



Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

M.L. 2025 Approved Work Plan

General Information

ID Number: 2025-212

Staff Lead: Tiffany Schaufler

Date this document submitted to LCCMR: June 9, 2025

Project Title: Inclusive Wildlife Engagement in Classrooms and Communities

Project Budget: \$712,000

Project Manager Information

Name: Jessica Ruthenberg

Organization: MN DNR - Ecological and Water Resources Division

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Project Reporting

Date Work Plan Approved by LCCMR: June 24, 2025

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

Project Completion: June 30, 2028

Final Report Due Date: August 14, 2028

Legal Information

Legal Citation: M.L. 2025, First Special Session, Chp. 1, Art. 2, Sec. 2, Subd. 05p

Appropriation Language: \$712,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for the nongame wildlife program to provide three wildlife conservation, action-based outdoor educational opportunities to engage needs-based schools, young adults, and communities underrepresented in natural resources through the Bird by Bird, Empowering Pathways into Conservation, and Community Science programs.

Appropriation End Date: June 30, 2028

Narrative

Project Summary: DNR will provide educational, hands-on, outdoor experiences for diverse demographics; leading students and the public to conservation ethics and action through three programs: Bird by Bird, EPIC, and Community Science.

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

Experiences in nature provide enduring benefits to human well-being, particularly for youth, as reflected in numerous initiatives for getting outside and nature prescription. Unfortunately, many people don't have regular opportunities to connect with nature, and the demographics of Minnesotans enjoying the outdoors, choosing natural resource careers, and volunteering to support environmental organizations do not reflect the ethno-racial diversity of our communities.

Trends in Minnesota indicate that population growth is greatest in urban areas, and Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) are projected to represent one-third of our population by 2053, yet recent surveys have shown that of Minnesota's State Park visitors, only 11% of respondents identified as non-white and of Minnesota's wildlife viewers, 90% of respondents identified as white. Furthermore, BIPOC individuals report lower rates of volunteerism to formal organizations than Minnesota's average.

Providing Minnesotans with educational, action-based outdoor experiences will benefit our communities and our wildlife. The State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP) identifies 346 Species in Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN), and data is lacking on many of them. To achieve SWAP goals, we need to engage a broad public, build awareness and knowledge, and foster stewardship ethics and actions that fill data gaps and support rare, vulnerable wildlife.

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 DNR, in broad partnership, will provide three engaging educational outdoor programs for varying ages, all intentionally designed to welcome and include demographics underrepresented in natural resources.

Bird by Bird will engage elementary students at need-based schools learning about birds through observation; outdoor, hands-on activities; and community science. Classrooms will receive curriculum, supplies, training for teachers, and visits from DNR volunteers who will provide bird expertise and engage the school community.

EPIC (Empowering Pathways into Conservation) will provide urban young adults with exposure to wildlife conservation careers through immersive field experiences and access to natural resource professionals, gaining knowledge of conservation approaches and research techniques. DNR will partner with community organizations who work with underrepresented ethno-racial groups to identify participants.

Our Community Science Program will engage urban and rural Minnesotans in research supporting the SWAP through surveys of chimney swifts, butterflies, frogs, and bats. Volunteers will be trained in species identification, data collection, and conservation of at-risk species. They will observe wildlife in the field and record and report data for analysis. By offering multiple opportunities in varying locations at varying skill levels, providing training, building relationships, and working with partners, we will serve diverse groups of Minnesotans.

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?

2,000 students at 10 need-based schools access the outdoors and nature education, with DNR-trained teachers and volunteers, to increase their knowledge about birds and spark interest, appreciation, and stewardship for nature. Each school will also participate in a bird activity engaging their larger community.

60 young adults experience the outdoors, develop wildlife skills, and connect with role models in wildlife careers; empowering and inspiring them to become natural resource professionals, ultimately increasing representation in Minnesota's conservation workforce.

200 diverse volunteers connect to wildlife and conservation through four community science projects that will generate critical data on at-risk wildlife.

