

**Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund  
2017 Request for Proposals (RFP)**

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**Project Title:**

**ENRTF ID: 176-G**

Mesabi Trail, Wetland Crossing and Bridge Rehab

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**Category:** G. Land Acquisition, Habitat and Recreation

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**Total Project Budget:** \$ 1,231,500

**Proposed Project Time Period for the Funding Requested:** 3 years, July 2017 - June 2020

**Summary:**

This project is needed to complete the TH 135 to Embarrass segment of the Mesabi Trail. Work needed is specific to constructing a 4,000 LF floating dock over a wetland and rehabilitating a bridge (circa 1928) over the Embarrass River. Costs for constructing the dock and bridge are estimated to be \$.

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**Name:** Robert Manzoline

**Sponsoring Organization:** St Louis and Lake Counties Regional Railroad Authority

**Address:** 111 Station 44 Rd  
Eveleth MN 55734

**Telephone Number:** (218) 744-2653

**Email** bmanzoline@rrauth.com

**Web Address** www.mesabitrail.com

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**Location**

**Region:** Northeast

**County Name:** St. Louis

**City / Township:**

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**Alternate Text for Visual:**

Map 1 of project area and specific locations of dock & bridge. Map 2 overall Mesabi Trail

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



**PROJECT TITLE: Mesabi Trail, Wetland Crossing and Bridge Rehabilitation for the TH 135 to Embarrass Trail Segment**

**I. PROJECT STATEMENT**

**General:** Running from the Mississippi to the Boundary Waters, the Mesabi Trail is a 10' wide, 145 mile-long paved trail that serves as an alternate transportation corridor and recreational facility for non-motorized use namely pedestrian, bike, ski, and horses and in designated areas, winter snowmobile use. The Trail connects twenty-eight communities across two counties starting in Grand Rapids and ending in Ely. Approximately 118 miles of the trail has been constructed since its inception in 1996. Please review the attached map for locations of the completed trail and those areas yet to be built. The Mesabi Trail is owned and maintained by the St. Louis and Lake Counties Regional Railroad Authority (RRA). We proudly note that the Trail has been constructed in cooperation with local landowners and local governments, with no eminent domain proceedings. The LCCMR has been our solid partner as we proceed to finish this premier trail in Minnesota.

**Specific:** This project is needed to complete the TH 135 to Embarrass segment of the Mesabi Trail. Work needed is specific to constructing a 4,000 LF floating dock over a wetland and rehabilitating a bridge (circa 1928) over the Embarrass River. Costs for constructing the dock and bridge are estimated to be \$1,231,500.

In year 2014, we received a legacy grant to acquire land and evaluate crossing the Embarrass River and surrounding wetlands and floodplains. 3 routes were identified within the alternative analysis study. Route 1 was eliminated during the public meeting process as it lied within the Polymet Mine boundary that prohibits public entry do to EPA air quality standards. Routes 2 and 3 were advanced for further study including social, economic and environmental impacts. Route 2, shown on the attached map, has been identified as the preferred route alternative. For the most part, this work was completed in February 2016 with the assistance from the US Army Corp of Engineers, MN DNR Waters & Forestry (Darwin Meyers WMA), St. Louis County and local agencies.

In year 2015 we applied for an LCCMR grant in the amount of \$1.2 million to construct the TH 135 to Embarrass trail segment. This application is for the construction of a 6 mile long trail that connects to the existing Mesabi Trail at TH 135 and ends near the Embarrass campground and fairground. This application is currently being considered by the 2016 MN Legislature. Costs were estimated based on using alternative route No 1 that did not impact wetlands or necessitate the need for floating dock or bridge rehabilitation.

