## **Final Abstract**

#### Final Report Approved on March 28, 2025

#### M.L. 2021 Project Abstract

For the Period Ending June 30, 2024

Project Title: Moose and Seven Beaver Multiuse Trails Upgrade

Project Manager: Becky Lammi

Affiliation: City of Hoyt Lakes

Mailing Address: 206 Kennedy Memorial Drive

City/State/Zip: Hoyt Lakes, MN 55750

Phone: (218) 225-2344

E-mail: blammi@hoytlakes.com

Website: www.hoytlakes.com

**Funding Source:** 

**Fiscal Year:** 

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

**Appropriation Amount:** \$900,000

**Amount Spent:** \$847,147

**Amount Remaining:** \$52,853

#### **Sound bite of Project Outcomes and Results**

This project upgraded and extended 6.4 miles of the Moose and Seven Beavers Multi-use Trails, enhancing outdoor recreation and connecting trail systems in northern Minnesota. It improved accessibility for a variety of users while preserving the area's natural resources, wildlife habitats, and scenic attractions in the Superior National Forest.

#### **Overall Project Outcome and Results**

The City of Hoyt Lakes, in partnership with the Ranger Snowmobile/ATV Club, worked to upgrade and extend the Moose and Seven Beavers Multi-use Trails, located in northern Minnesota. These improvements made the trails more accessible to a variety of users, including ATVs, snowmobiles, hikers, and campers, while connecting them to other regional trail systems.

The project included replacing culverts, widening and grading the trail, and repairing bridges. It also included preserving wildlife habitats and scenic areas, particularly in the Superior National Forest, home to diverse species like moose, deer, wolves, and eagles. The project consisted of approximately 6.4 miles of ATV Trail construction between the City of Hoyt Lakes and Skibo and the construction and installation of a bridge over the St. Louis River. The scope of construction

included tree removal, aggregate surfacing, 10 culverts of various sizes, and 7 gates.

Now completed, the project offers enhanced recreation opportunities, improved access to natural attractions, and helped protect the region's unique environmental resources by minimizing disturbances during construction. The project's success has fostered better connections to hundreds of miles of existing trails, benefiting both local residents and visitors from around the country.

### **Project Results Use and Dissemination**

Signage has been posted at the trail outlining the contributions of ENRTF dollars, as well as the logo. Signage also states "funding for this project was provided by the Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund as recommended by the Legislative-Citizens Commission on Minnesota Resources." A photo has been uploaded to attachments. The Ranger Club met with the City regularly regarding the status of the project.



## **Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund**

M.L. 2021 Approved Final Report

#### **General Information**

Date: March 31, 2025

**ID Number:** 2021-332

Staff Lead: Mike Campana

**Project Title:** Moose and Seven Beaver Multiuse Trails Upgrade

Project Budget: \$900,000

#### **Project Manager Information**

Name: Becky Lammi

**Organization:** City of Hoyt Lakes

Office Telephone: (218) 225-2344

Email: blammi@hoytlakes.com

Web Address: www.hoytlakes.com

#### **Project Reporting**

Final Report Approved: March 28, 2025

**Reporting Status: Project Completed** 

Date of Last Action: March 28, 2025

Project Completion: June 30, 2024

## **Legal Information**

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

**Appropriation Language:** \$900,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Hoyt Lakes, in partnership with the Ranger Snowmobile and ATV Club, to design and construct upgrades and extensions to the Moose and Seven Beaver multiuse trails to enhance access for recreation use and connect to regional trails.

Appropriation End Date: June 30, 2024

#### **Narrative**

**Project Summary:** The City of Hoyt Lakes and the Ranger ATV and Snowmobile Club will be improving the Moose and Seven Bears Trails and extending the trails to connect to regional trails.