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: Bird by Bird Classrooms: Birdwatching at Schools

Activity Budget: \$404,750

Activity Description:

Approximately 2,000 students (grades 3-6), at 10 schools identified as underserved in science and environmental education, will engage in place-based outdoor learning activities to increase their knowledge of birds, healthy ecosystems, and overall environmental literacy. Schools will be located in environmental justice areas, according to the Environmental Protection Agency's mapping tool. Students will participate in multiple activities and a field trip each year, supported by DNR-trained volunteers. Activities will engage students in bird identification, natural history, conservation, and a community science project (Cornell Lab's Project FeederWatch). Bird feeding stations will be installed at schools. Students will receive and learn to use binoculars to observe birds at feeders and on bird walks. They will practice wildlife ethics by learning how to clean feeders and prevent bird window collisions. Teachers will receive training on a suite of interactive, hands-on lesson plans with curriculum on bird ecology and accompanying supporting materials to enhance students' learning experience. To engage the larger school communities, volunteers will also deliver free, family-friendly bird activities/ bird walks at a school or community event. This activity expands from five pilot schools engaged under LCCMR 2022 funding. Participation numbers and pre and post assessments measure success.

Activity Milestones:

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Recruitment, application reviews, screening, selection, and training of volunteers	September 30, 2025
7 schools identified, engaged, teachers trained, and ready to begin programming	September 30, 2025
Pre assessments completed (7 schools)	October 31, 2025
Students experience field trips (7 schools)	June 30, 2026
Volunteers complete their community outreach activities	June 30, 2026
Volunteer recognition event	June 30, 2026
Post assessments completed (7 schools) and program participation numbers recorded	June 30, 2026
Continued recruitment, application review, screening, selection, and training of additional volunteers	September 30, 2026
3 additional schools identified, engaged, teachers trained, and ready to begin programming	September 30, 2026
Pre assessments completed (10 schools)	October 31, 2026
Students experience field trips (10 schools)	June 30, 2027
Volunteers complete their community outreach activities	June 30, 2027
Volunteer recognition event	June 30, 2027
Post assessments completed (10 schools) and program participation numbers recorded	June 30, 2027
Continued recruitment, application review, screening, selection, and training of additional volunteers (as needed)	September 30, 2027
10 schools identified, engaged, teachers trained, and ready to begin programming	September 30, 2027
Pre assessments completed (10 schools)	October 31, 2027
Students experience field trips (10 schools)	June 30, 2028
Volunteers complete their community outreach activities	June 30, 2028
Volunteer recognition event	June 30, 2028
Post assessments completed (10 schools) and program participation numbers recorded	June 30, 2028

Activity 2: Empowering Pathways into Conservation (EPIC) Program

Activity Budget: \$151,823

Activity Description:

EPIC will coordinate outdoor experiential learning opportunities for high school students from underrepresented communities who may face barriers to exploring or pursuing a natural resource career. We will partner with youth-serving organizations to identify 60 young adults to participate. EPIC will connect participants to role models in the DNR and other conservation organizations, including U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and University of Minnesota Raptor Center. Through immersive field experiences, young adults will learn bird identification and gain knowledge of conservation approaches and research techniques. Activities may include kestrel chick and songbird banding, waterfowl surveys, bird identification with a park ranger, and habitat management. Additional opportunities include a career panel.

Eliminating barriers for participants is critical. Transportation stipends will be provided to partners to offset transportation costs and eliminate the need for young adults to provide their own transportation. Tools such as binoculars, field guides, and other field gear will be provided to support the participants' experience. Young adults will receive stipends for participation to eliminate any conflict between needing to work a job to support their households or participating in a program to support their own future endeavors. Participation numbers and pre and post assessments measure success.