**II. PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES**

**Activity 1:** Construct 4,000 LF, 8 foot wide floating dock and rehabilitate an existing 80 LF long steel girder bridge. **Budget: \$1,231,500**

| Outcome  | Completion Date   |
|--|---|
| <p>1. Construct an 8 foot wide, 4,000 feet long floating dock across the Embarrass River wetland/floodplain. The choice of a floating dock is to minimize the impact to this wetland by avoiding fill material and dissection of the wetland. Docks are designed to allow water flow under each dock section with room for animals, fishes, insects and other to pass through/under the dock. The dock minimizes the environmental footprint with most significant impact being to vegetation. Floating docks have been successfully used on other trail segments in Eveleth and near Taconite.</p> <p>Rehabilitate the existing Road 135 bridge that crosses over the Embarrass River. The bridge was constructed in year circa 1928 and has been closed to highway vehicle traffic</p> | <p>To coincided with the 2016 LCCMR project (if awarded) but not longer than December 31, 2018.</p> |



**Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)**

**2017 Main Proposal**

**Project Title:** *[Insert "Project Title" here in document header]*

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>for many years. The bridge is located within the Darwin Meyers WMA managed by the MN DNR. MN DNR currently uses the bridge for light-duty maintenance equipment and foot travel.</p> <p>The bridge is a through-truss, steel girder with a concrete deck. The bridge deck is deteriorated and needs to be replaced along with wing walls and railings. An engineering analysis has been conducted along with a report recommending repairs.</p> |  |
|--|--|

**Other Activities:** Current 2014 Legacy Grant and forthcoming 2016 LCCMR grant (if approved) will cover other project costs/work including environmental, right-of-way, engineering and construction management.

**III. PROJECT STRATEGY**

**A. Project Team/Partners**

St. Louis & Lake Counties Regional Railroad Authority (RRA) is project administrator and recipient of LCCMR funds. RRA works with many agencies during the planning and development process to assist with completing the work. Some of the following agencies may not be considered true "partners" but are invaluable resources for this project.

- St. Louis County                      Environmental LGU, auditing, r-o-w and administrative assistance led by St. Louis County Public Works Director Jim Foldesi.
- Embarrass Township                Public interaction and guidance led by Board Chair Gene Wright and Clerk Diane Nelmark
- Mesabi Trail Workgroup            Citizens advisory and advocacy group led by Chair Bob Whalen
- MN DNR Waters                      Taking part in advising route selection(s) and permitting led by Amy Loiselle and staff
- MN DNR Forestry                    Assisting with access and route selection, Mike Magnuson.
- MN DNR Park & Trails               Directing work, use and trail design through Darwin Meyers WMA, Paul Mauer & staff
- US Fish & Wildlife                    Threatened species avoidance/impacts, St. Paul Office
- US Corps of Engineers              US Waters protection, avoidance and impact minimization, Daryl Wierzbinski
- BWSR                                    MN waters protection, avoidance and impact minimization, Lynda Peterson
- MN State Historic Preservation Office            Cultural resource protection, avoidance and impact minimization, Sarah Beimers

There are many other individuals and communities involved with this project that are too numerous to mention but know who they are and are very much appreciated.

**B. Project Impact and Long-Term Strategy**

The Mesabi Trail long-term strategy is to complete the trail from Grand Rapids to Ely as seen on the attached map. This strategy has not changed for year 1996. Approximately 118 miles of the planned 145 mile long trail has been constructed where shown on the attached map. In year 2016 approximately 12 additional miles will be constructed within the Vermillion State Park, near Biwabik and near Bearhead State Park where shown on the attached map The attached map also indicates in "black" those sections of trail yet to be constructed. We have secured approximately \$3 million dollars to build part of the remaining trail sections and we are in need of approximately \$7 million additional dollars to complete this project.

**C. Timeline Requirements**

Timing of this project will coincide with our current 2016 LCCMR funding request (if approved) planned to begin construction summer of year 2017 and completed June 2018.

## 2017 Detailed Project Budget

**Project Title: Mesabi Trail, Wetland Crossing and Bridged Rehabilitation for the TH 135 to Embarrass Trail Segment**

*Attach budget, in MS-EXCEL format, to your "2017 LCCMR Proposal Submission Form".*

*(1-page limit, single-sided, 10 pt. font minimum. Retain bold text and DELETE all instructions typed in italics. ADD OR DELETE ROWS AS NECESSARY. If budget item row is not applicable put "N/A" or delete it. All of "Other Funds" section must be filled out.)*

**IV. TOTAL ENRTF REQUEST BUDGET [Insert # of years for project] years**

| <b>BUDGET ITEM</b> <i>(See "Guidance on Allowable Expenses", p. 13)</i>  | <b>AMOUNT</b>       |
|--|---------------------|
| Additional Budget Items: construction of an 8 foot wide, 4,000 LF long floating dock and rehabilitation of an 80 LF long, existing steel girdor bridge | \$1,231,500         |
| <b>TOTAL ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND \$ REQUEST =</b>   | <b>\$ 1,231,500</b> |

