



Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

M.L. 2026 Final Work Plan

General Information

ID Number: 2026-043

Staff Lead: Tom Dietrich

Date this document submitted to LCCMR: May 20, 2026

Project Title: Adopt a Flyway: Enhancing Minnesota's Migratory Bird Pitstops

Project Budget: \$840,000

Project Manager Information

Name: Sarah Hewitt

Organization: Audubon Upper Mississippi River

Office Telephone: (651) 739-9332

Email: sarah.hewitt@audubon.org

Web Address: <https://mn.audubon.org/>

Project Reporting

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

Project Completion: June 30, 2030

Final Report Due Date: August 14, 2030

Legal Information

Legal Citation: M.L. 2026, Chp. 104, Sec. 2, Subd. 08b

Appropriation Language: \$840,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Audubon Upper Mississippi River to pilot an adopt-a-flyway program to incentivize habitat restoration and enhancement of Minnesota's Mississippi Flyway to support the full life cycles of native birds. Notwithstanding subdivision 12, paragraph (e), restoration efforts may be undertaken on private lands if a long-term agreement is secured to protect and maintain the restored area as approved in the work plan and money is committed to monitor that agreement. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2030, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

Appropriation End Date: June 30, 2030

Narrative

Project Summary: The Adopt a Flyway pilot will incentivize habitat restoration and enhancement of Minnesota's Mississippi Flyway to support native birds full life cycles. Audubon ecologists will guide participants through bird-friendly practices.

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

Minnesota provides key stopover and breeding bird habitat in the Mississippi Flyway, one of four North American flyways. Flyways are habitat ranges used by migratory birds as they move between their wintering and breeding grounds. Round-trip migrations for many species can span thousands of miles, requiring quality connected habitat providing food and rest to ensure their survival. 325 bird species, which is almost half of all North American bird species, call the Mississippi Flyway home during their migration and breeding seasons, making it North America's largest flyway.

A landmark 2019 study showed North American bird populations have declined nearly one-third: a loss of three billion birds since 1970, with most being migratory birds. The 2025 State of the Birds confirms major continuous declines. Despite growth of targeted environmental action, threats like habitat loss, pollution, and changing weather continue to impact natural resources and wildlife. Majority of habitat is in private ownership, limiting action despite landowner desires to support wildlife since knowledge of what actions to take is lacking, as is the financial capacity to pay for the improvements. Audubon seeks to expand its positive impact on Minnesota's natural heritage through growing our working lands programs by piloting Adopt a Flyway.

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 Adopt a Flyway program will empower landowners to recognize the value of their land as part of the Mississippi Flyway and encourage voluntary management action to improve migratory and breeding habitat quality. Eligible habitats can be private (including tribal lands) and public (city, county, state, federal) lands. With Audubon's technical assistance, participants will earn public recognition for habitat enhancement and restoration practices rebuilding biodiversity. Land management practices such as native species plantings, invasive species control, prescribed fire, and rotational grazing will be eligible for financial assistance. Priority for protection levels will reflect the following hierarchy: 1. Publicly owned or Private – Permanent Conservation Easement, 2. Forested lands protected under 50 or 20 year contracts, and 3. Private – 10 year protection required for all private land projects, with renewal clause.

Leveraging science and partnerships, Audubon will ensure projects are in the most critical migratory habitat. We will identify priority conservation areas with existing mapped data sources including Audubon's "Mapping Migratory Bird Pitstops in Minnesota", previously funded by LCCMR (July 1, 2023, #243490), Audubon's National Migratory Bird Initiative, Important Bird Area program, online bird data (eBird, NatureServe), and the DNR Conservation Focus Areas. Autonomous recording units will evaluate impact on bird populations.

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?

Audubon will work alongside land managers across Minnesota to guide bird-friendly land management practices, with the goal of impacting 700 acres through technical and financial assistance, while providing official public recognition for those efforts. By utilizing current migratory and breeding data, Audubon will identify high value acres for targeted conservation action. Autonomous recording units will be deployed to monitor bird population impacts of applied management. Additionally, Audubon aims to improve public knowledge and appreciation for the habitat needs of Minnesota's Mississippi Flyway through a robust communications and workshop strategy to grow awareness of Adopt a Flyway goals.