Activity Milestones:

Description	Approximate Completion Date
20 EPIC participants identified, receive orientation, and complete pre assessments.	July 31, 2025
20 EPIC participants complete 6 field experiences and a post assessment	September 30, 2025
EPIC field experiences set up and coordinated with the staff and partners implementing them	June 30, 2026
20 additional EPIC participants identified, receive orientation, and complete pre assessments	July 31, 2026
20 EPIC participants complete 6 field experiences and a post assessment	September 30, 2026
EPIC field experiences set up and coordinated with the staff and partners implementing them	June 30, 2027
20 additional EPIC participants identified, receive orientation, and complete a pre assessment	July 31, 2027
20 EPIC participants complete 6 field experiences and a post assessment	September 30, 2027

Activity 3: Community Science Program Expansion: Engaging Minnesotans in Wildlife Conservation

Activity Budget: \$155,427

Activity Description:

200 diverse volunteers will be trained to participate in DNR research projects in cooperation with community, state, federal, and other organizations focused on wildlife conservation. Participants connect to nature and contribute data on at-risk and SGCN wildlife to the Minnesota Natural Heritage Information System. Four projects will be implemented:

Chimney Swifts communally roost in human-built structures such as chimneys, making them ideal for observation in the Twin Cities. This entry-level experience allows volunteers to experience roost monitoring.

Regal fritillaries and Monarchs indicate prairie health, but their distribution data in Minnesota is limited. Volunteers visit suitable locations and report observed butterflies. This research documents populations throughout the state and provides a baseline for focused research.

Frogs and toads are indicators of environmental change. Volunteers visit wetlands at night and listen for calling frogs, recording species heard. Through this monitoring, participants contribute to our understanding of statewide distributions and population trends.

Bats are ecologically important, yet their population trends in Minnesota are poorly understood. Volunteers observe roosting colonies and use audio detectors to collect bat vocalization data, expanding our knowledge of bat populations

and contributing to a multi-national research program.

Success metrics include numbers of volunteers, field sites visited, and observations recorded.

Activity Milestones:

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Develop volunteer outreach and engagement project plan	September 30, 2025
Recruit chimney swift volunteers for fall 2025 monitoring events	September 30, 2025
Conduct 2025 field surveys for frog and toad and chimney swift projects	October 31, 2025
Hold end-of-season recognition event for volunteers	November 30, 2025
Purchase bat acoustic kits	December 31, 2025
Process, enter, and analyze data from 2025 field season, including success metrics.	January 31, 2026
Develop butterfly and bat survey design and trainings; update existing survey protocols	February 28, 2026
Produce data summaries/ reports from 2025 field season, including success metrics	February 28, 2026
Recruit, onboard, and train volunteers for 2026 field season	June 30, 2026
Conduct 2026 field surveys	October 31, 2026
Hold end-of-season recognition event for volunteers	November 30, 2026
Process, enter, and analyze data from 2026 field season, including success metrics	January 31, 2027
Produce data summaries/ reports from 2026 field season, including success metrics	February 28, 2027
Update project materials and volunteer trainings for 2027	March 31, 2027
Recruit, onboard, and train volunteers for 2027 field season	June 30, 2027
Conduct 2027 field surveys	October 31, 2027
Process, enter, and analyze data from 2027 field season, including success metrics	January 31, 2028
Produce data summaries/ reports from 2027 field season, including success metrics	February 28, 2028

Project Partners and Collaborators

Name	Organization	Role	Receiving Funds
Hayley Ball	Urban Roots	Urban Roots will support the Bird by Bird Program by advising and collaborating on the Empowering Pathways in Conservation (EPIC) Program. They will identify young adults to participate and provide additional staff and resource support for program delivery.	Yes
MaryLynn Pulscher	Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board	Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board will collaborate on the Empowering Pathways in Conservation (EPIC) Program. They will identify young adults to participate and provide additional staff and resource support for program delivery.	Yes
Monica Bryand	Urban Bird Collective	Urban Bird Collective will support this program by partnering on Bird by Bird, EPIC, and Community Science Chimney Swift Roost Monitoring. The Urban Bird Collective is a Minnesota based 501(c)3 non-profit organization founded by and for BIPOC and LGBTQIA people.	No
Jennifer Vieth	Carpenter Nature Center	Carpenter Nature Center will support this program with EPIC young adult trainings, and hosting field trips for students to see birds in the hand up close at their bird-banding station. (Minimal fees to cover field trip programming are included within the budget.)	Yes
Brian Smith	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	US Fish and Wildlife Service will participate in these efforts by providing support for EPIC field experiences, Community Science projects, and related collaborations where appropriate.	No
Angela Grill	Three Rivers Park District	Three Rivers Park District will support the Community Science Program by partnering with the DNR on training and providing training sites. Three Rivers Park District conducts a variety of wildlife surveys and monitoring programs on a range of animal groups from butterflies and moths to amphibians, reptiles, mammals, and birds.	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.

