired as necessary.

**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:	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 – N/A
- B. Partners outside of project manager’s organization NOT receiving ENRTF funding:  
  
MN DNR Fisheries Ortonville; MN DNR Wildlife, Spicer; MN DNR Trails, Spicer; Chippewa County Commissioners, Chippewa County Park Board.

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

Chippewa County includes an allocation in its annual budget to support the county parks. Long term funding for this area and future development will come from budget allocations of the county and private donations made to the parks.

**VIII. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:**

**First Update April 1, 2021**

**Second Update October 1, 2021**

**Third Update April 1, 2022**

**Final Report between project end (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: Project Budget Spreadsheet**  
**Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund**  
**M.L. 2020 Budget Spreadsheet**



**Legal Citation:**

**Project Manager:** Scott Williams, Director Land & Resource Mgmt

**Project Title:** Chippewa County Acquisition, Recreation and Education.

**Organization:** Chippewa County

**Project Budget:** \$160,000

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

**Today's Date:** April 15, 2019

<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>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Professional/Technical/Service Contracts</b>			
Implementation - A contract will be awarded to implement conservation and restoration practices identified in the Management Plan. The contractor will be selected through a competitive bid process.	\$ 50,000	\$ -	\$ 50,000
Management Plan - A contract will be awarded to complete a management plan through a competitive bid process.	\$ 10,000	\$ -	\$ 10,000
<b>Equipment/Tools/Supplies</b>			
<b>Capital Expenditures Over \$5,000</b>			
<i>Fishing Pier</i>	\$ 15,000	\$ -	\$ 15,000
<b>Fee Title Acquisition</b>			
<i>Gibson Parcel and Halvorson Parcel 51 acres at \$1500 per acre</i>	\$ 75,000	\$ -	\$ 75,000
<b>Easement Acquisition</b>			
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Professional Services for Acquisition</b>			
<i>Closing/Attorney Fees/appraisal</i>	\$ 10,000	\$ -	\$ 10,000
<b>Printing</b>			
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Travel expenses in Minnesota</b>			
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Other</b>			

<b>COLUMN TOTAL</b>	\$ 160,000	\$ -	\$ 160,000
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<b>SOURCE AND USE OF 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> County Park Budget for Fishing Pier	Secured	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ 5,000
<b>Non-State:</b> County Park Budget Parking Area	Secured	\$ 10,000	\$ -	\$ 10,000
<b>State:</b>			\$ -	\$ -
<b>In kind:</b> County Land & Resource Mgmt Director time and overhead	Secured	\$ 10,000	\$ -	\$ 10,000
<b>In Kind:</b> County Highway Dept. Parking Area Construction	Secured	\$ 10,000	\$ -	\$ 10,000
<b>Other ENRTF APPROPRIATIONS AWARDED IN THE LAST SIX YEARS</b>	<b>Amount legally obligated but not yet spent</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Spent</b>	<b>Balance</b>
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

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



Legal Citation:  
 Project Manager:  
 Project Title:  
 Organization:  
 Project Budget:  
 Project Length and Completion Date:  
 Today's Date:

ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND BUDGET	Budget	Amount Spent	Balance
<b>BUDGET ITEM</b>			
<b>Personnel (Wages and Benefits)</b>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<p>List who is getting paid to do what and what is the % of full-time employment for each position. List out by position or position type—one row per position/position type. For each, provide details in this column on the inputs: i.e., number of people in the position/position type, estimated \$ allocation toward the position/position type, % dollars toward salary, % dollars toward benefits, time period for position/position type, and breakdown of FTE effort during the time period. Add rows as needed.</p> <p>The Personnel budget is intended to be tracked at an overall level with initial estimates of allocations for each position/position type listed in the details of this column.</p>	Provide \$ Total Personnel Budget Above	Leave Blank	Leave Blank
Example: Position/Position Type 1, \$ Amount (%salary %benefits), %FTE each year for # of years	Leave Blank	Leave Blank	Leave Blank
Example: Position/Position Type 2, \$ Amount (%salary %benefits), %FTE each year for # of years	Leave Blank	Leave Blank	Leave Blank
<b>Professional/Technical/Service Contracts</b>			
<p>List out proposed contracts. Be clear about with whom the contract is to be made and what services will be provided. If a specific contractor is not yet determined, specify the type of contractor sought. List out by contract types/categories - one row per type/category.</p> <p>State how contracts will be selected for example through RFP, competitive or quality based bids, or single-source. Provide additional justification as might be needed per the Guidelines On Allowable Expenses. Add rows as needed.</p>	Total Amount per Contract Type/Category		
Example 1: Contract with TBD to do XYZ will be selected through a competitive bid process.	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Example 2: Contract with Company ABC to do XYZ was selected through a competitive bid process or provide justification for single source contract.	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Equipment/Tools/Supplies</b>			
<p>List out general descriptions of item(s) or category of item/s and their purpose—one row per item(s)/category of item/s. Include estimated quantity of items or list of items in categories and costs for those items. Add rows as needed. If a single piece of equipment will exceed \$5,000, list it under "Capital Expenditures over \$5,000" instead.</p>	Total Amount per Item/s or Category		
Example: Item/s, # of items, \$ amount each if more than one.	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Examples Category: Field supplies such as list of items, # of items, \$ amount	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Capital Expenditures Over \$5,000</b>			
List specific item/s (one row per item). Include quantity and cost per item. Add rows as needed.	Total Amount for Item/s		
Example: Item/s, # of items, \$ amount each if more than one.	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Fee Title Acquisition</b>			
Indicate proposed number of acres, parcels, and name of organization or entity that will hold title.	Total Fee Title Cost		
Example: # of acres, 3 parcels, and name	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Easement Acquisition</b>			
Indicate proposed number of acres, parcels, and name of organization or entity that will hold title.	Total Easement Cost		

<i>Example: # of acres, 3 parcels, and name</i>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Professional Services for Acquisition</b>			
<i>List costs associated with fee title and easement acquisition transactions. Indicate expected number of transactions and average costs per transaction.</i>	<i>Total Acquisition Professional Services Costs</i>		
<i>Example: 3 appraisals at \$5,000 each for 3 transactions</i>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Printing</b>			
<i>List types of printing costs anticipated.</i>	<i>Total Printing Costs</i>		
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Travel expenses in Minnesota</b>			
<i>Provide a breakdown of the amount and type of travel expenses being requested. Generally, only in-state travel essential to completing project activities can be included. State as Commissioner's Plan or UMN Policy as required in Guidelines On Allowable Expenses.</i>	<i>Total Cost of Instate Travel</i>		
<i>Example: Travel to, for what, estimated # of trips, and estimated # miles in accordance with Commissioner's Plan or UMN Policy</i>			
<b>Other</b>			
<i>List any additional budget items that do not fit above categories. List by item(s) or category of item type(s). One row per item/s/category. Provide additional justification as might be needed per the Guidelines On Allowable Expenses. Add rows as needed.</i>	<i>Total Amount per Item/s or Category</i>		
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>COLUMN TOTAL</b>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

<b>SOURCE AND USE OF OTHER FUNDS CONTRIBUTED TO THE PROJECT</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Spent</b>	<b>Balance</b>
<b>Non-State:</b>				
<i>Indicate any additional non-state cash dollars secured or applied for to be spent on the project during the funding period and how those dollars will be used. Add rows for each source/request.</i>	Indicate Secured or Pending	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>State:</b>				
<i>Indicate any additional state cash dollars (e.g., bonding, other grants) secured or applied for to be spent on the project during the funding period and how those dollars will be used. Include legal citation, title, and dollar amount for state funds such as OHF and CWF. Add rows for each source/request.</i>	Indicate Secured or Pending	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>In kind:</b>				
<i>Indicate any in-kind service(s) or goods(s) secured or applied for to be spent on the project during the funding period. Add rows for each source/request.</i>	Indicate Secured or Pending	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Other ENRTF APPROPRIATIONS AWARDED IN THE LAST SIX YEARS</b>	<b>Amount legally obligated but not yet spent</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Spent</b>	<b>Balance</b>
<i>Include legal citation, title and dollar amount from any current ENRTF appropriation for any directly related project of the project manager or organization. Add rows for each appropriation.</i>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<i>Example: M.L. xxxx Chap. xx Sec. xx Subd. xxx</i>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

