



# Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

M.L. 2026 Approved Work Plan

## General Information

**ID Number:** 2026-099

**Staff Lead:** Mike Campana

**Date this document submitted to LCCMR:** June 5, 2026

**Project Title:** Bringing Environmental Education and Outdoor Recreation to K-12 Schools

**Project Budget:** \$192,000

## Project Manager Information

**Name:** Bryan Wood

**Organization:** Osprey Wilds Environmental Learning Center

**Office Telephone:** (320) 245-2648

**Email:** wood@ospreywilds.org

**Web Address:** <https://ospreywilds.org/>

## Project Reporting

**Date Work Plan Approved by LCCMR:** June 17, 2026

**Reporting Schedule:** April 1 / October 1 of each year.

**Project Completion:** June 30, 2029

**Final Report Due Date:** August 14, 2029

## Legal Information

**Legal Citation:** M.L. 2026, Chp. 104, Sec. 2, Subd. 05j

**Appropriation Language:** \$192,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Osprey Wilds Environmental Learning Center to deliver hands-on environmental education and outdoor recreation learning experiences directly to K-12 school classrooms and students through programs at participating schools. Before costs for this appropriation are incurred, a fiscal management plan must be approved in the work plan, unless otherwise determined by the commissioner.

**Appropriation End Date:** June 30, 2029



## Narrative

**Project Summary:** Osprey Wilds will educate over 7,500 K-12 students through outreach programs to K-12 schools that address LCCMR's funding priorities of resiliency, water, education & outdoor recreation, fish & wildlife, energy, & land.

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

For many K-12 schools, an offsite field trip to a nature center or environmental learning center is not an option due to factors such as district-wide policies prohibiting field trips, lack of time, lack of staffing, lack of transportation, and lack of funding. Osprey Wilds plans to remove the social, economic and physical barriers that prevent K-12 students from experiencing environmental education and outdoor recreation by quickly and efficiently bringing environmental education programs to them at their schools and nearby green spaces to provide hands-on, engaging educational programs. While Osprey Wilds has seen positive growth in our overnight K-12 programs at our Sandstone campus over the past several years, we have heard from many schools that a field trip to our site is simply not possible for their school, despite a desire to have those learning experiences. We want to meet schools where they are, and deliver environmental education in a manner that works for them by bringing our programs to their sites. The majority of our K-12 classes and programs are transportable and can be taught on K-12 school grounds. Our classes are aligned with LCCMR's funding priorities of resiliency, water, education & outdoor recreation, fish & wildlife, energy and land.

**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.**

We will bring our K-12 classes to K-12 schools across Minnesota to deliver free, standards aligned, engaging and hands-on educational programs. There is a huge opportunity to connect with schools that are looking for enriching educational options for their students at their locations, without having to coordinate and plan an off-site field trip. We can bring our environmental education programs to them, reaching diverse audiences that otherwise would miss out on meaningful environmental learning opportunities. Osprey Wilds' staff will take our programs on the road to the schools and work with teachers to create engaging learning experiences for their students. Our classes range from one to two hours, and are designed to be taught for groups of 10-20 students, while our live animal ambassador and presentation-style classes can be taught for groups of 100 or more in larger auditorium/gymnasium/cafeteria settings. We would talk with teachers about the physical features, attributes & characteristics of their school grounds, including access to ball fields, school gardens, school forests, nearby greenspaces and waterways within walking distance, as well as indoor educational spaces and suggest which classes we feel would fit best with their specific logistical considerations.

**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?**

Our K-12 programs will educate a minimum of 7,500 Minnesota K-12 students on LCCMR's funding priorities of resiliency, water, education & outdoor recreation, fish and wildlife, energy and land. Through our programs, students will learn strategies that they can consider to protect, conserve, preserve and enhance our state's natural resources. We will ensure that every K-12 student learning experience addresses a minimum of one of LCCMR's six funding priorities.

## 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

## Activities and Milestones

### Activity 1: Prepare for and Promote our Education & Outdoor Recreation outreach K-12 classes

**Activity Budget:** \$7,000

**Activity Description:**

We will purchase archery equipment to create a mobile archery range, as outlined in our budget, and begin marketing to schools about the three-year opportunity for in-school environmental education and outdoor recreation classes that we can bring to them. We will purchase storage tubs and any needed supplies for taking our programs to schools. We will also reach out to schools that used to attend Osprey Wilds but no longer can due to changes in school field trip policies, and/or other factors that have caused them to stop attending.

**Activity Milestones:**

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Purchase Archery, Storage and Class Equipment	August 31, 2026
Fiscal Management Plan is to request reimbursement at least quarterly for expenses incurred per contingency	December 31, 2026
Market these education and outdoor recreation programs to Minnesota K-12 schools	June 30, 2029

### Activity 2: Deliver offsite K-12 environmental education and outdoor recreation programs

**Activity Budget:** \$185,000

**Activity Description:**

Educate a minimum of 7,500 K-12 learners through our offsite K-12 programs that address LCCMR's funding priorities of resiliency, water, education & outdoor recreation, fish and wildlife, energy, and land. The class offerings that schools could choose from are listed in our visual component attached file.

We expect to deliver 375 or more class sessions through a minimum of 90 school visits over the three years. Our educators will drive from Osprey Wilds to schools who have scheduled classes, and will set up at agreed upon locations, which could include indoor sessions at the school, outside fields, school forests, or nearby parks. Depending on the school size, proximity, and scheduling allowance, classes taught could range from a minimum of one class in one day, to four classes taught simultaneously, with up to seven of those sessions (class hours) that day. Classes taught could be a day visit, or could be multiple days, depending on the school size, and how many students we are reaching.