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: Participant Enrollment and Habitat Management Plans

Activity Budget: \$223,268

Activity Description:

The Communications Associate will develop a communications strategy to establish indicator and metric baselines around engagement and satisfaction. They will lead the development of AAF recognition materials.

Outcomes include:

Reach: Grow newsletter subscribers by 300 people during project period, social media and digital engagement: Aim to submit 250 social media posts over the project period

Conversions: Grow Audubon social media following/membership by 500 people,

Satisfaction: Receive at least 10 online reviews reflecting experience with Audubon UMR and our programs.

The ecologists will provide technical assistance to at least 8 program participants. Technical assistance will include site visits, building participant relationships, developing habitat management plans (HMP), assisting habitat enhancement activities, deploying autonomous recording units (ARUs), and sharing data with science staff for analysis.

The HMPs developed by the ecologists will comply with ENRTF’s habitat plan requirements and will address the following elements: historic habitat conditions, current management, desired flyway habitat conditions, recommendations to achieve desired conditions, and targeted bird species. The HMP is an adaptive management plan revisited between the participant and Audubon ecologist on an annual basis. An annual HMP update will ensure adjustments are implemented to achieve intended outcomes for targeted bird species and associated habitat.

Activity Milestones:

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Identify priority Adopt a Flyway Regions	August 31, 2026
Development and deployment of communications plan	August 31, 2026
Landowner engagement and program enrollment for 8 projects	August 31, 2029
Habitat management plan development for 8 projects	August 31, 2029

Activity 2: Flyway Habitat Enhancement

Activity Budget: \$534,297

Activity Description:

Audubon will provide technical assistance to participants interested in to improving the bird-friendliness of their land. Recruitment efforts will be focused on high use areas of migratory and breeding birds, which will be identified by Audubon’s conservation and science staff utilizing existing mapped data sources. Direct communications to potential participants will be led by the Communications Associate, Conservation Manager, and Ecologists through direct mailings, online engagement and partner coordination (local SWCDs, NRCS, Ducks Unlimited).

Participants will have access to financial assistance options for bird-friendly land management practices. Minimum project size is 10 acres, while smaller acreage projects will be guided to the BWSR Lawns to Legumes program. Audubon will provide 90% cost-share for bird-friendly practices while participants will cover 10% of project costs. On average,

Audubon will provide \$600 per acre for practices, including grassland seedings, tree plantings, brush management, and grazing infrastructure installation. Exact practices to improve bird-friendliness will be determined by an Audubon Ecologist alongside the participant. The actual project cost per acre will depend on practices adopted and will vary across projects. Audubon will coordinate necessary contracts, ensuring prevailing wage rates are applied. Through technical and financial assistance, Audubon will influence at least 700 acres.

Activity Milestones:

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Develop and share long-term landowner agreement template with LCCMR for approval.	September 30, 2026
Request bids for habitat enhancement projects.	August 31, 2029
Complete 700 acres of habitat enhancement in priority flyway regions.	November 30, 2029

Activity 3: Partnership Workshops

Activity Budget: \$30,000

Activity Description:

To further promote bird-friendly land management practices and aid statewide adoption, Audubon will support partner workshops. First, Audubon has partnered with the Board of Water and Soil Resources to develop specific bird-friendly planting guidelines for the Lawns to Legumes program, which will be integrated into urban conservation workshops led by the Urban Bird Collective. Also, the guidelines will be promoted in workshops hosted by the Minnesota Grazing Lands Conservation Association that connect directly with private landowners. Audubon will promote landowner adoption of the Forestry for Minnesota Birds (FMNB) Conservation Guide, (March 2025). The FMNB initiative serves to advance conservation priorities and goals identified in the Minnesota Wildlife Action Plan, while incorporating best management practices for at-risk birds and additional conservation guidance from state and regional plans. These forestry-based workshops will be hosted by American Bird Conservancy to support natural resource professionals and private landowners through a coordinated outreach and education effort. These collaborative workshops will ensure natural resource managers provide technical assistance and planning support to private landowners while also promoting public awareness on the importance of diverse and resilient forest bird habitat. A total of 6 workshops will be hosted with an outreach goal of 160 attendees.

