



# Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

M.L. 2026 Approved Work Plan

## General Information

**ID Number:** 2026-584

**Staff Lead:** Noah Fribley

**Date this document submitted to LCCMR:** June 8, 2026

**Project Title:** Expanding Community Boat Building and Outdoor Experiences

**Project Budget:** \$100,000

## Project Manager Information

**Name:** Marc Hosmer

**Organization:** Urban Boatbuilders

**Office Telephone:** (651) 649-9225

**Email:** [info@urbanboatbuilders.org](mailto:info@urbanboatbuilders.org)

**Web Address:** <https://www.urbanboatbuilders.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. 05mm

**Appropriation Language:** \$100,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Urban Boatbuilders to engage youth in hands-on woodworking experiences designing and constructing longboards, canoes, kayaks, and paddles that help develop technical, career-readiness, and leadership skills. 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:** Urban Boatbuilders will expand the Partnership Program to engage 1000 youth in hands-on woodworking experiences to empower young people to develop technical, career-readiness, and leadership skills in nature.

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

In Minnesota, racial and economic disparities persist in graduation rates, standardized test scores, and truancy. BIPOC and low-income youth face barriers to academic preparation and workforce training, limiting pathways to family-sustaining careers and continuing generational poverty. In Ramsey County, 44% of the 42,000 residents ages 16-24 applied for unemployment in 2022. Black and Native American unemployment is 3 times greater than white unemployment.

From the Afterschool Alliance, 77% of Minnesota parents agree that afterschool programs keep their kids safe and out of trouble. Meanwhile, the MN Student Survey reports 66% of Grade 11 students do not attend afterschool programming and 40% feel adults in the community care about them only a little or not at all.

When youth have access to expanded learning opportunities at school and in the community, they are more likely to gain the knowledge and skills to lead and succeed. For 30 years, Urban Boatbuilders (UBB) has connected Twin Cities youth experiencing economic, racial, and social inequities to meaningful expanded learning opportunities through our partnership and our apprenticeship programs – empowering young people to build technical and leadership skills, increase engagement in their educational and employment pathways, and connect to caring peers and adults.

**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.**

UBB's Partnership Program - This academically enhanced woodworking program blends hands-on, experiential learning with creative problem-solving. UBB instructors guide students through the design and construction of longboards, canoes, kayaks, and paddles—bringing concepts to life in schools, summer camps, after-school programs, and community organizations. Each project ranges from 32 - 120 hours and culminates in an outdoor celebration to test and showcase their handcrafted creations. Through this experience, young people gain critical skills, deepen their engagement in learning, and try new activities in a supportive environment. We follow youth development best practices with an emphasis on increasing social and emotional competencies, positive connections with caring adults and peers, and engagement in hands-on learning as a positive alternative to traditional classroom settings and helps acquire necessary soft and academic skills through an alternative setting. A defining feature of UBB programs is the outdoor capstone experience, where youth use the boats, paddles, or longboards they've built. Many participants have historically lacked access to outdoor experiences like swimming and paddling due to cost and limited support networks. UBB equips them with confidence and skills while fostering teamwork, communication, and communication, and personal growth in nature.

**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?**

Urban Boatbuilders will engage 1,000 Twin Cities youth in 32 - 120 hour projects designing and building longboards, canoes, kayaks, and paddles in schools, after-school programs, summer camps, and community organizations. The capstone of this experience will be utilizing these crafts in local parks and waterways. UBB understands creating connections in nature is of vital importance if we are to raise future generations that have a strong basis for environmental ethics. We are actively working towards protecting our precious natural resources by introducing new audiences to the wilderness. The goal is that these youth become future environmental stewards.

## Project Location

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

Region(s): Metro

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

Region(s): Metro

**When will the work impact occur?**

During the Project and In the Future

## Activities and Milestones

### Activity 1: Finalize Partnerships and Timelines and Order Materials

**Activity Budget:** \$10,000

**Activity Description:**

Solidify timelines, projects, and space considerations with partnership organizations that currently have expressed interest but need further financial support: Migizi, Ain Dah Yung, Focus Beyond Transition Services, Metro State TRIO Upward Bound, The New Century School, WYMCA, Journeys Secondary School, High School for the Recording Arts, Loring Nicollet Alternative School, Northside Boxing Club. Reach out to additional past and past potential partners that have expressed interest in the past but were unable to participate due to funding.

Tasks Involved: The Director of Development and Partnership Program Manager will reach out to organizations, solidify partnerships, dates and timelines, and builds. The Executive Director will solidify contracts. The Program Manager will schedule instructors for builds, purchase necessary materials and schedule launch and necessary transportation with partnership organizations as well as the Director of Development and Communications scheduling community volunteers to assist and participate in launch days.

**Activity Milestones:**

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Finalize Partnerships for 2026-2027	March 31, 2027
Finalize Partnerships for 2027 - 2028	January 31, 2028

### Activity 2: Start and complete programming for building skin-on-frame canoes, kayaks, paddles, and longboards. Complete outdoor launches.

