



Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

M.L. 2026 Approved Work Plan

General Information

ID Number: 2026-292

Staff Lead: Erin Barton

Date this document submitted to LCCMR: May 28, 2026

Project Title: Lake Brophy Park Trail Armoring and Trail Improvements

Project Budget: \$70,000

Project Manager Information

Name: Brad Bonk

Organization: Douglas County

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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. 08k

Appropriation Language: \$70,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Douglas County to design and construct enhancements to existing single-track trails at Lake Brophy Park.

Appropriation End Date: June 30, 2029

Narrative

Project Summary: Trail Armoring of the skills area at Lake Brophy Park. Revision of technical features on the Bomber Trail. Adding features to existing trails.

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

Trails maintenance at Lake Brophy Park has been challenging due to its exposed nature and frequent use. The trails are not covered by trees or tree canopy. Although the single track trails dry quickly because of the exposed nature. The trails are close to Alexandria, connected by the Central Lakes Trail and are ridden even when the trails are muddy. The untimely use increases erosion. The challenge is exaggerated for the skills course with increased slopes.

The Bomber trail was rebuilt with our last successful grant from LCCMR. However, the table tops could be tuned to improve the rideability of the trails. There are very few rock gardens in the Lake Brophy Park single track trails. Our Minnesota Cycling Association team predominantly trains and rides at the Lake Brophy single track trail system. Strategically positioned rock gardens will improve our rider's skills and help them with riding other race courses with more rocks and roots.

The initial funding is through Douglas County and Douglas County Parks. They are also the fiscal agents.

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.

Trail Armoring of the skills area at Lake Brophy Park. Revision of technical features on the Bomber Trail. Adding features to existing trails.

Maintenance has been co-operative between Big Ole Bike Club and Douglas County Parks. According to the trail builder that created the skills trails, we have done a nice job with trail maintenance. But Trail Armor MTB, trailarmormtb.com, offers protection for sloped trails, reducing maintenance needs and preserving the original design. Trail Armoring of the Skills Area will decrease erosion, ruts and maintenance. Trail Armor is a commercial mat that covers the trail tread of sloped surfaces. It would be professionally installed with hardware to anchor it. The surface rides similarly to dirt. Over time, it becomes enmeshed with the dirt trail surface. It repels water and resists ruts. After trail preparation, it would be professionally installed. The skills park develop essential skills for mountain biking, including balance, neuromotor, muscle training, cardiovascular capacity, and attentiveness or situational awareness.

Tune and improve the table top features on the Bomber trail at Lake Brophy Park.

Strategically positioned rock gardens as option to the primary trail will improve our rider's skills and help them with riding other race courses.

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?

We have developed single track trails at Lake Brophy Park and Kensington Rune Stone Park protecting, conserving, preserving and enhancing the states natural resources and have seen increased park usage. Several team member's parents have purchased bikes and now ride with their kids on existing trails in the two parks. Big Ole Bike Club members along with the county park's employees, using a groomer purchased by Douglas County Parks to groom trails for winter biking or what is known as "fat tire" biking. Increasing protection, conservation, preservation of the state's natural resources by improving visibility and engagement with the community.

Project Location

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

Region(s): Central

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

Statewide

When will the work impact occur?

In the Future

Activities and Milestones

Activity 1: Lake Brophy Park Trail Armoring of the Skills Area

Activity Budget: \$70,000

Activity Description:

Trail maintenance of the skills trails at Lake Brophy Parks' sloped trails can be challenging particularly during last years' wet summer. Trail Armoring of the Skills Area will decrease erosion, ruts and maintenance. Trail Armor is a commercial mat that covers the trail tread of sloped surfaces. It would be professionally installed by a contractor with hardware to anchor it. The surface rides similarly to dirt. Over time, it becomes enmeshed with the dirt trail surface. It repels water and resists ruts. The contractor will also do trail preparation prior to installation of approximately 4,000 linear feet of the material.

Some riders have difficulty timing the tabletop features of the Bomber Trail at Lake Brophy Park. The contractor will also remodel the tabletops (4 tabletops to be remodeled) so that more riders can enjoy them safely.