Activity Milestones:

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Conduct introductory partner meetings to determine workshop priorities, responsibilities, and workshop dates.	January 31, 2027
Co-host and support three workshops in 2027 with workshop partners.	December 31, 2027
Co-host and support three workshops in 2028 with workshop partners.	December 31, 2028

Activity 4: Bird Monitoring and Analysis

Activity Budget: \$52,435

Activity Description:

To monitor and analyze the bird population impact, Audubon will deploy autonomous recording units (ARUs) at project sites to record bird songs in the spring migration and breeding seasons before and after applied management. ARU placement will follow recommendations from most recent scientific research and will be completed using ArcGIS. The science of utilizing ARUs for tracking birds is new and evolving, therefore, Audubon commits to adopting recommended protocols that are available at the time of funding.

Installation will be completed by April 15th (during years 2027-2030) to ensure migratory and potential lekking species are recorded. Recording timeframes will be dependent on geography and will reflect migratory and breeding windows—for example, South Central MN will have ARUs deployed between April 15-July 5th, and North Central MN will have ARUs deployed between April 15th and July 15th.

Activity Milestones:

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Determine monitoring needs at 6 total project sites and order Autonomous Recording Units.	March 31, 2027
Deploy ARUs for post-treatment bird monitoring (April/May) and collect units in June 2027/2028.	June 30, 2028
Complete ARU data analysis for 2027 and 2028 data and disseminate results to landowners.	November 30, 2028

Project Partners and Collaborators

Name	Organization	Role	Receiving Funds
Monica Bryand	Urban Bird Collective	Coordinating and hosting 2 workshops to engage at least 50 attendees on bird-friendly land management practices.	Yes
Star Nelson	Minnesota Grazing Lands Conservation Association	Coordinating and hosting 2 workshops to engage at least 60 attendees on bird-friendly land management practices on privately owned land.	Yes
Peter Dieser	American Bird Conservancy	Coordinating and hosting 2 workshops to engage at least 50 attendees on bird-friendly forestry management practices on private land.	Yes

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.

To promote the Adopt-a-Flyway project, Audubon will develop the following communications materials to disseminate key information on the project: project 1-page flyer, project webpage, and promotional social media posts. Each material will acknowledge the Environmental and Natural Resources Trust Fund with attribution language and the inclusion of the trust fund logo.

As bird monitoring is conducted and corresponding data is analyzed, Audubon will disseminate results of how the applied bird-friendly land management practices are intended to influence local bird populations on project acres. Audubon will prioritize dissemination through internal documentation provided directly to participating land managers, public presentations, and grant project reports. All public facing reporting will acknowledge 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?

Concept receptiveness and participation will be evaluated by Audubon leadership to inform how the Adopt a Flyway pilot can be integrated into Audubon’s national programming to further our hemispheric conservation goals. Evaluation will take the following results into consideration: level of recruitment effort, participation numbers, acreage impact, impact to bird populations, and sustainability of conservation participation. If Adopt a Flyway encourages rapid enrollment and sustained bird-friendly conservation action from participants, Audubon will grow this pilot nationally. To expand the program nationwide, Audubon will prioritize securing financial support from federal, foundational, and regional funding opportunities.

Other ENRTF Appropriations Awarded in the Last Six Years

Name	Appropriation	Amount Awarded
Habitat Associations of Mississippi Bottomland Forest Marsh Birds	M.L. 2021, First Special Session, Chp. 6, Art. 5, Sec. 2, Subd. 08g	\$275,000
Mapping Migratory Pitstops in Minnesota	M.L. 2023, , Chp. 60, Art. 2, Sec. 2, Subd. 03c	\$340,000
Conservation Grazing for Birds, Beef, and Better Soil	M.L. 2024, , Chp. 83, Art. , Sec. 2, Subd. 08f	\$342,000