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

| <b>SOURCE OF FUNDS</b>   | <b>AMOUNT</b> | <b>Status</b>  |
|--|---------------|--|
| <b>Other Non-State \$ To Be Applied To Project During Project Period:</b> <i>Indicate any additional non-state cash dollars secured or applied for to be spent on the project during the funding period. For each individual sum, list out the source of the funds, the amount, and indicate whether the funds are secured or pending approval.</i>                                | N/A           | <i>Indicate:<br/>Secured or<br/>Pending</i>            |
| <b>Other State \$ To Be Applied To Project During Project Period:</b> <i>\$330,000 2014 Legacy Grant has been seured for this project and is being used for envrmental, preliminary engineering and land aquisition, Legacy Grant expires June 30, 2016. \$1.2 million LCCMR request is currently being reviewed by MN Legislature for year 2016 funding.</i>                      | \$ 1,530,000  | <i>legacy grant<br/>secured,<br/>LCCMR<br/>pending</i> |
| <b>In-kind Services To Be Applied To Project During Project Period:</b> <i>Indicate any additional in-kind service(s) secured or applied for to be spent on the project during the funding period. For each type of service, list type of service(s), estimated value, and indicate whether it is secured or pending. In-kind services listed must be specific to the project.</i> | N/A           | <i>Indicate:<br/>Secured or<br/>Pending</i>            |
| <b>Funding History:</b> LCCMR 2005 to present \$1,000,000; and State Bond 2005 to present \$950,000; and State 1995 to 2005 \$2,500,000; and MN Legacy 2012 & 2014 \$\$842,000; and Federal Enhancement TAP, Trails, ARRA \$8,082,000; and Local RRA, IRRRB, SLC \$3,000,000   | \$ 16,374,000 |  |
| <b>Remainmaining From Current ENRTF Appropriation:</b> <i>year 2015 \$1.0 million</i>  | \$1,000,000   | <i>\$877,000<br/>unspent</i>                           |