We will consider any school in Minnesota for programs, but will factor in staff availability, driving time, number of classes taught, number of students reached in order to make the most effective use of our time.

**Activity Milestones:**

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Educate a minimum of 2,000 K-12 students through outreach education & outdoor recreation classes	June 30, 2027
Educate a minimum of 2,500 K-12 students through outreach education & outdoor recreation classes	June 30, 2028
Educate a minimum of 3,000 K-12 students through outreach education & outdoor recreation classes	June 30, 2029

## 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 be promoting this programs through direct emails, phone calls and visits to school administrators and teachers who are not currently attending Osprey Wilds. We will also promote through Google Adwords, social media, and at in-person educator conferences. We will be sharing our results through our digital newsletter and annual report that reaches over 12,000 individuals. All promotion of this Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund project 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 Acknowledgment 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?**

Osprey Wilds is well positioned to expand our educational program delivery through consistent growth in our fundraising and scholarship support efforts. We believe this program can be a springboard for other funders to support these efforts as they see the successes we achieve, and the need for more flexible, cost-effective, and innovative ways to deliver environmental education to schools. We are actively increasing our organizational resources and capacity into pursuing other funding sources to continue to grow our financial assistance options to offer to K-12 schools.

## Other ENRTF Appropriations Awarded in the Last Six Years

Name	Appropriation	Amount Awarded
Increasing K-12 Student Learning to Achieve ENRTF's Goals	M.L. 2022, , Chp. 94, Art. , Sec. 2, Subd. 05b	\$1,602,000
Increasing Access to Environmental Education Youth Camps	M.L. 2024, , Chp. 83, Art. , Sec. 2, Subd. 05k	\$163,000

## Budget Summary

Category / Name	Subcategory or Type	Description	Purpose	Gen. Ineligible	% Benefits	# FTE	Classified Staff?	\$ Amount
<b>Personnel</b>								
Reservations Coordinator		To coordinate programs, as well as teach programs			20%	0.6		\$25,352
Wildlife Coordinator		Teach programs at schools			20%	0.6		\$29,996
Fellowship Coordinator		Training Fellows for programs, as well as teaching programs to schools			25%	0.75		\$35,786
Environmental Education Fellows		Teaching education programs to schools			32%	6		\$56,866
							<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$148,000</b>
<b>Contracts and Services</b>								
							<b>Sub Total</b>	-
<b>Equipment, Tools, and Supplies</b>								
	Equipment	Purchase archery equipment for a mobile NASP area. 20 bows @ \$122 each = \$2,440; 25 dozen arrows @ \$48/dozen = \$1,200; 8 34" targets @ \$177 each = \$1,416; Arrow curtain = \$705; 2 Repair Kits @ \$148 each = \$296; 10 Quivers = \$140; 2 sets of Bow Hangers @ \$321 each = \$642; 8 replacement target covers @ \$21 each = \$168	In order for us to offer archery at schools, we need to purchase a separate mobile archery course from the one at our site to take to schools					\$7,000
	Equipment	Storage and class materials for outreach programs	To be able to transport curriculum and have necessary supplies					\$2,000
							<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$9,000</b>
<b>Capital Equipment</b>								
							<b>Sub Total</b>	-
<b>Acquisitions and Stewardship</b>								

							<b>Sub Total</b>	-
<b>Travel In Minnesota</b>								
	Miles/ Meals/ Lodging	100 overnight trips @ \$215/night = \$21,500, 100 site visits @ avg. 200 miles per visit average @ \$.67.mile = \$13,500	Travel costs associated with offsite K-12 program delivery - visiting schools in MN					\$35,000
							<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$35,000</b>
<b>Travel Outside Minnesota</b>								
							<b>Sub Total</b>	-
<b>Printing and Publication</b>								
							<b>Sub Total</b>	-
<b>Other Expenses</b>								
							<b>Sub Total</b>	-
							<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$192,000</b>

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
<b>State</b>				
			<b>State Sub Total</b>	-
<b>Non-State</b>				
Cash	Osprey Wilds Environmental Learning Center	To purchase van and cargo trailer for offsite programs	Secured	\$15,000
In-Kind	Osprey Wilds Environmental Learning Center	Marketing Efforts from Osprey Wilds Marketing & Communications Staff	Secured	\$10,000
			<b>Non State Sub Total</b>	<b>\$25,000</b>
			<b>Funds Total</b>	<b>\$25,000</b>

**Total Project Cost: \$217,000**

**This amount accurately reflects total project cost?**

Yes

## Attachments

### Required Attachments

#### *Visual Component*

File: [4b511ddd-622.pdf](#)

#### *Alternate Text for Visual Component*

The attached file lists Osprey Wilds' class offerings that we could bring to K-12 schools. It also shows which LCCMR funding priorities and specific focus areas our classes meet:

Resiliency: #2

Water: #3, #6

Education & Outdoor Recreation: #1, #2, #3, #4, #5

Fish & Wildlife: #4

Energy: #4, #6

Land: #2...

#### *Financial Capacity*

Title	File
2024 Form 990	<a href="#">82ece267-a5f.pdf</a>
2024 Audited Financials	<a href="#">ac0eede2-8eb.pdf</a>
MN Secretary of State Certificate of Good Standing	<a href="#">2dd6f51a-13d.pdf</a>

#### *Board Resolution or Letter*

Title	File
Board Resolution	<a href="#">4e079e3e-fdd.pdf</a>

## Difference between Proposal and Work Plan

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

None

## 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:**

Bryan Wood, Osprey Wilds Environmental Learning Center

**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