

Final Abstract

Final Report Approved on July 22, 2026

M.L. 2022 Project Abstract

For the Period Ending June 30, 2025

Project Title: Minnesota State Parks and State Trails Maintenance and Development

Project Manager: Stacy Smith

Affiliation: MN DNR - State Parks and Trails Division

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

Funding Source:

Fiscal Year:

Legal Citation: M.L. 2022, Chp. 94, Sec. 2, Subd. 09f

Appropriation Amount: \$3,783,000

Amount Spent: \$3,550,958

Amount Remaining: \$232,042

Sound bite of Project Outcomes and Results

The rehabilitation of historic properties and extension of outdoor recreation facilities allows the public access to some of our state's varied and vast natural resources. The preservation of sites and trails gives visitors a chance to see into our past, within the state's beautiful lakes and scenery.

Summary of Project and Outcomes

At Tettegouche State Park, the rehabilitation of five structures within the Tettegouche Camp historic site, which were in jeopardy of collapsing. The hunting lodge, boat shelter, and three cabins were stabilized and repaired to allow for preservation of the overall site into the future. This project will allow the public to visit a unique site, unlike any other experience in state parks. Hikers can visit the site for the day or reserve the site overnight. This project will allow visitors an opportunity to experience a 1900's hunting camp, while giving people a chance to canoe on a lake surrounded by state park lands.

The extension of the Gitchi-Gami State Trail is a one-and-a-half-mile segment that runs through the town of Lutsen. This project connects the state trail to an existing segment, further extending outdoor recreational opportunities for users.

The ENRTF funding has allowed the completion of the designed project, which connects Tofte and Temperance River State Park to the larger outdoor recreation system along the North Shore.

The rehabilitation of the historic mine shaft at Lake Vermilion - Soudan Underground Mine State Park allows for the National Historic Landmark site increased safety and allowed the site to provide visitors access to experience a part of Minnesota's history. The site gives the public to see how the mining industry has contributed to our state. A second benefit of the ENRTF funded project is the preservation of a hibernaculum for federal and state listed endangered and threatened bat species. The rehabilitation of the mine allows for operations and maintenance of the mine, which these species use year-round and allow them to play a vital role in our ecosystem.

Project Results Use and Dissemination

All three project sites had LCCMR / ENRTF signs placed prominently for visitors to the sites and users of the trail. Photos of the resorted historic structures and of the completed trail have been uploaded in the attachments (tab 7) section.



Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

M.L. 2022 Approved Final Report

General Information

Date: August 18, 2026

ID Number: 2022-111

Staff Lead: Tom Dietrich

Project Title: Minnesota State Parks and State Trails Maintenance and Development

Project Budget: \$3,783,000

Project Manager Information

Name: Stacy Smith

Organization: MN DNR - State Parks and Trails Division

Office Telephone: (651) 259-5649

Email: stacy.smith@state.mn.us

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

Project Reporting

Final Report Approved: July 22, 2026

Reporting Status: Project Completed

Date of Last Action: July 22, 2026

Project Completion: June 30, 2025

Legal Information

Legal Citation: M.L. 2022, Chp. 94, Sec. 2, Subd. 09f

Appropriation Language: \$1,600,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for maintenance and development at state parks, recreation areas, and trails to protect Minnesota's natural heritage, enhance outdoor recreation, and improve the efficiency of public land management.

(a) The following amounts, estimated to be \$2,183,000, are transferred to the commissioner of natural resources for maintenance and development at state parks, recreation areas, and trails to protect Minnesota's natural heritage, enhance outdoor recreation, and improve the efficiency of public land management:

- (1) the unencumbered amount, estimated to be \$925,000, in Laws 2017, chapter 96, section 2, subdivision 7, paragraph (d), District Heating with Renewable Biomass at Camp Ripley Training Center;
- (2) the unencumbered amount, estimated to be \$910,000, in Laws 2017, chapter 96, section 2, subdivision 9, paragraph (e), as amended by Laws 2019, First Special Session chapter 4, article 2, section 4, Native Prairie Stewardship and Prairie Bank Easement Acquisition; and
- (3) \$348,000 of the unencumbered amount, estimated to be \$550,000, in Laws 2018, chapter 214, section 2, subdivision 9, paragraph (d), Mississippi Blufflands State Trail - Red Wing Barn Bluff to Colvill Park Segment.