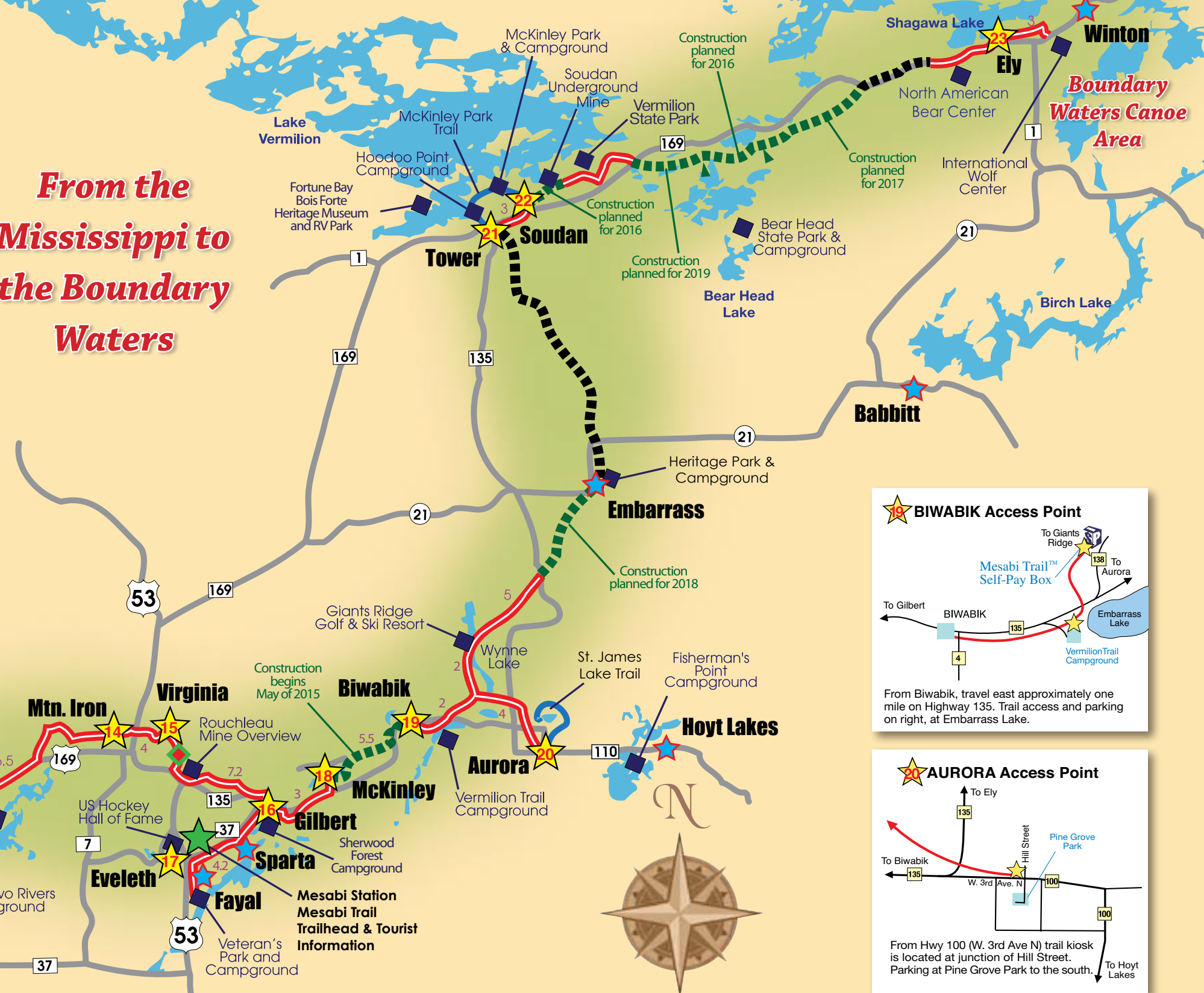


# From the Mississippi to the Boundary Waters

**For Mesabi Trail Information:**  
[mesabitrail.com](http://mesabitrail.com)  
 877-637-2241

Wheel pass required for ages 18 and older using wheels on the trail. \$15 annually or \$5 for 3-days. Available online at [mesabitrail.com](http://mesabitrail.com) or at pass vendors listed on other side.

Join Club Mesabi and get a FREE wheel pass! See other side of this map for more information!



**The Mesabi Trail**

|              |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |    |
|--------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|----|
| Grand Rapids | 16.3 | 29.3 | 39.3 | 46.3 | 51.3 | 64.3 | 74.5 | 83 |
| Hibbing      | 13   | 23   | 30   | 35   | 48   | 58.2 | 66.7 |    |
| Virginia     | 10   | 17   | 22   | 25   | 35   | 45.2 | 53.7 |    |
| Buhl         | 7    | 12   | 15   | 18   | 25   | 32.7 | 36.7 |    |
| Chisholm     | 5    | 13   | 18   | 23.2 | 31.7 |      |      |    |
| Mckinley     |      |      |      | 10.2 | 18.7 |      |      |    |
| Keewatin     |      |      |      |      | 8.5  |      |      |    |

**Legend**

- Trailhead Communities With Access Points
- Completed Trail
- Future Construction
- Future Trail Attractions
- Local Trails
- Indicates a hill with up to 8% grade

**BIWABIK Access Point**

To Biwabik, travel east approximately one mile on Highway 135. Trail access and parking on right, at Embarrass Lake.

**AURORA Access Point**

To Aurora, travel west on Highway 100. Trail access and parking at Pine Grove Park.

**GRAND RAPIDS Access Point**

From Hwys. 169 & 2, turn north onto 3rd Ave. NE to Itasca County Fairgrounds. Trail access and parking at north side of fairgrounds.

**TACONITE Access Point**

From Hwy 169, exit north onto Hwy 15. Trail access at Bennett Street. Parking is available at the Community Center and on Bennett Street.

**PENGILLY Access Point**

From Hwy 169, turn south onto Howard St. Parking is available immediately on your right.

**HIBBING Access Point**

From Hwy 169, exit west onto Howard St., follow to 3rd Ave. E. Turn right and go 1/2 mile. Trail access at Greyhound Bus Museum parking lot on left.

**KINNEY Access Point**

From Hwy 169, exit north at Hwy 25 and go .3 mile towards downtown. Trail access and parking lot are on the left.