Currently, there are not any rock gardens at Lake Brophy Park, so our riders aren't accustomed to them. The contractor will build and create rock gardens (1 to 3 depending on budget) that can be bypassed from the primary trail.

Activity Milestones:

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Preparation for the Trail Armor application	February 28, 2026
All Construction Funds Secured	April 30, 2026
ESA Check list and records Check	June 30, 2026
Consultation with MN SHPO office	June 30, 2026
Prepare Bid Package and award project	October 31, 2026
Application of Trail Armor to the skills area trails Final Milestone	February 28, 2027
Notice of Funded restrictions Recorded	September 30, 2027
Project Completion/ Open for riding	September 30, 2027
Signage installed With ENRTF Language/logo	September 30, 2027
Final Park staff walkthrough with contractor	September 30, 2027

Project Partners and Collaborators

Name	Organization	Role	Receiving Funds
Big Ole Bike Club	Big Ole Bike Club	Big Ole bike club currently does maintenance on the mountain bike trails in the douglas County system.	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 acknowledge the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund 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. We are grateful for the support. We will also give public notice that this work is being done and trails are improved and open

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?

Trails will be maintained by the Douglas County Parks (DCP) and Big Ole Bike Club (BOBC). DCP have dedicated employees for trail maintenance and development. BOBC, together with our Cycling League team has volunteer days for trail building and maintenance for existing trails.

An example of the partnership between Douglas County Parks and Rune Stone Off-Road Cyclists may be grooming the single track trails for fat biking. One of the employees has trained 8 of us to date to groom the trails with machinery purchased for trail grooming.

Other ENRTF Appropriations Awarded in the Last Six Years

Name	Appropriation	Amount Awarded
Lake Brophy Single-Track Trail Expansion	M.L. 2021, First Special Session, Chp. 6, Art. 6, Sec. 2, Subd. 09I	\$100,000

Budget Summary

Category / Name	Subcategory or Type	Description	Purpose	Gen. Ineligible	% Benefits	# FTE	Classified Staff?	\$ Amount
Personnel								
							Sub Total	-
Contracts and Services								
Trail Builder	Service Contract	The trail builder will create, design, modify, and install the Trail Armor. The same builder will modify or revise the Lake Brophy Park Bomber Trail and create and build the rock gardens.		X		1.25		\$52,500
							Sub Total	\$52,500
Equipment, Tools, and Supplies								
							Sub Total	-
Capital Equipment								
							Sub Total	-
Acquisitions and Stewardship								
							Sub Total	-
Travel In Minnesota								
							Sub Total	-
Travel Outside Minnesota								
							Sub Total	-
Printing and Publication								

							Sub Total	-
Other Expenses								
		This is to make the total 70,000 for the system. We were awarded \$70,000 but will only use \$52,500. A match of \$17,500 will come from the big ole bike club to make \$70,000 as an overall project budget. The \$70,000 awarded by LCCMR will have 17,500 of unused funds in it.	Notes					\$17,500
							Sub Total	\$17,500
							Grand Total	\$70,000

Classified Staff or Generally Ineligible Expenses

Category/Name	Subcategory or Type	Description	Justification Ineligible Expense or Classified Staff Request
Contracts and Services - Trail Builder	Service Contract	The trail builder will create, design, modify, and install the Trail Armor. The same builder will modify or revise the Lake Brophy Park Bomber Trail and create and build the rock gardens.	<p>\$25,000 will be used to purchase Trail Armor. Trail Armor is a commercial mat that covers the trail tread of sloped surfaces. It would be professionally installed with hardware to anchor it. The surface rides similarly to dirt. Over time, it becomes enmeshed with the dirt trail surface. It repels water and resists ruts. Over time this will reduce the cost associated with erosion and trail maintenance on the mountain bike trails.</p> <p>Because over time the product becomes enmeshed with the surface it would be nearly impossible to remove. We will however make everyone aware that if in the future a process is created to remove the trail armor mat, and at said time we decided to remove it that we would do so knowing that the funds would need to be repaid.</p>

Non ENRTF Funds

Category	Specific Source	Use	Status	\$ Amount
State				
			State Sub Total	-
Non-State				
Cash	Big Ole Bike Club has the funds secured from a donation.	25% match for the project	Secured	\$17,500
			Non State Sub Total	\$17,500
			Funds Total	\$17,500

Total Project Cost: \$87,500

This amount accurately reflects total project cost?