Appropriation End Date: June 30, 2025

Narrative

Project Summary: This project proposes to maintain and expand recreational opportunities in Minnesota State Parks, State Recreation Area, and State Trails through the rehabilitation and enhancement of existing facilities and amenities by repair.

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

Each of the individual projects identified by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resource (MN DNR), Parks and Trails Division in this proposal represents opportunities to enhance recreational opportunities and improve user safety by completing the construction of 1.5 miles of new State Trail, bringing Soudan Mine Shaft into user compliance, and rehabilitate and restore portions of the historic Tettegouche Camp.

The State Trail development project represents an expansion and a critical connection for the Gitchi Gami State Trail to Lutsen, MN. The Soudan Mine Shaft is a part of the National Historic Landmark and is currently closed for public mine tours, due to the condition. The completion of the mine project will allow the park to resume tours, which has hundreds of visitors annually. Tettegouche Camp is within Tettegouche State Park Historic District. The proposed restoration and rehabilitation will return the facilities into a safe, useable condition.

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.

This proposal will complete the development of approximately 1.5 miles of new state trail, rehabilitate of the Soudan Mine Shaft, and rehabilitate several building making up Tettegouche Camp. The projects will take place on the Gitichi Gami State Trail, and within Lake Vermilion – Soudan Underground, and Tettegouche State Parks. The projects will include ADA improvements and requirements.

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 successful completion of the individual projects will permit the safe, continued or expanded use of MN DNR administered State Park and State Trails while also protecting the natural communities and cultural resource areas within the Parks and along the State Trail corridors. This will allow users to enjoy the facilities and surrounding resources. Each project is designed to avoid or minimize potential impacts on known natural and cultural resources. The projects are subject to formal resource assessments to identify resource and resource protection options.

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 and In the Future

Activities and Milestones

Activity 1: Rehabilitation of Tettegouche Camp in Tettegouche State Park

Activity Budget: \$1,465,854

Activity Description:

Tettegouche Camp is a unique site to the state park system with log cabins and outbuilding, and the only historic district within Tettegouche State Park. The site was originally built as a hunting camp in 1910 and currently has hike-in only cabin rentals. The project includes different levels of rehabilitation for five structures in the camp; cabins A, B, and D; the boat shelter; and the lodge. The last rehabilitation project was done over thirty years ago, and the historic structures require major rehabilitation. The plans and specifications for the proposed work have been completed and include, structural roof repairs, reroofing, foundation repair, log replacement, and rebuilding of log crib docks that support the boat shelter are included. Tettegouche Camp is open year-round with day use and overnight facilities available to the public. Legacy Fund and the Land and Water Conservation Fund have been awarded toward this project totaling \$105,000 to support the archeology consultant and masonry repairs.

Activity Milestones:

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Construction Contract Awarded	January 31, 2023
Project Engineering Complete	January 31, 2023
Project Construction Complete	June 30, 2025
Project Closeout and Final Reporting	June 30, 2025

Activity 2: Development of Gtichi Gami State Trail: Lutsen Connection

Activity Budget: \$600,000

Activity Description:

This activity proposes the development of a new 1.5 mile segment of the Gitchi Gami State Trail extending from the trail's current terminus at "Ski Hill Road" to the southern limits of the community of Lutsen. The existing State Trail segment that terminates at Ski Hill Road, extends south approximately 10.5 miles thru the community of Tofte and Temperance River State Park, terminating in Town of Schroeder. Preliminary engineering and design have been completed and the required trail corridor acquired and secured. This ENRTF Activity Budget will provide the additional or supplemental funding required for successful project completion based upon an updated 2022 project construction cost estimate. Existing project funding includes a \$600,000 Federal Transportation Alternatives Grant awarded to this project in 2017 and a 2019 ENRTF project award of \$500,000. The estimated cost to design and develop the Gitchi Gami State Trail / Lutsen Segment is currently \$1,500,000.