**GILBERT Access Point**

From Hwy 37 (Broadway) turn east on Wisconsin Ave. to trail access. Bathrooms, parking, and water at Sherwood Forest Campground.

**TOWER Access Point**

From Hwy 169 turn south onto Pine Street. Parking is available at Civic Center and trail access is two blocks away.

**BOVEY Access Point**

From Hwys. 169 & 2, turn north onto 3rd Ave. NE to Itasca County Fairgrounds. Trail access and parking at north side of fairgrounds.

**MARBLE Access Point**

From Hwy 169, turn north onto Co. Rd 80/Alice Avenue. Trail access and parking will be .5 miles on left, just past ball field.

**NASHWAUK Access Point**

From Hwy 169, turn north on Hwy 65 to parking lot on west side of road. Access is directly across Hwy 65.

**CHISHOLM Access Point**

From Hwy 169, exit onto 4th Ave. SE to Lake St., veering left. Parking is on Lake St. and 1st Ave. SE.

**MTN. IRON Access Point**

From Hwy 169, exit north onto Hwy 102 and travel .75 mile into downtown. Turn left, go 2 blocks on Main Street. Turn right at Mountain Ave. Trail access and parking 1 block ahead.

**EVELETH Access Point**

From Hwy 53, exit onto Hwy 37. Turn west on 37 (Fayal Road) to Fayal Pond Parking. .1 mile on left or continue to Fayal Ave. turn left and follow signs to parking at Southside Park.

**Soudan Access Point**

From Hwy 169 turn north into Breitung Monument Park. Parking and restrooms.

**COLERAINE Access Point**

From Hwy 169, turn onto Curley Avenue and travel .3 mile. Trail access is off parking lot at junction of Hwy 61 and Cole Ave. For parking, follow Cole Ave. to Longyear Park.

**MARBLE Access Point**

From Hwy 169, turn north onto Co. Rd 80/Alice Avenue. Trail access and parking will be .5 miles on left, just past ball field.

**NASHWAUK Access Point**

From Hwy 169, turn north on Hwy 65 to parking lot on west side of road. Access is directly across Hwy 65.

**CHISHOLM Access Point**

From Hwy 169, exit onto 4th Ave. SE to Lake St., veering left. Parking is on Lake St. and 1st Ave. SE.

**MTN. IRON Access Point**

From Hwy 169, exit north onto Hwy 102 and travel .75 mile into downtown. Turn left, go 2 blocks on Main Street. Turn right at Mountain Ave. Trail access and parking 1 block ahead.

**EVELETH Access Point**

From Hwy 53, exit onto Hwy 37. Turn west on 37 (Fayal Road) to Fayal Pond Parking. .1 mile on left or continue to Fayal Ave. turn left and follow signs to parking at Southside Park.

**Soudan Access Point**

From Hwy 169 turn north into Breitung Monument Park. Parking and restrooms.

**ELY Access Point**

From Hwy 169, turn north onto N. Central Ave/Pioneer Road and continue for 3 blocks. Trail access and parking is on the right.

# Mesabi Trail™

From the Mississippi to the Boundary Waters

The Mesabi Trail offers an abundance of natural and outdoor experiences. Bike, hike, skate, ski, snowshoe and in some areas snowmobile, along the Trail as it traverses over 120 miles through 28 communities. Explore historic buildings, mining artifacts, early industry and ethnic history, plus other treasures well worth the discovery. Forests teeming with wildlife can be found between rolling hills. Streams and creeks provide habitat for birds and animals. Grand heaps of earth provide man-made mountains that are becoming re-growth forests lining the edges of some of the world's largest mines. These former mines are fast becoming a linked chain of watery passage-ways. Come enjoy a quality guest experience in the Land of Mesabi, via the Mesabi Trail.

Get your Mesabi Trail Wheel Pass:

- Online at [mesabitrail.com](http://mesabitrail.com)
- At any local Wheel Pass vendor
- At self pay boxes along the Trail

## Lodge to Lodge Bicycling

Let us design a package to suit your style! A romantic B&B getaway, a family bike camping trip, a trip for two ... or a trip for 20! We can help you plan lodging, luggage shuttles, box lunches and we can shuttle you and your bikes back to your vehicle. Packages include suggestions on great places to eat, awesome overlooks, cool historical sites to visit, and practical things like convenience stores and rest stops! Hosted rides, group rides for up to 25, and sag-wagon supported rides are available too.