Budget Summary

Category / Name	Subcategory or Type	Description	Purpose	Gen. Ineligible	% Benefits	# FTE	Classified Staff?	\$ Amount
Personnel								
Senior Conservation Manager		Project development and management			27%	0.12		\$16,000
Science Associate		ARU data analysis and result distribution			27%	0.8		\$56,000
Forest Ecologist		Provide technical and financial assistance to participants			27%	0.52		\$42,000
Conservation Manager		Project management, promotion, and enrollment			27%	1.92		\$172,000
Communications Associate		Develop communications plan, grow programmatic recognition value, and promote program			27%	0.8		\$58,000
Range Ecologist		Provide technical and financial assistance to participants			27%	0.32		\$18,000
							Sub Total	\$362,000
Contracts and Services								
TBD	Service Contract	Habitat enhancement and restoration work contracts aimed at improving bird habitat through practices such as (but not limited to) prescribed fire, grassland restoration, tree plantings, invasive species control, and brush management.				0		\$420,000
Urban Bird Collective	Subaward	Two public education workshops on bird-friendly management in urban settings will be held in 2027 and 2028, to provide outreach to at least 50 attendees. Expenses include facility rental in the Minneapolis-St. Paul area, meeting supplies, food, and staff time for event coordination by the Urban Bird Collective.		X		0.2		\$8,000
Minnesota Grazing Land Conservation Association	Subaward	Two public education workshops/field days for bird-friendly land management will be held in 2027 to provide outreach to 60 attendees. Events will take place across the state and coordinated by MNGLCA staff. Associated costs include staff time, travel, speaker honorariums, facility rental, and catering expenses.		X		0.2		\$10,000

American Bird Conservancy	Subaward	One public education workshops one professional forester training event on bird friendly forestry in 2027, to provide outreach to at least 50 attendees. Events will take place statewide and coordinated by ABC. Associated costs include two staff time, travel (two staff), facility rentals, printing, and catering expenses.		X		0.2		\$12,000
							Sub Total	\$450,000
Equipment, Tools, and Supplies								
	Tools and Supplies	Field safety equipment	Purchase of field equipment necessary to maintain safety of staff, includes outdoor clothing, field boots, sunscreen, bug spray.					\$800
							Sub Total	\$800
Capital Equipment								
		Autonomous Recording Units	Monitoring bird response to applied practices. 35 units will be purchased (\$500 each, total of \$17,500) along with 35 SD cards (memory storage, \$700), ARU batteries (\$350), data hard drive (\$150), and two tablets for GIS and ARU set up (\$500).	X				\$19,200
							Sub Total	\$19,200
Acquisitions and Stewardship								
							Sub Total	-
Travel In Minnesota								
	Conference Registration Miles/ Meals/ Lodging	2 meetings per year for 2 people over 4 years	We will share the Adopt a Flyway program with conservation partners and do public outreach to grow the impact of the program.					\$3,000
	Miles/ Meals/ Lodging	Conservation staff will travel to workshops and to meet with landowners and managers to develop HMPs.	HMPs will guide habitat enhancement and workshops will educate public					\$5,000

			and professionals on bird-friendly land management					
							Sub Total	\$8,000
Travel Outside Minnesota								
							Sub Total	-
Printing and Publication								
							Sub Total	-
Other Expenses								
							Sub Total	-
							Grand Total	\$840,000