Activity Milestones:

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Description Project Engineering Complete	September 30, 2022
Project Construction Contract Awarded	December 31, 2022
Project Construction Completed	December 31, 2023
Project Closeout and Final Project Reporting	June 30, 2025

Activity 3: Rehabilitation of Soudan Mine Shaft in Soudan State Park

Activity Budget: \$1,717,146

Activity Description:

The rehabilitation of the historic mine shaft, which is part of the National Historic Landmark and one of Minnesota's largest bat hibernacula, is an essential to Lake Vermilion–Soudan Underground Mine State Park. The plans and specification for the rehabilitation of the infrastructure are complete and will allow for access to continue maintenance and operation of the site. The rehabilitation will include replacement the steel frame, application of shotcrete to the walls, and removal of debris. These improvements will allow for federal and state threatened bat species to continue hibernating, increase the safety, and will allow for increased life of the infrastructure. Once the rehabilitation is completed, the currently suspended Mine tours can resume, which bring hundreds of visitors to the site every year. Existing project funding includes a \$7,500,000 million Asset Preservation awarded to the project in 2020 and \$1,000,000 Lake Vermilion Bonding in 2018. The estimated cost for this project is \$8,500,000. The Asset Preservation funding currently assigned towards the Mine Shaft a portion would be released to allow for work at Gooseberry Falls State Park, restorations of a historic bathroom with adjoining picnic shelter and backlog of facility maintenance projects.

Activity Milestones:

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Project Construction Complete	December 31, 2023
Project Closeout and Final Reporting	June 30, 2024

Project Partners and Collaborators

Name	Organization	Role	Receiving Funds
MNDOT	MN DOT	State Trail right-of-way along TH61 at Lutsen	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 plans and specifications for each project will include the LCCMR/ENRTF Logo, the LCCMR/ENRTF logo will be affixed to each structure and State Trail signs at State administered trailheads will include acknowledgment of LCCMR/ENRTF support.

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?

Each of the projects are existing components of the Outdoor Recreation System and will be implemented through the MN DNR Parks and Trails Division staff. All project engineering, design, contract administration and construction inspection will be completed by or under the oversight of the MN DNR Operation Services Division. The MN DNR will operate, maintain, and protect the facilities when complete. The implementation of the park projects will reduce the annual operational costs for the next 20 years. In addition to the safety and accessibility improvements proposed. The new trail development does not anticipate maintenance or improvement for 15-20 years.

Other ENRTF Appropriations Awarded in the Last Six Years

Name	Appropriation	Amount Awarded
State Parks and State Trails Land Acquisitions	M.L. 2015, Chp. 76, Sec. 2, Subd. 09a	\$1,500,000
Minnesota State Parks and State Trails Land Acquisition	M.L. 2017, Chp. 96, Sec. 2, Subd. 09c	\$1,500,000
Minnesota State Parks and State Trails	M.L. 2018, Chp. 214, Art. 4, Sec. 2, Subd. 09k	\$2,500,000
Minnesota State Parks and State Trails In-Holdings	M.L. 2019, First Special Session, Chp. 4, Art. 2, Sec. 2, Subd. 09c	\$2,000,000

Budget Summary

Category / Name	Subcategory or Type	Description	Purpose	Gen. Ineligible	% Benefits	# FTE	Classified Staff?	\$ Amount	\$ Amount Spent	\$ Amount Remaining
Personnel										
							Sub Total	-	-	-
Contracts and Services										
MNDNR OSD Division	Service Contract	All proposed project engineering, design, contract administration and construction inspection will be completed by or under the direct oversight of the MNDNR Division of Operation Services / Construction and Design				3		\$175,000	\$97,284	\$77,716
							Sub Total	\$175,000	\$97,284	\$77,716
Equipment, Tools, and Supplies										
							Sub Total	-	-	-
Capital Equipment										
		Tettegouche Camp	The project includes different levels of rehabilitation for five historic log structures in the camp; cabins A, B, and D; the boat shed; and the lodge.	X				\$1,243,147	\$1,197,777	\$45,370
		Gitchi Gami State Trail	Proposed development of the new 1.5 mile segment of the Gitchi Gami State Trail that is located immediately south/west of the community of Lutsen	X				\$600,000	\$600,000	-
		Soudan Mine Shaft	The rehabilitation will include replacement the steel frame, application of shotcrete to the walls, and removal of debris.	X				\$1,717,146	\$1,608,190	\$108,956

							Sub Total	\$3,560,293	\$3,405,967	\$154,326
Acquisitions and Stewardship										
							Sub Total	-	-	-
Travel In Minnesota										
							Sub Total	-	-	-
Travel Outside Minnesota										
							Sub Total	-	-	-
Printing and Publication										
							Sub Total	-	-	-
Other Expenses										
		MN DNR Direct and Necessary Costs	Pay for activities that are directly related to and necessary for accomplishing appropriated programs/projects. Direct and necessary costs cover HR Support (~\$0), Safety Support (~\$0), Financial Support (~\$45,388), Communication Support (~\$1.311), IT Support (~\$0), and Planning Support (~\$1,008) that are necessary to accomplishing funded programs/projects					\$47,707	\$47,707	-
							Sub Total	\$47,707	\$47,707	-
							Grand Total	\$3,783,000	\$3,550,958	\$232,042