**Activity Budget:** \$80,000

**Activity Description:**

Provide 32,000 learning hours over two years, increasing social and emotional competencies, technical woodworking skills, positive connections with caring adults and peers, engagement in hands-on learning, and celebrating the builds during the outdoor launch in local parks and waterways. Connect young people with their hands-on work to a meaningful relationship in and with nature. Partnership Program Instructors will lead the project builds with the partnership organizations. All Urban Boatbuilders staff, community volunteers, and partnership organization staff will participate in the outdoor launch. This includes Urban Boatbuilders staff that are trained in Wilderness First Aid, CPR, and On-the-Water Safety.

**Activity Milestones:**

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Provide 7,500 instructional hours to 500 youth	July 31, 2027
Provide 7,500 instructional hours to 500 youth	June 30, 2028

### Activity 3: Evaluate Programming and Provide Stakeholder Reports

**Activity Budget:** \$10,000

**Activity Description:**

Gather evaluations from partnership organizations, compile and analyze survey results and work with staff and stakeholders for continuous improvements. Report out results and improvements to necessary stakeholders.

Partnership Program Manager will administer surveys to partnership program organizations. Director of Development and Communications will analyze results and deliver reports. Partnership Program Manager will provide feedback for instructors and modify curriculum, delivery, and outdoor experience for greater efficacy as necessary.

**Activity Milestones:**

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Adjust Curriculum as needed to meaningfully engage with 500 Twin Cities Youth	August 31, 2027
Adjust Curriculum as needed to meaningfully engage with 500 Twin Cities Youth	June 30, 2028
Delivery of stakeholder reports	June 30, 2028

## 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.**

Urban Boatbuilders will acknowledge the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund on project print and electronic media, publications, signage, and other communications. Urban Boatbuilders reports the impact of its' programming through multiple channels, including the website, annual reports, and print materials. Additionally, UBB shares best practices with other youth-serving organizations that it partners with throughout Minnesota and the country. These channels will be used to promote the efforts and impact of this project and will include the ENRTF logo, attribution language, or social media tag.

## 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?**

Results will be implemented by utilizing UBB curriculum with Twin Cities youth in schools, after-school programs, summer camps, and community organizations that have expressed interest, but have financial limitations to participate in this programming. This work will continue to be funded by additional state grants, corporate and private foundations, and individual donors.

## Budget Summary

Category / Name	Subcategory or Type	Description	Purpose	Gen. Ineligible	% Benefits	# FTE	Classified Staff?	\$ Amount
<b>Personnel</b>								
Ed Daugherty		Partnership Program Manager			0%	0.3		\$20,000
Kira Church		Partnership Instructor			0%	1		\$50,000
							<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$70,000</b>
<b>Contracts and Services</b>								
							<b>Sub Total</b>	-
<b>Equipment, Tools, and Supplies</b>								
	Tools and Supplies	Lumber, Nails, Sinew, Screws, Wheels, Helmets	Boat, Paddle, Longboard core building materials					\$30,000
							<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$30,000</b>
<b>Capital Equipment</b>								
							<b>Sub Total</b>	-
<b>Acquisitions and Stewardship</b>								
							<b>Sub Total</b>	-
<b>Travel In Minnesota</b>								
							<b>Sub Total</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>\$100,000</b>

Classified Staff or Generally Ineligible Expenses

Category/Name	Subcategory or Type	Description	Justification Ineligible Expense or Classified Staff Request
---------------	---------------------	-------------	--

## Non ENRTF Funds

Category	Specific Source	Use	Status	\$ Amount
<b>State</b>				
			<b>State Sub Total</b>	-
<b>Non-State</b>				
Cash	Grotto Foundation	General Operating support to go towards the Partnership Program expenses	Potential	\$50,000
Cash	Saint Anthony Park Community Foundation	Support of community based projects in the Saint Anthony Park community in Saint Paul	Potential	\$2,500
Cash	Fred C. & Katherine B. Andersen Foundation	General Operating support to go towards expenses of the Partnership Program	Potential	\$30,000
Cash	Ciresi Walburn Foundation	Partnership Program directed funds to cover programming costs with partners	Potential	\$30,000
			<b>Non State Sub Total</b>	<b>\$112,500</b>
			<b>Funds Total</b>	<b>\$112,500</b>

**Total Project Cost: \$212,500**

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

Yes

## Attachments

### Required Attachments

#### *Visual Component*

File: [d1430b00-d93.docx](#)

#### *Alternate Text for Visual Component*

Visuals of building boats and longboards as well as outdoor launch days and celebrations...

#### *Financial Capacity*

Title	File
Audited Financials	<a href="#">75ba12bc-aa9.pdf</a>
IRS Determination Letter	<a href="#">568d81f1-b7d.pdf</a>
MN Secretary of State - Business in Good Standing	<a href="#">adc7d58f-dfc.pdf</a>
2023 990 Form	<a href="#">4ed6b1e8-a12.pdf</a>

#### *Board Resolution or Letter*

Title	File
Board Letter of Support	<a href="#">a7c1290d-871.pdf</a>

### Supplemental Attachments

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

Title	File
2 Year Organizational & Partnership Program Budget	<a href="#">88bffa6c-0ff.pdf</a>

### Difference between Proposal and Work Plan

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

Added updated project location. Added dissemination information.

## 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?**

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:**

N/A

**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