

**Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund
2015 Request for Proposals (RFP)**

Project Title:

ENRTF ID: 128-F

Flood Recovery on Sargent Creek Duluth Habitat Restoration

Category: F. Methods to Protect, Restore, and Enhance Land, Water, and Habitat

Total Project Budget: \$ 398,000

Proposed Project Time Period for the Funding Requested: 1 year, July 2015 - August 2016

Summary:

We propose to re-establish stable and natural streambanks with riparian and aquatic habitat restoration on 5400 linear feet of Sargent Creek in Duluth that was destroyed in the 2012 flood.

Name: Christopher Kleist

Sponsoring Organization: City of Duluth

Address: 411 First St W, Room 211
Duluth MN 55802

Telephone Number: (218) 355-0598

Email ckleist@duluthmn.gov

Web Address www.duluthmn.gov

Location

Region: NE

County Name: St. Louis

City / Township: Duluth

Alternate Text for Visual:

Graphic attached shows four images of severe streambank washouts and heavy erosion, with two maps inset showing the location within the City of Duluth, and a second map showing the sections of stream that will be restored.

_____ Funding Priorities	_____ Multiple Benefits	_____ Outcomes	_____ Knowledge Base
_____ Extent of Impact	_____ Innovation	_____ Scientific/Tech Basis	_____ Urgency
_____ Capacity Readiness	_____ Leverage	_____ TOTAL	



PROJECT TITLE: Flood Recovery on Sargent Creek Duluth Habitat Restoration

I. PROJECT STATEMENT

We propose to re-establish stable, natural streambanks on approximately 5400 linear feet of Sargent Creek the City of Duluth. The streambank habitat of this DNR designated trout stream was severely damaged in the June 2012 Flood.

Two years ago, the City of Duluth experienced a 500 year rain event which created an unprecedented flow of water down Duluth's steep escarpment. It caused over 100 million dollars in damage to area roads, bridges, and storm sewer infrastructure. This rain event prompted a Presidential Disaster Declaration and the extensive damage gained national attention. One area that suffered heavy damage are Duluth's sixteen designated trout streams, particularly Sargent Creek in West Duluth. This beautiful creek sustained damage to its streambanks, riparian habitat, and lost some floodplain connectivity. We want to emphasize that this project will have low administrative overhead and be fully committed to putting the majority of awarded funds towards construction costs.

The geomorphology of these trout streams and their riparian areas changed tremendously in the flood. During the Disaster Declaration, funding focused on infrastructure related projects, leaving this stream reach severely damaged.

The City has worked in partnership with area resource agencies including the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Federal Emergency Management Authority (FEMA), and other stakeholders. We've used these partnerships to identify, prioritize, and seek funding for the highest priority stream damage sites. To date, the City has received approximately 6.8 million dollars in stream-related funding from State and Federal sources. However, the funding received thus far is focused heavily on stabilizing streambanks and removing debris near existing infrastructure with very little funding for habitat restoration. **This proposal seeks funding to reestablish high-quality stream habitat on the highest priority reach of Sargent Creek to improve aquatic and riparian habitat and protect downstream infrastructure.**

Following the June 2012 flood, our stream assessments generally showed that stream reaches with strong vegetative growth and stable natural channels withstood the extreme flows of the flood better than confined and embanked stream channel segments. As a result, we propose to utilize native vegetation plantings and minor channel re-alignment to re-create a strong, sustainable stream corridor with improved terrestrial and aquatic habitat.

II. PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES

Activity 1: (Flood Recovery on Sargent Creek Duluth Habitat Restoration)

Budget: \$398,000

We will utilize professional stream habitat designers in partnership with local resource experts and stakeholders to determine the appropriate type and quantity of vegetation, geometric improvements to restore floodplain capacity, meanders and streambank stabilizations. The goal is to restore native vegetation and stabilize the severely eroded streambanks of Sargent Creek with the goal of improving habitat, preventing further erosion, restoring the natural stream geometry, and minimize degradation of water quality.



Outcomes	Completion Date
1. Select contractor and complete the restoration construction of 5400 linear feet of Sargent Creek	Summer 2016

III. PROJECT STRATEGY

A. Project Team/Partners

City of Duluth
 South St Louis Soil and Water Conservation District
 Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
 Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Chris Kleist
 RC Boheim
 Brian Fredrickson
 Kirstin Stutzman

B. Project Impact and Long-Term Strategy

Following the June 2012 flood the City has worked closely with agency partners and regional stakeholders to assess, prioritize, and fund restorations on our cherished public trout streams. We are in the process of developing a broad watershed management framework, which will improve communication and consistency among land use authorities. This plan, the Duluth Metropolitan Area Watershed Management Plan, is an exciting and major step towards a long term stream management strategy.

