



Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

M.L. 2022 Approved Work Plan

General Information

ID Number: 2022-304

Staff Lead: Michael Varien

Date this document submitted to LCCMR: August 12, 2022

Project Title: Pig's Eye Landfill Task Force

Project Budget: \$800,000

Project Manager Information

Name: Paul Pestano

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Project Reporting

Date Work Plan Approved by LCCMR: August 16, 2022

Reporting Schedule: March 1 / September 1 of each year.

Project Completion: June 30, 2026

Final Report Due Date: August 14, 2026

Legal Information

Legal Citation: M.L. 2022, Chp. 94, Sec. 2, Subd. 10j

Appropriation Language: \$800,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of the Pollution Control Agency to establish a Pig's Eye Landfill Task Force to coordinate efforts to remediate and restore the Pig's Eye Landfill Superfund site and address perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) contamination of Battle Creek, Pig's Eye Lake, and nearby groundwater. The task force must be made up of at least the commissioner of the Pollution Control Agency, the commissioner of natural resources, the commissioner of health, a representative from the Metropolitan Council, a representative from the city of St. Paul, a representative from the city of South St. Paul, a representative from the city of Newport, a representative from Ramsey County, a representative from Dakota County, a representative from

Washington County, and representatives from relevant federal agencies. The task force is subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 15.059, subdivision 6. The task force must submit an annual report to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees and divisions with jurisdiction over the environment and natural resources on the status of the task force's work. The final report is due February 15, 2026. The task force expires June 30, 2026. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2026.

Appropriation End Date: June 30, 2026

Narrative

Project Summary: Establish a task force to coordinate efforts to remediate and restore Pig's Eye Dump Superfund site and address PFAS contamination of Battle Creek, Pig's Eye Lake, and nearby groundwater.

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

Pig's Eye Dump is a closed disposal site with over 8 million cubic yards of municipal, commercial, industrial, and wastewater treatment incinerator ash waste over 200 acres. It is the largest unpermitted dump in Minnesota. The MPCA has authority to conduct investigations and remedial activities at the site and has done so over the last several decades, including cleanup of hazardous waste and contaminated soil and the installation of a soil cap over the waste footprint. The MPCA's current investigations around the site include: monitoring for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and 1,4-dioxane in ground- and surface water; metals and PFAS in sediment; and, landfill gas.

The Pig's Eye Dump property is owned by the City of St. Paul and the surrounding properties are owned by Ramsey County, the Metropolitan Council, and Canadian Pacific Rail. The surrounding areas consist of several communities, businesses, and natural resources for wildlife and recreational use. To date, the stakeholders have been planning future uses of the property to accomplish their objectives and authorities. The stakeholders have been coordinating the plans for site improvements; however, there is not one comprehensive plan that incorporates all the stakeholders' objectives to restore and remediate the site.

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 MPCA will establish a task force to coordinate efforts of the various stakeholders to remediate and restore the Pig's Eye Dump property and address PFAS contamination of groundwater flowing to the south portion of Battle Creek and eventually Pig's Eye Lake. The Pig's Eye Task Force will be made up of at least the following or their delegates: the commissioners of the MPCA, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR), and the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH); the Metropolitan Council (MetCouncil); the cities of St. Paul, South St. Paul, and Newport; the counties of Ramsey, Dakota, Washington; and, relevant federal agencies.

The task force will collaborate to plan the future work to: remediate the site to protect human health and the environment; incorporate the restoration of natural resources; and, optimize recreational opportunities. The plan will incorporate the differing stakeholders' objectives/authorities into a cohesive report to the legislature.

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 outcome of the project is a transparent and coordinated effort to develop a plan that will summarize: the history of Pig's Eye Dump, including cleanup efforts and impacts; outline additional remedial action options; itemize restoration activities or projects to be considered; identify infrastructure needs and potential funding sources; and, recommend legislative actions, if needed. The coordinated plan will provide for the protection of human health and the environment while balancing desires to restore the property for recreational and natural resource purposes.

Project Location

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

County(s): Dakota, Ramsey, Washington,

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

County(s): Dakota, Ramsey, Washington,

When will the work impact occur?

During the Project and In the Future

Activities and Milestones

Activity 1: Hire the Pig's Eye Task Force coordinator

Activity Budget: \$1

Activity Description:

The MPCA will hire a temporary, unclassified full-time employee (FTE) who will coordinate and manage the task force activities. The hiring process will include creating the vacancy packet, posting the position on the State of Minnesota careers website, interviewing and evaluating candidates, seeking approval from MPCA leadership to extend an offer, and hiring the finalist. Once the position is filled, the incumbent will be trained and onboarded, and at the completion of onboarding, will establish and commence the task force activities.

The activity budget is \$1 because this is a foundational activity for the subsequent activities in this work plan. The MPCA intends to perform this activity as an in-kind service.