The Mesabi Trail Shuttle Service is based at the Giants Ridge Golf & Ski Resort in Biwabik:

- 1-800-688-7669 ext. 8025
- 218-865-8025
- [chris.johnson@giantsridge.com](mailto:chris.johnson@giantsridge.com)

## Love the trail?

### Join the Club!

Have you fallen in love with the Mesabi Trail? Show your love by joining Club Mesabi! Membership supports the Mesabi Trail, plus you get some great perks - like your annual wheel pass, discounts from Mesabi Trail Town merchants, on Trail merchandise and the Great River Energy Mesabi Trail Tour.

Join the Club:

[mesabitrail.com](http://mesabitrail.com) 218-749-4331  
PO Box 139, Virginia, MN 55792  
[tourinfo@mesabitrail.com](mailto:tourinfo@mesabitrail.com)

### Rules for Conduct

- Wheel Pass required for ages 18 years and older using a bicycle, inline skates or other non-motorized wheeled device.
- Passes must be displayed while on the Trail.
- The Mesabi Trail is a non-motorized trail, except snowmobiles where designated.
- Non-motorized vehicles and motorized wheelchairs shall not exceed 36" in width.
- Keep pets on a leash no longer than 6' long
- Holes or trenches may not be dug.
- No signs or advertisements.
- Start fires only in officially designated fire rings, stove or grills. Do not leave a fire unattended. Be sure fire is extinguished before leaving the area.
- No hunting, loaded weapons or alcohol.
- Do not remove, alter, injure or destroy any tree, plant, rock, soil or mineral.
- Camping and horseback riding are allowed only in designated areas.
- EMERGENCY CALL 911.
- Report all violations to the Mesabi Trail office at (218) 744-1388.
- Audible signal when passing: "on your left"

Snowmobiles allowed within the corridor of these areas only: Grand Rapids to Hwy 61; Coleraine to connection of Taconite Trail, and; Hibbing to Buhl.

### Mesabi Trail™ Shuttle Service

Call the Mesabi Trail Shuttle Service and we'll "portage" you and/or your gear to your hotel or to the next completed trail segment - all you have to do is enjoy the ride! We can also help you plan your trip. Email us at: [chris.johnson@giantsridge.com](mailto:chris.johnson@giantsridge.com)

#### Hours & Dates of Operation

May 1-31: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
June 1 - August 31: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
September 1 - October 15: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For more information and to make reservations: 218-865-8024 or 800-688-7669 (ext 8024 or 8025) or 218-780-4541 (cell) or 218-749-9278 (cell)

The Mesabi Trail Shuttle Service is based out of Giants Ridge Golf & Ski Resort near Biwabik.

#### Service Areas and Pricing

Shuttle services are available to trail users from Grand Rapids to Aurora and all points in between, up to 12 bikes and passengers per trip. Prices vary with distance traveled but are packaged into two zones. For regular shuttle service, please call at least one day in advance.



#### Zone 2: Nashauk-West

1 Person: \$54  
2 People: \$64  
3 People: \$74  
4 People: \$84  
5 or 6 People: \$104  
7+ people: Call for details

#### Zone 1: Nashauk-East

1 Person: \$39  
2 People: \$49  
3 People: \$59  
4 People: \$69  
5 or 6 People: \$89  
7+ people: Call for details

Due to fuel cost, printed prices are subject to change without notice. Shuttle must be booked with a credit card. Cancellations less than 24 hours prior to scheduled shuttle will be charged a 25% cancellation fee (inclement weather is an exception).

Longer distance shuttles beyond zones one and two are available with advance notice and a deposit. Group rates available for more than six people. Please call for details.

### Mesabi Trail™ wheel pass vendors

A wheel pass is required for ages 18 and over using a wheeled device such as a bicycle or inline skates. Hikers, joggers and walkers are not required to purchase a pass. Cost is \$15 for an annual and \$5 for a three-day pass. Revenue from Wheel Pass sales helps support the Mesabi Trail. Passes are available at [mesabitrail.com](http://mesabitrail.com), at any of these vendors, or at self-pay boxes along the Trail.