Classified Staff or Generally Ineligible Expenses

Category/Name	Subcategory or Type	Description	Justification Ineligible Expense or Classified Staff Request
Capital Equipment		Tettegouche Camp	All anticipated costs are considered to be eligible. Additional Explanation : The proposed camp improvements will be maintained by the MnDNR for the improvements with a useful life. Additional Explanation : The proposed camp improvements will be maintained by the MnDNR for the improvements with a useful life.
Capital Equipment		Gltchi Gami State Trail	All anticipated costs are considered to be eligible. Additional Explanation : The proposed trail improvements will be maintained by the MnDNR for the improvements useful life. Additional Explanation : The proposed trail improvements will be maintained by the MnDNR for the improvements useful life.
Capital Equipment		Soudan Mine Shaft	All anticipated costs are considered to be eligible. Additional Explanation : The proposed Soundan mine shaft improvements will be maintained by the MnDNR for the improvements useful life. Additional Explanation : The proposed Soundan mine shaft improvements will be maintained by the MnDNR for the improvements useful life.

Non ENRTF Funds

Category	Specific Source	Use	Status	\$ Amount	\$ Amount Spent	\$ Amount Remaining
State						
Cash	Parks and Trails Legacy Funds FY19	Tettegouche Camp – arch consultant	Secured	\$75,000	\$75,000	-
Cash	Land and Water Conservation Fund FY22	Tettegouche Camp – masonry repair	Secured	\$30,000	\$30,000	-
Cash	Asset Preservation Bonding FY2020	Mine Shaft – Engineer consultant and rehab construction	Secured	\$7,000,000	\$5,000,000	\$2,000,000
Cash	Lake Vermilion Soudan Underground Mine Bonding FY18	Mine Shaft – rehab construction	Secured	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000	-
Cash	Bonding – TBD	Increase the existing consulting contract Soudan	Secured	\$250,000	\$250,000	-
			State Sub Total	\$8,855,000	\$6,855,000	\$2,000,000
Non-State						
Cash	Federal Transportation Alternatives Grant	Construction of the Lutsen Segment of the Gitchi Gami State Trail	Secured	\$600,000	\$600,000	-
			Non State Sub Total	\$600,000	\$600,000	-
			Funds Total	\$9,455,000	\$7,455,000	\$2,000,000

Attachments

Required Attachments

Visual Component

File: [8ceca77c-712.pdf](#)

Alternate Text for Visual Component

Location Map of Minnesota State Park and State Trail Maintenance and Development Projects Identified and three separate inset maps providing detailed project locations....

Supplemental Attachments

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

Title	File
Background Check Certification Form	bf4a1e1e-bc4.pdf
Tettegouche Camp Project Cabin A	6ab4122c-1da.jpe
Tettegouche Camp Project Cabin B	222be3ef-6f0.jpe
Tettegouche Camp Project Cabin C	0dda66ce-691.jpe
Tettegouche Camp Project Cabin D	52fe76f7-307.jpe
Tettegouche Camp Project Lodge Interior	69315936-216.jpe
Tettegouche Camp Project Lodge	82d4a850-a7f.jpe
Tettegouche Camp Project Shower Bldg	2ef81da0-bcd.jpe
Soudan Mine Project Pre-project Materials to be Removed	f3b3df3e-36f.jpe
Soudan Mine Project Post-project Shotcrete Walls	cbf03b25-009.jpe
Soudan Mine Project LCCMR Signage	f15d6d0f-8f3.jpe
Gitche Gami Lutsen Segment Trail LCCMR Signage	5480e4ad-73b.jpe
Gitche Gami Lutsen Segment Trail Completed LCCMR signage	42fa55ef-730.jpe
Tettegouche Camp Project LCCMR Signage	ae2bab3c-943.jpe

Difference between Proposal and Work Plan

Describe changes from Proposal to Work Plan Stage

During the legislative session there was a desire to change the proposed project from acquisition to maintenance and development. The Work Plan changes reflect the direction given.