Classified Staff or Generally Ineligible Expenses

Category/Name	Subcategory or Type	Description	Justification Ineligible Expense or Classified Staff Request
Contracts and Services - Urban Bird Collective	Subaward	Two public education workshops on bird-friendly management in urban settings will be held in 2027 and 2028, to provide outreach to at least 50 attendees. Expenses include facility rental in the Minneapolis-St. Paul area, meeting supplies, food, and staff time for event coordination by the Urban Bird Collective.	The generally ineligible expense is the food and catering aspect of our workshops. Providing food for attendees will allow us to keep attendees energized and focused while offering a small incentive for attendance. Each workshop (2 in total) will be half day events (9am-12pm), with snacks provided. The snack budget is expected to be \$10/person, assuming 25 attendees per workshop for a total of \$250 for the snacks at each event.
Contracts and Services - Minnesota Grazing Land Conservation Association	Subaward	Two public education workshops/field days for bird-friendly land management will be held in 2027 to provide outreach to 60 attendees. Events will take place across the state and coordinated by MINGLCA staff. Associated costs include staff time, travel, speaker honorariums, facility rental, and catering expenses.	<p>The generally ineligible expense is the food and catering aspect of our workshops. Catering is a necessary expense due to the following reasons: allows the hosts to avoid logistical interruptions during the workshop to maximize time together, keeps attendees energized and focused, provides networking opportunities, and often offering a free event alone isn't always enough to encourage producer attendance. Our goal is to engage not only producers already practicing regenerative grazing, but also those interested in learning more. These participants come to gain knowledge about grazing and soil health practices and to connect with their peers. Providing a shared meal creates a welcoming environment that fosters conversation and networking, making the event far more effective and meaningful.</p> <p>Each workshop (2 in total) will be 7 hours long (8-3pm) with a full lunch and snacks for the day. MINGLCA expects to have 30 attendees. Total catering cost of \$1,200 per event is projected. All meal costs will be consistent with the Commissioner's Plan. Commissioner's Plan: https://mn.gov/mmb/employee-relations/labor-relations/labor/commissioners-plan.jsp. Any meal costs beyond those outlined in the Commissioner's Plan will be covered with non-ENRTF funds.</p>
Contracts and Services - American Bird Conservancy	Subaward	One public education workshops one professional forester training event on bird friendly forestry in 2027, to provide outreach to at least 50 attendees. Events will take place statewide and coordinated by ABC. Associated costs include two staff time, travel (two staff), facility rentals, printing, and catering expenses.	<p>The generally ineligible expense is the food and catering aspect of our workshops. Providing food for attendees allows us to avoid logistical interruptions during the workshop. We can use our time wisely, while also keeping attendees energized and focused. Time management aside, sharing a meal together encourages networking and collaboration. Having these options for workshop attendees allows for valuable connections.</p> <p>Each workshop (2 in total) will be full day events (8-3pm) with mornings dedicated to presentations and the afternoon spent at site visits. Snacks, beverages, and guidebooks will be provided throughout the day, with a small registration fee to cover lunch or the option to bring a bag lunch. Snack and beverage budget would be \$10/attendee,</p>

			assuming 25 attendees per workshop for a total of \$250 for snacks at each event.
Capital Equipment		Autonomous Recording Units	<p>The autonomous recording units are required for Audubon to determine impacts of applied restoration practices to local bird populations during migration and breeding seasons in a time and cost efficient manner.</p> <p>Additional Explanation : Audubon will continue incorporating autonomous recording units as a trusted bird monitoring method across all future habitat enhancement projects to understand impacts on local bird populations.</p>

Non ENRTF Funds

Category	Specific Source	Use	Status	\$ Amount
State				
			State Sub Total	-
Non-State				
In-Kind	We will require a 10% match for all habitat projects. This could be cash or in-kind match from public or private land owners.	Cash or in-kind match will support completing of enhancement project.	Pending	\$72,000
In-Kind	Audubon UMR	Audubon in-kind match for staff, ICR, and monitoring supplies	Secured	\$266,824
			Non State Sub Total	\$338,824
			Funds Total	\$338,824

Total Project Cost: \$1,178,824

This amount accurately reflects total project cost?

Yes

Acquisition and Restoration

Parcel List

Name	County	Site Significance	Activity	Acres	Miles	Estimated Cost	Type of Landowner	Easement or Title Holder	Status of Work
Minnesota	Statewide	Grassland, Forests, Wetlands	Restoration	700	-	\$420,000	Private	NA	Has Not Begun
Totals				700	0	\$420,000			

Restoration

1. Provide a statement confirming that all restoration activities completed with these funds will occur on land permanently protected by a conservation easement or public ownership.

Audubon will offer technical and financial assistance on both public and privately owned land. On private land, Audubon will enter into a landowner agreement that will hold a 10-year protection on the project acres. Additionally, Audubon's ecologists will encourage private landowners to enroll in permanent easement programming and will provide guidance through enrollment.

2. Summarize the components and expected outcomes of restoration and management plans for the parcels to be restored by your organization, how these plans are kept on file by your organization, and overall strategies for long-term plan implementation.

Audubon will lead the contracting of restoration projects, which will include native grassland plantings, native tree plantings, and invasive species management. We expect to see the abundance and diversity of native bird species return and utilize project sites following practice implementation. An Audubon Ecologist will develop a habitat management plan in collaboration with the participants. This habitat management plan will be adapted annually during the project period, in response to bird data collected at each site to ensure management continues to benefit target birds. These plans will be securely filed within Audubon's database and provided to each participant. Beyond the project implementation period, the participant will be responsible to maintain the improved bird habitat for the life of the landowner agreement of 10 years. Audubon will maintain providing technical assistance to participants throughout this period.