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

The City of Hoyt Lakes, in partnership with the Ranger Snowmobile/ATV Club are currently upgrading and extending the Moose and Seven Beavers Multi-use Trails. Improvements on the Moose Trail will be undertaken on the section of trail from Biwabik to Skibo where it connects to the Seven Beavers Trail which continues on to Highway 2 just north of Two Harbors (See Attached Visual). Improvements are needed in order to make the trails more accessible to a wide variety of users and to allow these trails to connect with existing trails in northern Minnesota. The Moose Trail, from Biwabik to Skibo, is approximately 23 miles and the Seven Beavers Trail from Skibo to Highway 2 is also about 23 miles. Upgrading and extending these trails will allow for the connection that will provide user access to hundreds of miles of existing trails. The completion of this project will allow the City of Hoyt Lakes and the Ranger Club to connect with trail systems owned and operated by other clubs including Prospector Club, Voyageur Club, Quad City Club and Northtrax Club. Ranger Trails will need additional culverts, granular fill, widening, grading, realignment, bridge repair and trail extensions.

# 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.

The City of Hoyt Lakes, in cooperation with the Ranger Club, is applying to the LCCMR for funds to complete the design and construction tasks needed to complete the upgrade and extensions on the Moose and Seven Beavers Multi-use Trails. LCCMR funds will be used to place new culverts and replace existing deteriorated culverts, brushing, fill, permitting, grading and trail extension on the Moose Trail between Biwabik and Skibo. Improvements on the Seven Beavers Trail consist of replacing the existing bridge over the St. Louis River and the construction of a new bridge over the Round Lake Creek just south of Round Lake (See Attached Visual). These multi-use trails will be used by ATVs, snowmobiles, hikers, campers, snowshoeing, bird watchers and hunters. A large portion of these trails are located in the Superior National Park and are the only access to many attractions in the forest.

# 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 completion of this project will provide enhanced outdoor recreation opportunities for local residents and for tourists visiting from other parts of the state and from around the country. Visitors will experience the uniqueness of the great north woods and will have an opportunity to see a wide variety of wildlife including, moose, deer, wolves, eagles, fox and numerous species of birds. The trail will also allow users to access lakes, rivers and geological attractions that can not be currently accessed by cars and trucks. Work on these trails will be done using techniques that limit disturbances of current resources.

## **Project Location**

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

Region(s): NE

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: Project Engineering Design and Construction Administration

**Activity Budget:** \$150,000

#### **Activity Description:**

The project engineer will be responsible for trail design, project administration, construction administration, plans/specifications, bidding documents, survey, onsite observation, public meeting, permitting, bridge design, staking and material testing.

#### **Activity Milestones:**

Description	Approximate
	<b>Completion Date</b>
Project Design Started	August 31, 2021
Project Design Completed	November 30, 2021
Construction Engineering/Administration	June 30, 2024

#### **Activity 2: Project Construction**

Activity Budget: \$750,000

#### **Activity Description:**

Project Construction activities include culvert replacement, new culverts, bridge construction, grubbing, clearing, fill, trail realignment and extension and compliance will all plans/specifications/regulations.

#### **Activity Milestones:**

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Project Bids Awarded	May 31, 2022
Construction Start	June 30, 2022
Construction/Project Completion	June 30, 2024

#### **Project Partners and Collaborators**

Name	Organization	Role	Receiving Funds
Roy Beauregard	Ranger Snowmobile/ATV Club	Project Management and Trail Administrator	No
Eric Fallstrom	St. Louis County	Project Oversight	No
Brad Dekkers	DNR	Funding Agency and Project Development	No
U.S. Forest Service (Superior National Forest) Staff	U.S. Forest Service (Superior National Park)	Project Advisors	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. The City has regular project meetings. Documentation of these meetings are developed in the form of meeting minutes that are presented and approved by the City Council. All council meetings are public and reports discussed are available to the general public.

The Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) will be acknowledged through use of the trust fund logo or attribution language on project print and electronic media, publications, signage, and other communications per the ENRTF Acknowledgement Guidelines.