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

Do you understand that a named service contract does not constitute a funder-designated subrecipient or approval of a sole-source contract? In other words, a service contract entity is only approved if it has been selected according to the contracting rules identified in state law and policy for organizations that receive ENRTF funds through direct appropriations, or in the DNR's reimbursement manual for non-state organizations. These rules may include competitive bidding and prevailing wage requirements

Not acknowledged

Work Plan Amendments

Amendment ID	Request Type	Changes made on the following pages	Justification For Amendment Request (word limit 75)	Date Submitted	Approved	Date of LCCMR Action
1	Project Manager	Previous Manager: Shelby Kok (shelby.kok@state.mn.us) New Manager: Stacy Smith (stacy.smith@state.mn.us)	project no longer applies at acquisition.	March 6, 2023	Yes	March 6, 2023
2	Amendment Request	• Project Collaborators - Project Manager Info • Activities and Milestones • Budget - Capital, Equipment, Tools, and Supplies • Budget - Non-ENRTF Funds Contributed	Increase Activity 1 by \$561,300; Increase Activity 2 by \$200,000; Decrease Activity 3 by \$538,593; Activity 3 cost less because expiring bond funding moved toward project. Activity 1 increases are to cover unforeseen project increase on a historic building. Activity 2 increased for changing culverts to bridges. Change request does not affect overall appropriated allotment.	June 4, 2024	Yes	June 20, 2024

Status Update Reporting

Final Status Update August 14, 2025

Date Submitted: May 28, 2026

Date Approved: July 22, 2026

Overall Update

All construction activities for Tettegouche Camp, Gitchi-Gami Lutsen segment, and the Soudan mine shaft rehabilitation have been completed.

The Lutsen segment of the Gitchi-Gami State Trail allows for an extension of a popular and scenic trail that when completed will allow users to travel the North Shore. This segment is near two state parks and will, when the trail is completed, span six state parks on the north shore. It is an essential connection for outdoor recreation for the public.

Tettegouche Camp and Soudan Mine rehabilitations allows for the continued use of one of a kind historic properties that tell the story of Minnesota's cultural history. At Tettegouche, three overnight use cabins, a gather space, and boath shelter that allows for non-motorized boat use were rehabilitated for use into the next several decades. Soudan Mine rehabilitations allowed for the preservation of the region and Minnesota's history of mining in a way no other site in the state does. The project has preserved the ability for the public to see and hear about an important part of history and resources. The project also allows for access to the state's largest bat hibernaculum, where both state and federally listed species.

Activity 1

The project at Tettegouche Camp, in Tettegouche State Park, was completed spring of 2024 with the final project payment approved in September 2024. The outcomes of the completed rehabilitation project have allowed users a safer and more enjoyable visit to Tettegouche Camp. The work included stabilizing cabin foundations, reroofing, rebuilding crib docks, and general maintenance and touch up of the buildings. This work was done to protect the integrity of the historic district and properties for future outdoor recreation users.

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

Activity 2

The new Gitchi-Gami Lutsen segment (1.5-miles) was open for public use in early November 2024. This segment is now a part of a contiguous 10.7-mile segment connecting the communities of Schroeder, Tofte, Lutsen, and Temperance River State Park. This segments allows for the next step in the overall completion of the Gitich-Gami State Trail, which is popular for outdoor recreation users statewide.

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

Activity 3

The rehabilitation of Soudan mine shaft in Lake Vermilion - Soudan Underground Mine State Park was completed in November 2024 with the final payment sent in December 2025. Construction was paused due to work exclusion date for a federally protected species. The final work items, including construction demobilization were completed once the protection dates passed. The project completes stabilization of the structural components of the steel frame support system and walls reinforced with shotcrete of the mine shaft. This ensures current and many future generations will learn about the history of mining in Minnesota while protecting a critical bat hibernaculum to federal and state threatened bat species, while providing a safer environment for employees and visitors. Public tours have not resumed, due to a declared disaster due to a rain and flood event in the summer of 2024.

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

Dissemination

All signs have been installed in a prominent area of use that does not take away from the historic aesthetics at Tettegouche Camp and Soudan Mine. For the Gitchi-Gami Lutsen segment the LCCMR signs was installed in the spring 2025.