Yes

Attachments

Required Attachments

Visual Component

File: [9b287b68-d8a.docx](#)

Alternate Text for Visual Component

Trail map. The skills area, marked with the red box. The Bomber Trail is highlighted in yellow. The first map is the entire trail system. The second is a partial enlarged detailed trail map is a partial enlarged detailed trail map with the skills area and the bomber trail highlighted...

Financial Capacity

Title	File
State Audit forms	e02ce56e-df6.pdf

Board Resolution or Letter

Title	File
Fiscal Agent Resolution Lake Brophy Park	259c7633-9c2.docx
Res 25-29 - Brophy Park Trail ENRTF - Fiscal Agent Ltr Received 04-01-2025	fd52dff4-eda.pdf
Big Ole Bike Club board resolution Received 5-27-25	67787769-532.pdf
Good standing with Minnesota	144f985c-d0d.docx
Douglas County Board Resolution	f9c5605e-9f7.pdf
2026-06-02_Douglas County Board Resolution	6728ae42-ac6.pdf

Supplemental Attachments

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

Title	File
Letter of support from Honorable Torrey Westrom, State Senator.	2a41deb4-e91.docx
Letter of Support from Tara Bitzan from the Chamber of Commerce.	7a7e2965-cfb.pdf
Letter of Support from Edward Reif from Alomere, the area health care system.	94d1b097-e84.pdf
Letter of Support, Head Coach of youth mountain bike team	178c58af-413.pdf
Map of Douglas County with the location of Lake Brophy County	13666bd2-7b4.jpe
Visual for the Skills Park and the Brand Bomber	e3819e9a-dba.docx
Capital construction budget addendum Lake Brophy Park 2026-292	76c0e6dd-73d.xlsx
Capital Project Questionnaire	a93c5181-b28.pdf

Difference between Proposal and Work Plan

Describe changes from Proposal to Work Plan Stage

Thank you so much for funding our grant.

Comment ID 1. A fiscal agent resolution was previously uploaded to our application.

Comment ID 2. Our financial capacity assessment with the most recent IRS Form 990 or 990-EZ is uploaded to our

application.

Comment ID 3. I'm unclear on the directions for this comment. I did attach the completed capital project questionnaire.

Comment ID 4. We have attached a trail map with the trails to be improved by the grant, specifically the Skills Park and the Brand Bomber.

Comment ID 5. I did answer yes to the question "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?" (Under Tab 3 - General Information). I did complete and attach the Capital Construction Project Questionnaire and Budget Addendum.

Apologize that the below revisions are a day late.

Comment ID 28. I didn't see any asterisks on tab 5. SHPO not required as trails are existent and built. The grant is for modifications to existing trails. Unclear as to timing of the signage. The work hasn't been performed yet. Happy to mark the trails with ENRTF signage when completed. Please advise.

Comment ID 29. Attached Capital Construction Budget Lake Brophy Park 2026-292.

Comment ID 30. Adjusted the budget to account for the 25% Non-ENRTF funds on the Capital Construction Project-Budget Addendum.

Additional Acknowledgements and Conditions:

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

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

N/A

Do you understand that travel expenses are only approved if they follow the "Commissioner's Plan" promulgated by the Commissioner of Management of Budget or, for University of Minnesota projects, the University of Minnesota plan?

N/A

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

No

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

N/A

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

N/A

Does your project include original, hypothesis-driven research?

No

Does the organization have a fiscal agent for this project?

No

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?

Yes

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")?

No

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

Brad Bonk, Douglas County Park Supervisor on behalf of Douglas County Parks.

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

Yes, I understand