## 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 City of Hoyt Lakes and the Ranger Club will be responsible for all of the operation and maintenance cost associated with these trails. Both of these entities are committed to maintain and improve the trails for the next twenty years. Funds will be budgeted by the city and the club on an annual basis and the city and club will be responsible for evaluating the trail conditions and monitoring access and safety issues related to the trail. The City and Club have been very successful in securing funds for many years and will continue for all future trail needs.

## **Budget Summary**

Category / Name	Subcategory or Type	Description	Purpose	Gen. Ineli gible	% Bene fits	# FTE	Class ified Staff?	\$ Amount	\$ Amount Spent	\$ Amount Remaining
Personnel							Cub			
							Sub Total	-	-	-
Contracts and Services										
Short Elliott Hendrickson, Inc.	Professional or Technical Service Contract	The Engineering Firm Will Be Responsible For Project Design and Construction Administration				14		\$145,518	\$145,518	-
ConTech Engineered Solutions, LLC	Professional or Technical Service Contract	Bridge Construction for St. Louis River				0		\$75,235	\$75,235	-
Low Impact Excavators	Professional or Technical Service Contract	Professional work installing pre-built bridge.				0.4		\$52,853	-	\$52,853
Jola and Sopp	Professional or Technical Service Contract	Clearing, grubbing, stabilizing aggregate and soil, excavation, installing culverts, installing vehicle gate, trail surfacing				1		\$626,394	\$626,394	-
							Sub Total	\$900,000	\$847,147	\$52,853
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	\$900,000	\$847,147	\$52,853
				Total			

## Classified Staff or Generally Ineligible Expenses

Ī	Category/Name	Subcategory or	Description	Justification Ineligible Expense or Classified Staff Request
		Туре		

## Non ENRTF Funds

Category	Specific Source	Use	Status	\$ Amount	\$ Amount Spent	\$ Amount Remaining
State						
			State	-	-	-
			Sub			
			Total			
Non-						
State						
Cash	Local Funds	Design and Construction	Pending	\$300,000	\$5,828	\$294,172
Cash	Northern St. Louis County Trails Task Force	Purchase decking and supplies to finish construction of new bridge for Round Creek on Seen Beavers Trail. The beams were donated from another snowmobile club and the pre-formed cement bases were donated by the MN DNR.	Secured	\$6,320	-	\$6,320
			Non State Sub Total	\$306,320	\$5,828	\$300,492
			Funds Total	\$306,320	\$5,828	\$300,492

#### **Attachments**

#### **Required Attachments**

#### Visual Component

File: <u>185ca446-e9f.pdf</u>

#### Alternate Text for Visual Component

The Visual Shows The Location/Routes Of Trails And Bridge Locations...

#### Financial Capacity

File: 94b03390-526.pdf

#### Board Resolution or Letter

Title	File
Resolution	<u>e2e006e0-b2f.pdf</u>

## **Supplemental Attachments**

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

Title	File
Support Letter	<u>d2615c42-48a.pdf</u>
Background Check Certification Form	<u>ecf06a8d-38e.pdf</u>
Bridge Photo1	<u>5c860fd6-571.jpe</u>
Bridge Photo2	baab61f1-039.jpe
Bridge Photo3	<u>2f10067f-de1.jpe</u>
Bridge Photo4	d53f9b0b-9ff.jpe
Sign at Trail	<u>900c9e91-78d.jpe</u>
Original Map of Proposed Work	<u>a0ec85f2-83f.pdf</u>

## Difference between Proposal and Work Plan

#### Describe changes from Proposal to Work Plan Stage

Overall budget is changed to reflect a \$900,000 award. Activity 1 & 2 dollar amounts have been changed to reflect the new award. Additional Non ENRTF Funds have been included. Changes have been made as requested in the comments and revisions section.