Status Update Reporting

Status Update March 1, 2025

Date Submitted: January 13, 2026

Date Approved: February 2, 2026

Overall Update

All of the construction activities for work on the Tettegouche Camp, Gitchi-Gami Lutsen segment, and the Soudan mine shaft rehabilitation have been completed. While the construction is completed, the close out paperwork and final payments for the Gitchi-Gami Lutsen segment are still in process.

Activity 1

The project at Tettegouche Camp, in Tettegouche State Park, was completed spring of 2024 with the final project payment approved in September 2024.

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

Activity 2

The new Gitchi-Gami Lutsen segment (1.8-miles) from Ski Hill Rd to the entrance road of Arrowhead Electric was open for public use in early November 2024. This segment is now a part of a contiguous 10.7-mile segment connecting the communities of Schroeder, Tofte, Lutsen, and Temperance River State Park.

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

Activity 3

The rehabilitation of Soudan mine shaft in Lake Vermilion - Soudan Underground Mine State Park was completed in November 2024 with the final payment sent in December 2025. Construction was paused due to work exclusion date for a federally protected species. The final work items, including construction demobilization were completed once the protection dates passed. The project completes stabilization of the structural components of the steel frame support system and walls reinforced with shotcrete of the mine shaft. This ensures current and many future generations will learn about the history of mining in Minnesota while protecting a critical bat hibernaculum to federal and state threatened bat species, while providing a safer environment for employees and visitors. Public tours have not resumed, due to a declared disaster due to a rain and flood event in the summer of 2024.

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

Dissemination

Signs have been purchased and will be installed in a prominent area of use that does not take away from the historic aesthetics at Tettegouche Camp and Soudan Mine. For the Gitchi-Gami Lutsen segment signs will be installed spring 2025.

Status Update Reporting

Status Update September 1, 2024

Date Submitted: January 13, 2026

Date Approved: February 2, 2026

Overall Update

All of the construction activities for work on the Tettegouche Camp, Gitchi-Gami Lutsen segment, and the Soudan mine shaft rehabilitation have been completed. While the construction is completed, the close out paperwork and final payments for the Gitchi-Gami Lutsen segment are still in process.

Activity 1

The project at Tettegouche Camp, in Tettegouche State Park, was completed spring of 2024. All building rehabilitation work for historic log structures in the camp was completed; building include Cabins A, B, and D, the boat shed, and the lodge. Repairs included structural roof repairs, reroofing, foundation repair, log replacement, and rebuilding of log crib docks that support the boat shelter. There was a need for some additional structural design work / engineering with an amendment submitted June 4, 2024 and approval given June 20, 2024 for an increase of \$561,300. The changes were due to unforeseen circumstances once elements of the historic building were uncovered. These finds added time and cost to the project. The public was welcomed back into the historic camp in July 2024 to enjoy for many future generations to come. See the September 1, 2024, update for the description of work completed.

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

Activity 2

The Gitchi-Gami Lutsen segment saw a significant rain event in June 2024, which delayed project completion to allow for additional repairs to storm damage. To address these damages and in consideration of similar future events, the installation of several additional small culverts were added to the project. Although these design and weather-related delays were needed, it is anticipated that this new 1.8-mile segment of the Gitchi-Gami State Trail will open for public use in early November 2024. When completed, the Lutsen segment, the Gitchi-Gami State Trail will have a contiguous 10.7-mile segment connecting the communities of Schroeder, Tofte, Lutsen, and Temperance River State Park.

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

Activity 3

The rehabilitation of Soudan mine shaft in Lake Vermilion - Soudan Underground Mine State Park is set to be completed in November 2024. Construction is currently paused due to work exclusion date for a federally protected species. Other state expiring funding was moved to this project, which has put activity three under the proposed budget. An amendment was authorized in June 2024 to reduce the budget and allow for activity one and activity two to increase their budgets. When the project completes, the structural integrity of the steel frame support system and walls reinforced with shotcrete of the mine shaft. This ensures current and many future generations will learn about the history of mining in Minnesota while protecting a critical bat hibernaculum to federal and state threatened bat species, while providing a safer environment for employees and visitors. Public tours have not resumed, due to a declared disaster due to a rain and flood event in the summer of 2024.

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

Dissemination

Signs were purchased and installed in a prominent area of use that does not take away from the historic aesthetics at Tettegouche Camp and Soudan Mine. The Gitchi-Gami Lutsen segment signs were installed spring 2025.