We will describe this project and its accomplishments via media including, but not limited to, the DNR website, the DNR Nongame Wildlife Program Facebook page, and the DNR Nongame Wildlife Program's e-newsletter. We will utilize the networking capacity of the schools, community groups, and collaborative partners to share information about our projects. We will comply with ENRTF acknowledgement guidelines during dissemination efforts.

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?

We request three years for this project to ensure a strong base is built with buy-in and support from partners, enabling each program's long-term success. We anticipate that the schools, partners, and volunteers will value these programs and continue to participate long term. Most program materials will roll over from year to year. Bird by Bird should continue running sustainably as a 10-school program with minimal additional financial inputs for bussing, replacement supplies such as bird seed, and program coordination time. DNR will seek partners and grants to cover remaining, on-going programmatic costs in the future.

Other ENRTF Appropriations Awarded in the Last Six Years

Name	Appropriation	Amount Awarded
Nongame Wildlife Program Acceleration	M.L. 2019, First Special Session, Chp. 4, Art. 2, Sec. 2, Subd. 08e	\$513,000
Expanding Access to Wildlife Learning Bird by Bird	M.L. 2022, , Chp. 94, Art. , Sec. 2, Subd. 05c	\$276,000

Budget Summary

Category / Name	Subcategory or Type	Description	Purpose	Gen. Ineligible	% Benefits	# FTE	Classified Staff?	\$ Amount
Personnel								
Wildlife Education Coordinator		Coordinates the Bird by Bird program (60% of their time)			25%	1.74	X	\$169,291
Wildlife Engagement Specialist		Provides support such as coordination of volunteers, partners, trainings, and programming; event planning; and portions of content development for Bird by Bird and Community Science activities.			25%	2.76		\$262,082
EPIC Coordinator		Coordinates the EPIC program			25%	0.99		\$122,808
							Sub Total	\$554,181
Contracts and Services								
Urban Roots	Subaward	Stipends to EPIC young adult participants (\$15/ hr per person for 10 young adults) to cover 34 hours of programming, plus reimbursement for travel costs to the programs				0		\$16,506
Carpenter Nature Center	Subaward	Program fee for Bird by Bird participants at \$5/student for 75 students/class (covers 7 schools in year 1 and 10 schools in years 2-3)				0		\$10,125
							Sub Total	\$26,631
Equipment, Tools, and Supplies								
	Tools and Supplies	5 school bird watching toolkits	One toolkit per Bird by Bird school: 35 binoculars, 18 bird identification books, 6 foldable pocket bird field guides, 2 storage bins					\$20,219
	Tools and Supplies	An annual supply of bird seed for 10 schools and 5 Schoolyard bird feeding stations (includes: bird feeders, bird bath, multi-hooked shepherds hook, feeder cleaning supplies, bird seed storage container)	Materials for bird feeding stations at Bird by Bird schools, used for student bird observation					\$11,086