## 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 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	Budget - Professional / Technical	Updated engineering firm to Short Elliot	January	Yes	January
	Request	Contracts	Hendrickson as selected for the project.	24, 2023		24, 2023
		Budget - Non-ENRTF Funds Contributed	Added field for St. Louis River bridge			
			construction firm, ConTech. Updated			
			amount under general contractor to			
			reduce balance for ConTech being added.			
2	Amendment	Other	Added field and cost estimates for St. Louis	June 29,	Yes	June 30,
	Request	<ul> <li>Budget - Professional / Technical</li> </ul>	River bridge installation firm, Low Impact	2023		2023
		Contracts	Excavations. Reduced estimated amount			
			under general contractor to reduce			
			balance for Low Impact Excavations being			
			added.			
3	Amendment	Attachments	Uploaded photographs of completed	January 9,	Yes	January
	Request		bridge across St. Louis River. Photos	2024		10, 2024
			include UTV use of bridge, angles			
			immediately after installation, and photos			
			of after the area first snowfall. Four			
			photographs in total were uploaded.			
4	Amendment	• Other	Updated contractor names, contractor	February	Yes	February
	Request	Budget - Professional / Technical	amounts for Ranger ATV and Snowmobile	3, 2025		6, 2025
		Contracts	project for final report. Jola and Sopp			
		Budget - Non-ENRTF Funds Contributed	completed the culvert installation and			
		Attachments	trail creation work from February 2024			
			through June 2024.			

#### Final Status Update August 14, 2024

Date Submitted: February 3, 2025

Date Approved: February 6, 2025

#### **Overall Update**

The bridge over the St. Louis River has been constructed and installed; it is complete. Trailwork has been bid and awarded to Jola and Sopp. The trailwork was competed prior to June 30, 2024.

#### **Activity 1**

SEH completed bridge portion of their contract. The Moose Trail, Bird Lake ATV Trail Segment was awarded to Jola and Sopp and was completed by June 30, 2024. SEH has overseen the construction phase of the project. (This activity marked as complete as of this status update)

#### **Activity 2**

The bridge is complete and installed. The US Forest Service closed the ski trails in the area so construction could take place. The project consisted of approximately 6.4 miles of ATV Trail construction between the City of Hoyt Lakes and Skibo. The scope of construction included tree removal, aggregate surfacing, 10 culverts of various sizes, and 7 gates. Construction has been completed and the final pay request from the contractor has been paid by the City. (This activity marked as complete as of this status update)

#### Dissemination

The City Council received regular updates regarding the project. The Ranger Club, SEH, and City Administrator met regularly to discuss the project and progress. Placement of ENRTF signs has been completed and the project is considered finished.

#### Status Update December 1, 2023

Date Submitted: January 9, 2024

Date Approved: January 10, 2024

#### **Overall Update**

The bridge over the St. Louis River has been constructed and installed; it is complete. Trailwork is set to be bid out for constructing beginning prior to spring of 2024. Photographs were uploaded of completed bridge across St. Louis River. Photos include UTV use of bridge, angles immediately after installation, and photos of after the area first snowfall. Four photographs in total were uploaded.

#### **Activity 1**

SEH completed bridge portion of their contract. The Moose Trail, Bird Lake ATV Trail Segment will advertise for bids in late December 2023. Bids open in January 2024 with a construction completion date of June 30, 2024. The project consists of approximately 6.4 miles of ATV Trail construction between the City of Hoyt Lakes and Skibo. The scope of construction includes tree removal, aggregate surfacing, 10 culverts of various sizes, and 7 gates. SEH engineering services are 80% invoiced through the month of September.

#### **Activity 2**

The bridge is complete and installed. Trail improvements including culverts, brushing, fill, and grading will be going out for bids within the next week. Bid opening will be in January 2024. The US Forest Service has granted permission to close the ski trails in the area so construction work can begin prior to the end of winter. The anticipated end date for the project is 06/30/2024.