**Attachment C: Template**

**Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund**

**M.L. 2020 Acquisition/Restoration Parcel List Spreadsheet**

**Project Title:** Chippewa County Land Acquisition for Water Quality, Recreation and Education

**Legal Citation:** Staff will update the legal citation upon work plan approval by the LCCMR following the MN Legislative Session.

**Project Manager:** Scott Williams

**Organization:** Chippewa County

**College/Department/Division:**NA

**M.L. 2020 ENRTF Appropriation:** \$ Fill in your appropriation amount (this is the amount recommended for funding by LCCMR)

**Project Length and Completion Date:** 2 years

**Today's Date:** March 12, 2019



*Instructions: Please include on the following list all targeted parcels that you are currently considering for acquisition (fee title or easement) or restoration (all phases) using the appropriation. The list may include more parcels than you will ultimately acquire or conduct restoration work on with the funds. To be eligible as part of your project, however, a parcel must be included on the list. Changes may be requested through the amendment process. Please update the status column and submit with your periodic workplan updates. Include any significant issues related to any particular parcel in your activity and project status sections of your Main Workplan Document.*

#	Acquisition or Restoration Parcel Name	Geographic Coordinates (preferably from the center of the parcel) Format: [Deg.]° [Min.]' [Sec.]" [Hemis.]		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 (e.g. fee title acquisition, conservation easement acquisition, site preparation, restoration)	# of Acres	# of Shoreline Miles	Type of Landowner (private individual or trust, non-profit organization, for-profit entity)	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	Gibson 40	44.90714	-95.69923	\$ 60,000	\$ -	Chippewa	riverine wetland, forested wetland	fee title	40		Private	County	engaged with landowner
2	Halverson	44.9047	-95.69879	\$ 16,500	\$ -	Chippewa	riverine wetland, forested wetland	fee title	11		private	County	engaged with landowner
3													
4													
5													
6													
7													
8													
9													
10													

**NOTES:**

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

### Acquisition/Restoration Information:

#### 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 landowners of these two parcels contacted the county inquiring as to our interest in purchasing these properties. Following conversations with the DNR, it became apparent that this property could have significant impact on the area and that county ownership and protection would be a positive goal.

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.
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.
  - a. Components and Outcomes –
    - i. US Highway 212 crossed through these parcels at one time. Because road was abandoned and not removed, the old road bed remains on the easterly boundary of the properties. Removal of the road bed will allow the natural flow of water to be restored providing positive impacts on water quality and retention. A management plan will be developed by hiring a qualified contractor to study the area and come up with conclusions that can be implemented to accomplish this goal. A competitive bid process will be utilized to hire a qualified individual/firm.
  - b. Record Keeping – All records will be kept by the Chippewa County Land & Resource Mgmt. Director. The management of the property will become part of the annual work plan of the dept. and will be subject to all Chippewa County plans and procedures.
  - c. Long Term Implementation – Activities on this property will maintain the natural and original character of the area. While some improvements in accessibility will be completed, minimizing impact will be the front and foremost goal.
  - d. Long Term O & M – Long term and continuing expenses will be budgeted by the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners. The property will likely be designated as a new county park once title is acquired.
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.

The ownership of this property will be retained by Chippewa County. The County will hold title to this land for perpetuity.

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.

Chippewa County will seek out the written approval from the DNR Commissioner 10 days prior to any final acquisition.

# Chippewa Acquisition, Recreation and Education