	Tools and Supplies	10 classroom sets of bird education supplies (includes: materials for 3 bird activities, annual membership to Cornell's Project Feederwatch for the school, multi-lingual bird guide activity books, and volunteer identification pins)	Sets of supplies for Bird by Bird Classrooms, including 3 educational activities; an activity book for students to learn about bird identification, ecology, and conservation; an annual membership to Cornell's Project Feederwatch citizen science project for the school; and identification pins for volunteers to wear when visiting classrooms					\$2,538
	Tools and Supplies	3 years worth of learning activity materials for school community/family engagement (7 schools in year 1 and 10 schools each in years 2-3)	Supplies such as glue, scissors, markers, etc. to be used while volunteers are once annually engaging each Bird by Bird school's community/families in an activity/event					\$1,038
	Tools and Supplies	30 Stationary Bat Monitoring Kits	For Community Science bat monitoring. Each kit includes: AudioMoth, Protective Case, 1 microSDHC 64-GB card, 1 micro USB cable, 64-GB Micro SD Card, Includes Adapter for microSD, 4 pack rechargeable AA NiMH batteries WITH charger, SD card reader for computer to download data from SD cards					\$5,467
	Tools and Supplies	1 Live Demonstration Bat Call Recording Kit	For Community Science Bat monitoring demonstrations. EchoMeter Touch PRO, Kaliedascope Pro software, and an Android tablet necessary to run this software					\$1,247
	Tools and Supplies	Hi-vis apparel for 77 Community Science volunteers	Hi-vis hats and vests will be made available for Community Science volunteers participating in nocturnal monitoring efforts for safety					\$2,099
	Tools and Supplies	4 Pitch Counters	For Community Science chimney swift roost monitoring efforts. These counters are used to count individuals.					\$100
							Sub Total	\$43,794
Capital Expenditures								
							Sub Total	-
Acquisitions and Stewardship								

							Sub Total	-
Travel In Minnesota								
	Other	Bus trips for student field trips to nature centers (\$500/bus*1.75 busses per school (most schools will need 2 but some will only need 1; 7 schools for year 1, 10 for years 2 and 3)	Busses for Bird by Bird students to attend field trips to nature centers for banding and hands on experience					\$24,300
							Sub Total	\$24,300
Travel Outside Minnesota								
							Sub Total	-
Printing and Publication								
							Sub Total	-
Other Expenses								
		15 Venue rentals	Venues to be used for volunteer, EPIC young adult, and teacher trainings/onboardings/orientations for all three programs (Bird by Bird, EPIC, and Community Science)					\$2,700
		Program admission fees or other training fees for 3 years of the EPIC program	Training for EPIC young adults including admission fees, expert speakers, hands on birding sessions (\$200/visit to Eagle Center; Tour Raptor Center (\$5/adult, \$3/youth, 20 youth + 4 adults * 3 years)					\$900
		Direct and Necessary Costs	Direct and necessary costs cover people support (\$13,220), safety support (\$1,856), financial support (\$6,055), communications support (\$1,528), IT support (\$35,699), and planning support (\$1,137).					\$59,494
							Sub Total	\$63,094
							Grand Total	\$712,000

Classified Staff or Generally Ineligible Expenses

Category/Name	Subcategory or Type	Description	Justification Ineligible Expense or Classified Staff Request
Personnel - Wildlife Education Coordinator		Coordinates the Bird by Bird program (60% of their time)	Classified : 60% of this position is funded by LCCMR. The remaining 40% will come from Fish and Game monies and Nongame Wildlife Program monies. As this project finishes up, the position will move into a broader Education Coordinator role, including a few projects, one of which will be Bird by Bird, but we will find other funds to cover those on-going expenses.

Non ENRTF Funds

Category	Specific Source	Use	Status	\$ Amount
State				
In-Kind	Nongame Wildlife Fund	These monies will be used for a percentage of salary for the Nongame Wildlife Program's Wildlife Engagement Supervisor, Community Science Coordinator, and Communication Specialist. The Wildlife Engagement Supervisor provides direction and supervision for the Bird by Bird Coordinator, Community Science Program Coordinator, and Wildlife Engagement Specialist. The Community Science Coordinator leads the Community Science Program. The Communications Specialist provides programmatic communications support for all digital media needs (website, social media, and email newsletter) as well as volunteer recruitment and onboarding support.	Secured	\$199,646
			State Sub Total	\$199,646
Non-State				
Cash	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) State Wildlife Grants	These monies will be used for a percentage of salary for the Nongame Wildlife Program's Community Science Coordinator and Communications Specialist. The Community Science Coordinator leads the Community Science Program. The Communications Specialist supports Nongame Wildlife Program digital communication needs (website, social media, and email newsletter) as well as volunteer recruitment and onboarding.	Secured	\$185,354
			Non State Sub Total	\$185,354
			Funds Total	\$385,000

Total Project Cost: \$1,097,000

This amount accurately reflects total project cost?