3. Describe how restoration efforts will utilize and follow the Board of Soil and Water Resources "Native Vegetation Establishment and Enhancement Guidelines" in order to ensure ecological integrity and pollinator enhancement.

Audubon will promote BWSR's "Native Vegetation Establishment and Enhancement Guidelines" for each restoration project by providing the guidelines to contractors and program participants. Additionally, Audubon's ecologists will reference the guidelines for project planning integrated in the habitat management plans, where appropriate, while managing contracted plans to ensure efforts follow the guidelines.

4. Describe how the long-term maintenance and management needs of the parcel being restored with these funds will be met and financed into the future.

Long-term management actions to maintain each parcel's enhanced habitat integrity will be guided with the habitat management plans written by Audubon's ecologists. Audubon's ecologists will be responsible for providing technical assistance through annual check-ins and site visits when grant funded practices are completed to ensure long-term management outlined in the habitat management plans are accomplished by the participants. When necessary, ecologists can assist with identifying additional financial assistance to complete key management practices.

5. Describe how consideration will be given to contracting with Conservation Corps of Minnesota for any restoration activities.

Audubon will send all Requests for Bids to the Conservation Corps of Minnesota and Iowa for consideration.

6. Provide a statement indicating that evaluations will be completed on parcels where activities were implemented both 1) initially after activity completion and 2) three years later as a follow-up. Evaluations should analyze improvements to the parcel and whether goals have been met, identify any problems with the implementation, and identify any findings that can be used to improve implementation of future restoration efforts at the site or elsewhere.

A key aspect of the Adopt-a-Flyway pilot program is the technical assistance offered to participants from Audubon's ecologists. The ecologists will be responsible for evaluating each project's completeness and compliance with the enhancement plans detailed in the habitat management plan, and will enforce adjustments if goals were not originally met. Audubon and the participant will enter into an agreement that commits the participant to maintaining the project acres in the desired condition for a ten-year period with Audubon's assistance. The ecologist will be responsible for

conducting annual check-ins with the participant to ensure compliance with the agreement and provide any technical assistance to maintain management integrity of the site for that ten-year period.

Additionally, Audubon will be conducting bird monitoring before and after practices are implemented to determine impact on the target bird populations. Monitoring results will help inform the adaptation of the habitat management plan.

Attachments

Required Attachments

Map

File: [2ad4e446-646.pdf](#)

Alternate Text for Map

Adopt A Flyway 1-Pager with Map of Priority Conservation Areas...

Financial Capacity

Title	File
Audubon Certificate of Good Standing	2c22a4ba-ff0.pdf
Audubon Form 990	70dbe889-3a9.pdf
Audubon Audited Financial Statements 2024	2dd3a738-09c.pdf

Board Resolution or Letter

Title	File
Audubon UMR board letter revised	3502640f-44a.docx

Supplemental Attachments

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

Title	File
MNGLCA Support Letter	c53d5764-bdd.pdf
American Bird Conservancy Support Letter	e485c83a-a0f.pdf
Urban Bird Collective Support Letter	f3feb4c6-10b.pdf

Difference between Proposal and Work Plan

Describe changes from Proposal to Work Plan Stage

Budget and Programmatic Updates:

Personnel Budget

- Our original personnel request was \$613,000 (salary + fringe) and has been updated to \$362,000. The following staff rates were modified:

- Sr. Conservation Manager (15% to 3%)
- Forest Ecologist (15% to 13%)
- Conservation Manager (50% to 48%)
- Communications Associate (25% to 20%)
- Range Ecologist (50% to 8%)
- Science Coordinator (4% to 0% - removed)
- Science Associate remained at 20%

Contract Services and Subawards

- Our original contract/subaward request totaled \$772,000 and has been updated to \$450,000.

- \$420,000 will be dedicated to habitat enhancement practices. This reduction will result in a reduced acreage impact from 1,200 acres to a new 700 acre goal.

- Subawards for workshop partners has been reduced from \$50,000 to \$30,000, which will result in reduced events from 12 to 6 planned workshops.

Supplies

- Our original supply request was \$30,000 and has been reduced to \$20,000.

Travel

- Our original travel request was \$10,000 and has been reduced to \$8,000.

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?

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")?

No

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

Dale Gentry, Director of Conservation, Audubon UMR

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