Activity Milestones:

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Publish job posting to the State of Minnesota careers website	October 31, 2022
Conduct interviews	November 30, 2022
Hire finalist	December 31, 2022
Train and onboard incumbent	January 31, 2023
Initiate task force activities	January 31, 2023

Activity 2: Establish the Pig's Eye Task Force and convene regular meetings

Activity Budget: \$406,999

Activity Description:

The MPCA will coordinate with the DNR, MDH, MetCouncil, city of St. Paul, city of South St. Paul, city of Newport, Ramsey County, Dakota County, Washington County, and relevant federal agencies (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Army Corps of Engineers, etc.) to select representatives for the Pig's Eye Task Force. Once the representatives have been selected, the MPCA will schedule, prepare for, and hold the kick-off meeting to introduce the project, establish task force goals and deliverables, set the project timeline, define roles and responsibilities, and share the communication plan.

The MPCA will schedule, prepare for, and hold all subsequent meetings. The fiscal year 2023 meetings will be scheduled upon completion of the kick-off meeting. The meetings for fiscal years 2024, 2025, and 2026 will be scheduled at least six months prior to the start of the respective fiscal year.

Once a year, the task force will prepare and submit an annual report to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees and divisions with jurisdiction over the environment and natural resources on the status of the task force's work.

The activity budget covers the FTE cost and any contracting services needed to prepare for task force meetings.

Activity Milestones:

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Contact federal, state, and local entities	February 28, 2023

Federal, state, and local entities select task force representatives	February 28, 2023
Hold task force kick-off meeting to establish goals, deliverables, timelines, roles, etc.	March 31, 2023
Submit FY2023 annual report to the legislature	March 31, 2023
Submit FY2024 annual report to the legislature	March 31, 2024
Submit FY2024 annual report to the legislature	March 31, 2025
Schedule, prepare, and hold FY2023, FY2024, FY2025, and FY2026 task force meetings	June 30, 2026

Activity 3: Task Force final report to the legislature

Activity Budget: \$393,000

Activity Description:

The task force will submit a final report by February 25, 2026. The report will include the plan that incorporates the stakeholders’ objectives and authorities and detail the following future work: remediate the site to protect human health and the environment; incorporate the restoration of natural resources; and, optimize recreational opportunities.

The activity budget covers contracting services required to prepare the report, as well as any work contributed by the task force coordinator FTE.

Activity Milestones:

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Compile history of the Pig’s Eye Dump site	September 30, 2023
Outline remedial action options	October 31, 2025
Itemize restoration activities or projects to be considered	October 31, 2025
Identify infrastructure needs and potential funding sources	October 31, 2025
Recommend necessary legislative actions	October 31, 2025
Task force reviews and approves final report	January 31, 2026
Submit final report to the legislature	February 28, 2026

Project Partners and Collaborators

Name	Organization	Role	Receiving Funds
TBD	Minnesota Department of Natural Resources	TBD	No
TBD	Minnesota Department of Health	TBD	No
TBD	Metropolitan Council	TBD	No
TBD	City of St. Paul	TBD	No
TBD	City of South St. Paul	TBD	No
TBD	City of Newport	TBD	No
TBD	Ramsey County	TBD	No
TBD	Dakota County	TBD	No
TBD	Washington County	TBD	No
TBD	US Army Corps of Engineers	TBD	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.

Sharing the results of the task force will be in the form of annual reports and a final report that will be published on the MPCA website and will be a working document that will guide future remediation and restoration in the Pigs Eye area. It is also likely that other task force members will publicize the work of the task force including the final report. All reports will follow the ENRTF Acknowledgement Requirements and Guidelines. The requirements and guidelines will be communicated to all task force members.

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?

One of the outcomes of the Pig's Eye Task Force work is identifying potential funding sources and legislative action, if necessary, to continue the remediation and restoration of the Pig's Eye site in a coordinated manner. Remedial investigations and activities for the Pig's Eye Dump, which are managed by the MPCA, will be funded through the Minnesota Landfill Contingency Action Trust (MLCAT) account while funds are available.

Budget Summary

Category / Name	Subcategory or Type	Description	Purpose	Gen. Ineligible	% Benefits	# FTE	Classified Staff?	\$ Amount
Personnel								
Pig's Eye Task Force Coordinator		Will coordinate, facilitate, and manage task force activities. Will coordinate the development of the legislative annual and final reports.			34%	3		\$415,000
							Sub Total	\$415,000
Contracts and Services								
TBD	Professional or Technical Service Contract	Assist with facilitation and legislative reporting tasks. Will also assist with developing the final report due to the legislature.				0		\$385,000
							Sub Total	\$385,000
Equipment, Tools, and Supplies								
							Sub Total	-
Capital Expenditures								
							Sub Total	-
Acquisitions and Stewardship								
							Sub Total	-
Travel In Minnesota								
							Sub Total	-
Travel Outside Minnesota								
							Sub Total	-

Printing and Publication								
							Sub Total	-
Other Expenses								
							Sub Total	-
							Grand Total	\$800,000

Classified Staff or Generally Ineligible Expenses

Category/Name	Subcategory or Type	Description	Justification Ineligible Expense or Classified Staff Request
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Non ENRTF Funds

Category	Specific Source	Use	Status	\$ Amount
State				
			State Sub Total	-
Non-State				
			Non State Sub Total	-
			Funds Total	-

Attachments

Required Attachments

Visual Component

File: [1a1be906-568.pdf](#)

Alternate Text for Visual Component

Map of the Pig's Eye Landfill with neighboring properties and natural areas, such as the Metropolitan Council facility, the Canadian Pacific Railway property, the US Army Corps of Engineers project, Battle Creek, Pig's Eye Lake, Mississippi River, and Pigs Eye Island Heron Rookery Scientific and Natural Area....