Towns are listed from West to East. All Numbers (218) Area Code

|              |                            |              |                        |
|--------------|----------------------------|--------------|------------------------|
| Grand Rapids | Itasca Trail Sports        | 326-1716     | 316 NE 4th St.         |
| Grand Rapids | Reed Drug Store            | 326-3453     | 417 NW 1st Ave         |
| Grand Rapids | Glen's Army-Navy Store     | 326-1201     | 701 NW 4th St.         |
| Grand Rapids | Morning Glory B & B        | 326-3978     | 726 NW 2nd Ave         |
| Grand Rapids | TimberLake Lodge           | 866-800-2200 | 144 SE 17th St.        |
| Bovey        | Hollywood Bait Shop        | 245-1612     | 50 County Rd 10        |
| Marble       | Ron's Komer Market         | 247-7351     | Hwy 169                |
| Pengilly     | Swan Lake Sinclair         | 885-3806     | 31277 Hwy 65           |
| Nashauk      | Nashauk Little Store       | 885-3105     | 121 1st St.            |
| Keewatin     | Keewatin Sinclair          | 778-6140     | 210 N First St.        |
| Hibbing      | Bikes on Howard            | 262-0899     | 407 E Howard St.       |
| Hibbing      | Hibbing Park Hotel         | 262-3481     | 1402 E Howard St.      |
| Hibbing      | Hibbing Parks & Rec.       | 362-5940     | 400 E 23rd St.         |
| Hibbing      | Hibbing Tourism Center     | 262-4166     | 1202 E Howard St.      |
| Hibbing      | Hull-Rust Mineview         | 262-4900     | 401 Penobscott Rd.     |
| Chisholm     | Chisholm Inn & Suites      | 254-2000     | 501 Iron Dr. (Hwy 169) |
| Chisholm     | Chisholm Area Chamber      | 800-422-0806 | 223 West Lake St.      |
| Chisholm     | Minnesota Discovery Center | 800-372-6437 | 801 Hwy 169            |
| Buhl         | Buhl City Hall             | 258-3226     | 300 Jones Ave          |
| Mtn. Iron    | Spring Creek Outfitters    | 735-8719     | 8873 Main St.          |
| Mtn. Iron    | Holiday Inn Express/Suites | 741-7411     | 8570 Rock Ridge Rd.    |
| Mtn. Iron    | Americinn Lodge & Suites   | 741-7839     | 5480 Mtn. Iron Drive   |
| Virginia     | Mesabi Recreation          | 749-8161     | 111 Station Road       |
| Virginia     | Natural Harvest Foods      | 741-4663     | 505 3rd St. N          |
| Virginia     | The Shop Coffee House      | 248-8157     | 235 Chestnut Street    |
| Eveleth      | Iron Range Tourism Bureau  | 749-8161     | 111 Station Road       |
| Eveleth      | Super 8                    | 744-1661     | US Hwy 53              |
| Gilbert      | Sherwood Forest Campground | 748-2221     | 301 Ore-Be-Gone Dr.    |
| Biwabik      | Biwabik City Hall          | 865-4183     | 321 Main St.           |
| Biwabik      | Giants Ridge Bike Shop     | 865-8024     | 6325 Giants Ridge Rd.  |
| Biwabik      | The Villas at Giants Ridge | 865-4155     | 6266 Giants Ridge Rd.  |
| Ely          | Piragis Northwoods Co.     | 365-6745     | 105 N. Central Ave.    |

AUGUST 1, 2015



Coleraine to Eveleth



From the Mississippi River to the Boundary Waters



Includes information about the

Great River Energy/Mesabi Trail Bike Tour '15



In Support of Ampers - Diverse Radio for Minnesota's Communities

# August 1, 2015 Join the fun on Minnesota's Premier paved bike trail!

A UNIQUE RIDING EXPERIENCE



Ride for the fun or for the challenge - either way, mark your calendar for August 1, 2015, when Great River Energy and the Mesabi Trail join forces in northern Minnesota to support two state traditions: recreational trails and Ampers - Diverse Radio for Minnesota's Communities. The Great River Energy Mesabi Trail Tour '15 offers great food, music and family entertainment. Charitable proceeds will be donated to Ampers and the Mesabi Trail.

The "CenturyLink Ride" route is sponsored by:



All 100k riders earn a "special" t-shirt!