Yes

Attachments

Required Attachments

Visual Component

File: [ac6402dc-2db.pdf](#)

Alternate Text for Visual Component

Infographic depicting project outcomes: 2,000 students provided access to the outdoors and bird-focused nature education; 60 young adults experience the outdoors, develop wildlife skills, and connect with wildlife professionals, inspiring entry to conservation careers; and 200 volunteers engaged in 4 community science projects, generating data on at-risk wildlife....

Supplemental Attachments

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

Title	File
Letter of Support from Urban Roots	8c3ff1ea-c8d.pdf
Letter of Support from Urban Bird Collective	e1586175-45d.pdf
Letter of Support from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	c4c6f21a-98e.pdf
Letter of Support from Three Rivers Park District	1d87bf75-ce1.pdf
Letter of Support from Carpenter Nature Center	eab50bc0-307.pdf
Letter of Support from Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board	17f05895-cf9.pdf

Difference between Proposal and Work Plan

Describe changes from Proposal to Work Plan Stage

We identified a need to split the Bird by Bird Coordinator into two positions: a Wildlife Education Coordinator and an EPIC Coordinator. The Wildlife Education Coordinator will be a full-time position that coordinates Bird by Bird (58%) of their time and other wildlife education projects (42%) of their time. We are only seeking ENTRF funds for the 58% of their time that is devoted to Bird by Bird. The 42% of their time devoted to other wildlife education projects, will be funded through other means. We added the EPIC Coordinator as a part-time position that is funded using that remaining 42% of ENTRF funds that we had originally requested for the Bird by Bird Coordinator.

Per LCCMR's recommendation, we have decreased our proposed budget to \$712,000, down from the originally proposed \$796,000. To meet this reduced budget, we have made the following changes.

In Personnel, we have reduced each position's FTEs. Since we will be hiring these positions within the first year of the project, we will not be spending a full year's salary during that first year.

In Contracts and Services, we have cut the sub-award to Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board because they are covering the stipend and transportation for EPIC's young adult participants.

In Equipment, Tools, and Supplies, we have cut costs in two areas. We cut all the field gear for the EPIC participants, as we can potentially purchase these with Nongame Wildlife Program funds. We also reduced the number of hi-vis apparel sets for community scientists from 150 to 77 sets, which should be a sufficient quantity, as not all areas being surveyed are in need of the hi-vis apparel for safety. However, if we find that we need more apparel, we can examine that need.

In Travel in Minnesota, we cut all miles/meal/ lodging for both DNR staff and volunteers for both the Bird by Bird program and Community Science program. We can supplement travel expenses as needed.

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?

Yes, I understand the Commissioner's Plan applies.

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

Does your project include the pre-design, design, construction, or renovation of a building, trail, campground, or other fixed capital asset costing \$10,000 or more or large-scale stream or wetland restoration?

No

Do you propose using an appropriation from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund to conduct a project that provides children's services (as defined in Minnesota Statutes section 299C.61 Subd.7 as "the provision of care, treatment, education, training, instruction, or recreation to children")?

Yes

Do you certify that background checks are performed for background check crimes, as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 299C.61, Subd. 2, on all employees, contractors, and volunteers who have or may have access to a child to whom children's services are provided by your organization?

Yes

Provide the name(s) and organization(s) of additional individuals assisting in the completion of this project:

Jessica Ruthenberg (MN DNR), Alison Cariveau (MN DNR), Mags Edwards (MN DNR), and Kristin Hall (MN DNR)

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

N/A