Status Update Reporting

Status Update March 1, 2024

Date Submitted: June 4, 2024

Date Approved: June 20, 2024

Overall Update

All of the activities have made progress. Progress over the winter months has slowed relative to the last update, but with construction season approaching, all projects will be close if not, completed. Work on the Soudan mine shaft rehabilitation nearly complete with punchlist and clean up remaining. The work nearly on schedule at Tettegouche Camp has been on hold for winter but has been delayed due to staff shortages, material delays, and increased costs. The work on the Gitchi-Gami Lutson segment is on hold for the winter but will be starting soon. Delays have been due to some redesign work and weather.

Activity 1

The project at Tettegouche Camp, in Tettegouche State Park, will restart construction soon, so status had not changed much. Milestone one is contract execution, which is completed. Work on three of the structure is close to completed. One building still has remaining work and is behind schedule. There was a need for some additional structural design work / engineering so milestone two is still underway. The changes due to unforeseen circumstances will add time and cost to the project. An amendment is being requested for these changes. The construction completion date has been moved to July of 2024 to allow for additional design work and completion of that work. Construction is milestone three. This will delay completion of milestone three and four, however milestone four is still achievable.

Activity 2

The Gitchi-Gami State Trail, Lutsen Connection has completed milestone two, which is construction project award. For milestone one, the majority of the work is completed, but additional hydraulic and hydrologic analysis was done. This analysis resulted in changing two designed culverts in the project to bridge crossings. The change was deemed necessary and has added time and cost to the project. An amendment is being requested for this change. This will delay the date for completion on activities two and three. The completion date for activity four is still achievable.

Activity 3

The rehabilitation of Soudan Mine shaft in Lake Vermilion - Soudan Underground Mine State Park is substantially completed with final completion due June of 2024. Expiring funding was moved to this project which has put Activity three under the proposed budget. An amendment is being requested to reduce the budget and allow for Activity one and Activity two to increase their budgets. Activity one is on schedule to complete on time. Activity two is also on schedule to complete on time.

Dissemination

The logos and signage are in progress and will be included prior to the completion date of the projects.

Status Update Reporting

Status Update September 1, 2023

Date Submitted: October 9, 2023

Date Approved: January 17, 2024

Overall Update

For all the sites in the project and their related activities, work is progressing. Improvements are being made at each site with Soudan mine shaft rehabilitation nearly complete. The work nearly on schedule at Tettegouche Camp but staff shortages, material delays, and increased costs have slowed progress.

Activity 1

The work at Tettegouche Camp, in Tettegouche State Park, is under construction. Milestone one is contract execution, which is completed. Work on three of the structure is close to completed. One building still has remaining work and is behind schedule. The design work / engineering is ongoing with unanticipated structures being found during construction. Design work is milestone two. The construction was anticipated to end by 10/31/23, but may extend beyond that date. Construction is milestone three. This will delay completion of milestone three and four.

Activity 2

The Gitchi-Gami State Trail, Lutsen Connection design work is in progress. This is activity one and is behind schedule. This will delay the date for completion on activities two and three. The completion date for activity four is still achievable.

Activity 3

The rehabilitation of Soudan Mine shaft in Lake Vermilion - Soudan Underground Mine State Park is under construction and getting close to completing. Activity one is in progress and on schedule to complete on time. Activity two is also on schedule to complete on time.

Dissemination

The logos and signage are in progress and will be included prior to the completion date of the project.

Status Update Reporting

Status Update March 1, 2023

Date Submitted: March 9, 2023

Date Approved: May 8, 2023

Overall Update

For all the sites in the project and their related activities, work is progressing. Design work is continuing, or improvements are being made at each site. The work nearly on schedule but staff shortages, material delays, and increased costs have slowed progress.

Activity 1

The work at Tettegouche Camp, in Tettegouche State Park, is in process of awarding the construction contract. The contract execution will complete activity one. The design work / engineering is completed, which completes activity two. The construction will start in mid-May, depending on weather. This will start activity three. We should be on schedule to complete activity three and four on time.

Activity 2

The Gitchi-Gami State Trail, Lutsen Connection design work is in progress. This is activity one and is behind schedule. This will delay the date for completion on activities two and three. The completion date for activity four is still achievable.

Activity 3

The rehabilitation of Soudan Mine shaft in Lake Vermilion - Soudan Underground Mine State Park is under construction. Activity one is in progress and on schedule to complete on time. Activity two is also on schedule to complete on time.

Dissemination

The logos and signage are in progress and will be included prior to the completion date of the project.