While this Duluth Metropolitan Area Watershed Management Plan process is well underway, the project we are proposing in this application is an extremely important phase in the City of Duluth’s overall flood recovery effort. This project, if funded, will build on an already tremendous investment of State, Federal, Local, and private funding to restore Duluth’s valued trout streams. The first phases of recovery following the flood focused on repairing and stabilizing, we are now focused on habitat restoration of critical stream reaches and improving stream resiliency to lessen the damage after the next major rain event.

The property on which we are proposing the work is entirely public property and within the protected shoreland zone. The Superior Hiking Trail runs through this area adding to the public’s asthetic value of this project.

C. Timeline Requirements

This project can be completed in approximately one year. If funding is received in summer 2015, the survey, plans and specs can be finalized in fall 2015 for construction in summer 2016.

2015 Detailed Project Budget

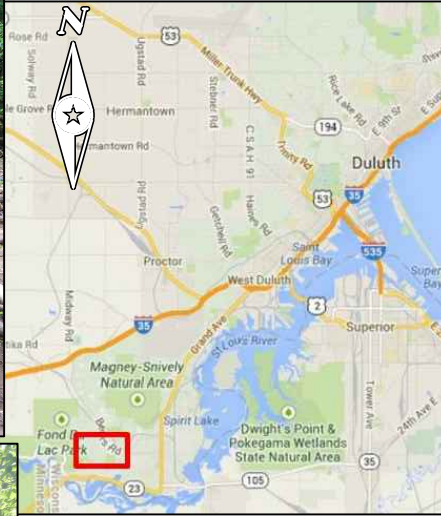
Project Title: Flood Recovery on Sargent Creek Duluth Habitat Restoration

IV. TOTAL ENRTF REQUEST BUDGET Two (2) years

BUDGET ITEM	AMOUNT
Personnel:	
N/A - City staff time as match	0
Contract:	
Design Engineer and Field Management Contractor, TBD	45000
TDSMN, Survey and GIS Mapping	15000
Restoration Construction (publically bid and contracted)	338000
Equipment/Tools/Supplies:	
Restoration live stakes, native grasses, seedlings, mulch, for bank stabilization	\$0 - will be included in construction bid
Acquisition (Fee Title or Permanent Easements):	N/A - all preservation City of Duluth property
Travel:	
Duluth Personnel Travel (<1,000 miles)	N/A - match by City of Duluth
Additional Budget Items:	
Signage	\$0 - match
Printed Handouts of Project	\$0 - match
TOTAL ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND \$ REQUEST =	\$398,000

V. OTHER FUNDS *(This entire section must be filled out. Do not delete rows. Indicate "N/A" if row is not applicable.)*

SOURCE OF FUNDS	AMOUNT	Status
Other Non-State \$ To Be Applied To Project During Project Period:	\$3,283 FEMA	<i>FEMA funded repair of small bridge crossing downstream of project site</i>
Other State \$ To Be Applied To Project During Project Period:	\$56,125 BWSR	<i>currently in design phase</i>
In-kind Services To Be Applied To Project During Project Period:	\$10,000	<i>City staff and local trail volunteers</i>
Staff?		
Funding History:	\$ -	
Flood Control Grants from 2012 Flood Event		approx. \$6,800,000 total on all Duluth streams
Remaining \$ From Current ENRTF Appropriation:	\$ -	N/A



NO.	REVISION-DESCRIPTION	BY	DATE	CHK'D	APP'D

DWN. BY:	TDS	DATE	3/27/14
CHK.	TO	DATE	3/27/14
PROJ. ENGR.			
PROJ. MGR.			
CLIENT APP.			

<p style="text-align: center;">SARGENT CREEK STORM DAMAGE</p>		SCALE	N.T.S.
		DWG. NO.	STORM-DAMAGE-FIGURE-1



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04/21/2014

C:\Users\Troy\Desktop\Geno\Todd Ochsner\Sargent Creek 8.5 X 11.dwg Plotted on: Mar 27, 2014 - 11:49am by Troy

Memo

To: Review Committee
From: Christopher Kleist
Date: 4/21/2014
Re: Project Manager Qualifications and Organizational Capacity

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this project request.

Christopher Kleist is a Program Coordinator with the City of Duluth Engineering and has managed projects for the City for seven years, including currently overseeing nine flood recovery grants totaling over \$6.8 million dollars. He has a Business Marketing degree from the University of Minnesota Duluth, along with a degree in Water Quality Science. Prior to this position he owned and operated a small business in Ely, Minnesota for fourteen years.

The City of Duluth is a first-class City in Northern Minnesota with a population of approximately 86,000. The City has held hundreds of grants ranging from a several thousand dollars to several million. Duluth has the financial infrastructure to handle this grant, if awarded, and ensure that the funding is utilized efficiently via our standard public processes of open bidding and public purchasing.

If you have any questions please feel free to call my cell or email me at 218-355-0598 or ckleist@duluthmn.gov