Choose from four routes - and they all lead to fun!

The Great River Energy Mesabi Trail™ Tour is designed for families and serious trail riders alike. Four starting points allow riders to customize their route, from 11 to 72 miles. At the end of the day, all trails lead to Eveleth, for a picnic and concert. Whichever start point you choose, you'll encounter historic and scenic points of interest with fun stops along the way. We'll even transport you and your bike to your start point.

| Route 1  | Route 2  | Route 3  | Route 4   | Registration & FINISH LINE  |
|--|--|--|---|---|
| <b>Century Link Ride START POINT (72 MILES)</b>  | <b>START POINT (53 MILES)</b>  | <b>START POINT (25 MILES)</b>  | <b>START POINT (11 MILES)</b>   |   |
| <b>Coleraine</b>   | <b>Nashauk</b>   | <b>Buhl</b>  | <b>Virginia</b>   | <b>Eveleth</b>  |
| Starting Time: 8:00 - 9:00 a.m.<br>The start point for the "CenturyLink Ride" is the Hodgkins-Berardo Arena. | Starting Time: 9:00 - 10:00 a.m.<br>Start the 53 mile route at the Nashauk Recreation Center. This is also a rest stop, with music, food and refreshments. | Starting Time: 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.<br>The Community Center in Buhl is the start of the 25 mile route and is also a rest stop with music, food and refreshments. | Starting Time: 11:00 - 12:00 noon<br>The 11 mile route starts at Olcott Park and is also a rest stop with music, food and refreshments. | The finish for all routes is at Mesabi Station in Eveleth. Riders can catch the FREE bus shuttle here on Saturday morning to all start points. The finish line party is here with a picnic and concert. |

For more detailed schedule information: [mesabitrail.com](http://mesabitrail.com) or 877-637-2241

**Rider Bus Transportation:** Saturday morning from the finish line in Eveleth to all start locations:  
• 7:00 a.m. to Coleraine • 10:00 a.m. to Buhl  
• 8:00 a.m. to Nashauk • 10:30 a.m. to Virginia  
There is no transportation of bikes/riders at the end of day.  
**Entertainment:** 12:30 - 5:00 p.m. Mesabi Station in Eveleth, and at most start points.  
**Food:** Snacks and beverages at five rest stops. Picnic dinner at Mesabi Station/11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.



What riders said about the 2014 tour:

"Best Ride in Minnesota."

"A number one, class act event"

"A delightful tour. Done top notch year in and year out."

## Great River Energy Mesabi Trail™ Tour '15

in support of Ampers and THE MESABI TRAIL™ A Great Deal for a Great Cause

To register online, and for more information [mesabitrail.com](http://mesabitrail.com) or toll free: 877-637-2241

| Registration Fees: | AFTER JULY 22, 2015           |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| Individual:        | \$ 45.00 Individual: \$ 60.00 |
| Couple:            | \$ 90.00 Couple: \$ 120.00    |
| Family:            | \$ 90.00 Family: \$ 120.00    |

Kids 18 and under ride free when accompanied by an adult.

Join Club Mesabi and SAVE 10%

Contact Club Mesabi at 218-749-4331 about group discounts including - scout troops, church groups, bike clubs, family reunions or workplace wellness programs.



For more information, registration and event updates:

[mesabitrail.com](http://mesabitrail.com) 877-637-2241

## Project Manager Qualifications for ENRTF 2016 Proposal

Project manager is Robert Manzoline, Executive Director of the St. Louis & Lake Counties Regional Railroad Authority, hereafter referred to as the "Rail Authority".

Rail Authority has been working on the development of the Mesabi Trail since year 1995 and has constructed 110 miles of the trail thus far. Another 7 miles of the Mesabi Trail is planned for construction in year 2015.

The project, TH 135 to Embarrass segment of the Mesabi Trail is very similar to most other segments of the Mesabi Trail constructed to date. The Rail Authority is experienced with all aspects of this project including public involvement, agency contacts, environmental, engineering, construction and budgets and funding.

The Rail Authority has worked with many grant agencies over the years including LCCMR, MN State Bond, MN Legacy, MN DEED, MN IRRB and Federal Enhancement, TAP and Recreational Trails grants. Mesabi Trail grants have totaled in excess of \$10 million dollars.