Optional Attachments

Support Letter or Other

Title	File
Pigs Eye Map 2: showing city and county boundaries	91244d37-768.pdf

Difference between Proposal and Work Plan

Describe changes from Proposal to Work Plan Stage

Not applicable

Additional Acknowledgements and Conditions:

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

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

N/A

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

N/A

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

No

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

N/A

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

N/A

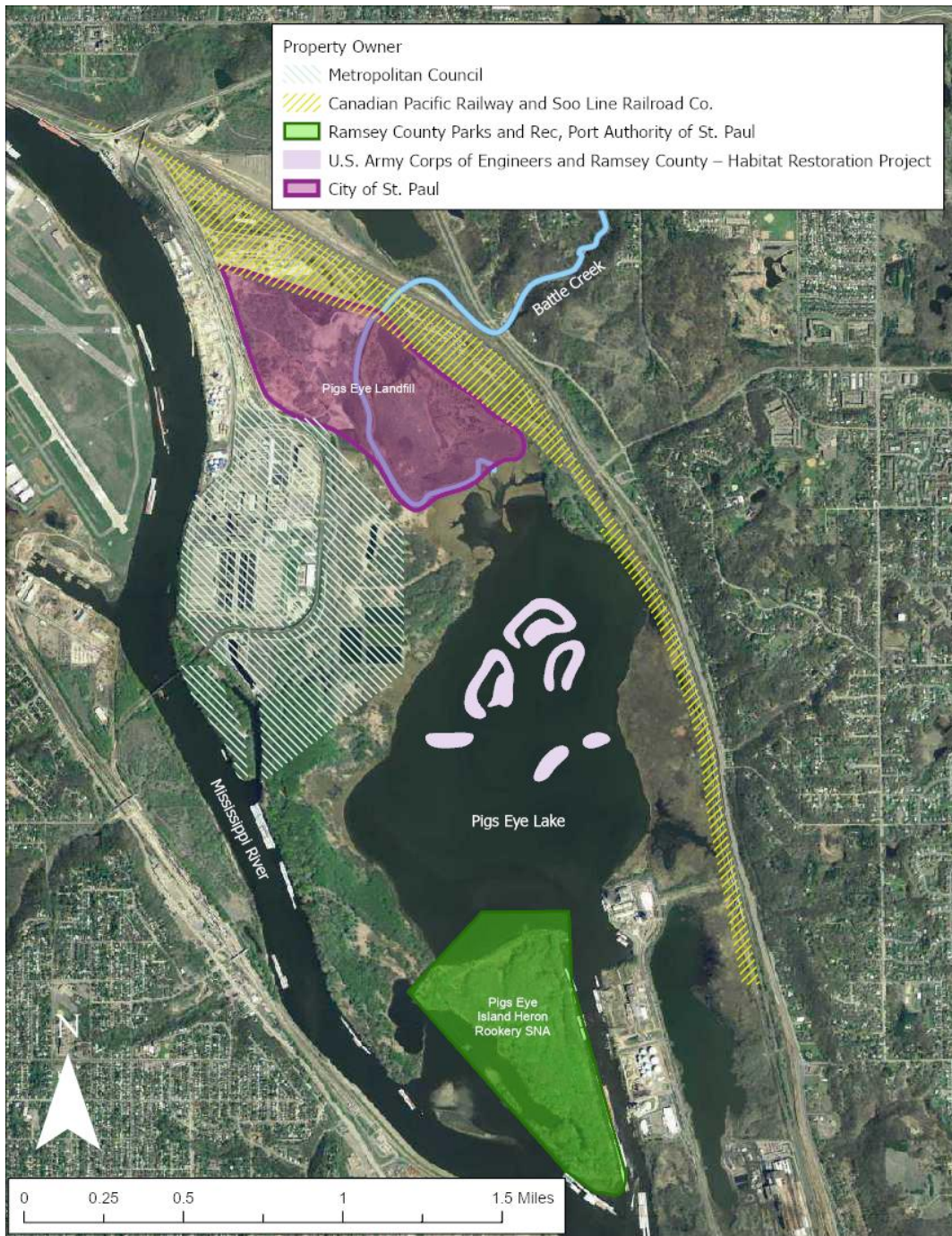
Does your project include original, hypothesis-driven research?

No

Does the organization have a fiscal agent for this project?

No

Pig's Eye Landfill with neighboring properties and natural areas



Data: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Minnesota Geospatial Information Office, United States Army Corps of Engineers