#### Dissemination

The City Council continues to receive regular updates regarding the project. The Ranger Club, SEH, and City Administrator meet regularly to discuss the project and progress. Placement of ENRTF signs is part of construction services being bid out for the Spring of 2024.

#### Status Update June 1, 2023

Date Submitted: June 29, 2023

Date Approved: June 30, 2023

#### **Overall Update**

The final payment for the St. Louis River Bridge is in processing and the bridge is scheduled for delivery the last week of July 2023. Bridge installation quotes were solicited in the spring of 2023. Three quotes were received, and the construction contract was awarded to Low Impact Excavators. The construction is scheduled to stark the last week of July with a completion date of August 31, 2023.

#### **Activity 1**

SEH completed the quote documents for the St Louis River Bridge installation in the spring of 2023 and the project was solicitated for quotes. Three quotes were received, and the construction contract was awarded to Low Impact Excavators. There will be a preconstruction meeting in late June or early July with the contractor prior to starting work. SEH engineering services are 44% invoiced through the month of April.

#### **Activity 2**

The St Louis River Bridge was under fabrication during the winter/spring of 2023. The 100% payment invoice for the bridge was submitted by Contech on May 31, 2023. Bridge delivery is scheduled for the last week of July 2023, with installation taking place prior to September 1, 2023. Trail improvements including culverts, brushing, fill, and grading are still under design, with construction anticipated in late fall of 2023.

#### Dissemination

The City Council continues to receive regular updates regarding the project. The Ranger Club, SEH, and City Administrator meet regularly to discuss the project and progress.

#### Status Update December 1, 2022

Date Submitted: January 24, 2023

Date Approved: January 24, 2023

#### **Overall Update**

The down payment for the St. Louis River bridge has been submitted to the City of Hoyt Lakes and paid. The bridge design and review has been completed, with construction beginning in 2023. Quote documents for construction will be solicited in early winter of 2023. The bridge over Round Creek has been completed previously and we will not be seeking reimbursement from LCCMR for that portion of the project.

#### **Activity 1**

SEH will be completing quote documents for contractor installation in the early winter of 2023. The solicitation for quotes and St. Louis River bridge installation contractor will be selected by late winter or early spring 2023. Bridge installation is scheduled for the late summer or early fall of 2023. We have issued payment on approximately 11% of the design and engineering of the project.

#### **Activity 2**

Quotes for bridge materials were received for the bridge over the St. Louis River. Contech was selected and the bridge has been ordered. Bridge design is complete and the NEPA review has been completed by the USFS. The bridge will not be fabricated and available until Summer of 2023. We have issued payment for 33% of the bridge (down payment).

#### Dissemination

The City Council continues to receive regular updates regarding the project. The Ranger Club, SEH, and City Administrator meet regularly to discuss the project and progress.

### Status Update June 1, 2022

Date Submitted: July 12, 2022

Date Approved: July 21, 2022

#### **Overall Update**

The Ranger ATV Club has completed the permitting process for the replacement of the St. Louis River bridge (7 Beavers Bridge) and received permit approval from the MN DNR. A bridge design has been approved by agency reviewers. Ranger has ordered the 60-ft long, 20-ft wide bridge from ConTech.

#### **Activity 1**

SEH (consulting engineering firm) is contracted to develop bidding documents for the bridge installation. SEH is under contract for design and bidding documents upgrades to a portion of trail east of Hoyt Lakes roughly parallel to Forest Hwy 11. This design work is expected late summer of 2022. This segment of trail is currently in NEPA review by the USFS.

#### **Activity 2**

The Ranger ATV & Snowmobile Club has engaged a company to assemble the bridge; construction is ongoing. The bridge installation is planned advertise for bids in late 2022/early 2023. We expect the bridge to be installed in spring 2023, later than the original grant schedule due to delays in materials/shipment of the bridge.

#### Dissemination

The Ranger ATV & Snowmobile Club and City Staff meet regularly to discuss the project. When items are up for consideration, the City Council takes actionable steps to forward progress the project.