

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

Project Title:

ENRTF ID: 179-G

Wolverton Creek Land Acquisition and Stream Habitat Restoration

Category: G. Land Acquisition, Habitat and Recreation

Total Project Budget: \$ 9,550,000

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

Summary:

Project to acquire land, restore and expand fish and wildlife habitat, improve water quality, reduce flooding and protect the natural resources of Wolverton Creek located in west central Minnesota.

Name: Bruce Albright

Sponsoring Organization: Buffalo-Red River Watershed District

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Web Address www.brrwd.org

Location

Region: Central

County Name: Clay, Wilkin

City / Township:

Alternate Text for Visual:

Wolverton Creek Land Acquisition and Stream Habitat Restoration Map

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



PROJECT TITLE: Wolverton Creek Land Acquisition and Stream Habitat Restoration

I. PROJECT STATEMENT

This comprehensive project located in west central Minnesota will restore 20 channelized stream miles of Wolverton Creek to 26.2 miles of natural stream with 740 acres of riparian wetland and prairie habitat through the combined implementation of several restoration methods. Land acquisition coinciding with the construction of a sinuous two-stage channel will permanently protect a wildlife corridor ranging from 200 feet to more than 750 feet in width. The stream rehabilitation will be based on the principles of natural channel design with an understanding of the hydrology and fluvial geomorphology at the site. The restoration will provide wildlife connectivity from the Manston Slough WMA to the Red River of the North. The enhanced stream and associated riparian wetlands will improve habitat for channel catfish, northern pike, and more than 50 other fish species documented in the Red River. In addition to the fish habitat, the restored wetlands and grasslands will provide critical wildlife habitat. Adjacent agricultural fields will see less flooding, and, when they do flood, sediment BMPs such as side inlets and grade control structures installed through this project will greatly reduce the sedimentation deposited in the channel. The combined efforts will significantly reduce sediment loadings to waterways, provide a contiguous wildlife habitat corridor, and create a self-sustaining ecosystem.

Beginning over a century ago, streams in the Red River Basin have been straightened, ditched, cleared, and snagged with the goal of improving drainage and agricultural production. Wolverton Creek is one of the streams that has experienced these impacts. Along with the straightening, soil leaving the contributing agricultural fields has filled many of these waterways, leaving them choked with sediment. When combined, these activities have impacted miles of aquatic habitat, eliminating habitat along vital wildlife and fisheries corridors. Habitat losses have reduced fish and wildlife not only within the channelized reaches of these streams but within downstream reaches, as well. The Red River of the North is the outlet for Wolverton Creek, just upstream of the cities of Fargo, ND, and Moorhead, MN. Flooding of adjacent agricultural fields along Wolverton Creek is a fairly common occurrence and adds to the amount of sedimentation deposited in the stream. Wolverton Creek is listed in the source water management area for the City of Moorhead's surface water intake and contributes more than 10,000 tons/year of sediment to the Red River. The Buffalo-Red River Watershed District (BRRWD) has developed a plan to acquire land, restore and expand fish and wildlife habitat, improve water quality, reduce flooding, and protect the valuable natural resources of Wolverton Creek in an extensively drained agricultural region. This unique prairie stream is located entirely within the Lake Agassiz plain ecoregion and is host to native mussel beds and fish spawning habitat. Wolverton Creek is a significant Red River tributary, with a drainage area encompassing approximately 104 square miles. The Minnesota DNR has already issued a permit for the project.

II. PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES

The outlet reach of Wolverton Creek downstream of Trunk Highway 75 was previously restored through the installation of a series of rock riffles, vegetative buffers, and sediment BMPs. Previous work also included installing vegetative buffers, erosion control, and sediment BMPs on all of the legal drainage systems draining into Wolverton Creek. The remaining portion of Wolverton Creek upstream of Trunk Highway 75 has been broken into three restoration reaches (A, B, and C). Land acquisition of the habitat corridor along the reaches will be required prior to implementing the restoration. The proposed buffer widths greatly exceed the 50-foot state buffer for public waters and provide an additional 410 acres of riparian habitat. Funds provided through the ENRTF will not be spent on the state-mandated buffers. The BRRWD will provide an annual real property interest report on the status of the real property to the LCCMR. The annual sediment loading needs to be reduced 49% to achieve state water quality standards for suspended sediment, and the project is expected to exceed this percentage. Due to the willingness of landowners, the middle third (Reach B) of Wolverton Creek will be the first restoration of this long-term project.



Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)

2017 Main Proposal

Project Title: Wolverton Creek Land Acquisition and Stream Habitat Restoration

Activity 1: Land Acquisition along Wolverton Creek

Budget: \$1,000,000

Activity 1 of the project includes the overall project land acquisition for the full 26.2-mile stream restoration.

| Outcome | Completion Date |
|---|-----------------|
| 1. 740 acres of protected riparian wetland and prairie habitat in permanent easements | July 1, 2018 |
| A. Reach B Permanent Easements | Dec. 31, 2017 |
| B. Reach A and C Permanent Easements | July 1, 2018 |

Activity 2: Stream and Habitat Restoration of the middle reach

Budget: \$3,720,000

Activity 2 includes the physical stream restoration in the middle reach (Reach B) of Wolverton Creek.

| Outcome | Completion Date |
|---|-----------------|
| 1. Sediment BMPs, buffers, and two-stage channel restoration of Reach B | Sept. 30, 2018 |
| 2. Established riparian and prairie cover on restoration of Reach B | May 1, 2019 |

Activity 3: Stream and Habitat Restoration of the remaining reaches

Budget: \$4,830,000

Activity 3 includes the physical stream restoration on the downstream reach (Reach A) and upstream reach (Reach C) of Wolverton Creek.

| Outcome | Completion Date |
|---|-----------------|
| 1. Sediment BMPs, buffers, and two-stage channel restoration of Reaches A and C | Sept. 30, 2019 |
| 2. Established riparian and prairie cover on restoration of Reaches A and C | July 1, 2020 |

III. PROJECT STRATEGY

A. Project Team/Partners

The BRRWD will lead this project. Numerous partners will be needed to ensure success. The BRRWD will fund the engineering and final design of the project. In the land acquisition process of the project, the Clay and Wilkin SWCDs will be critical to success. The largest impediment to acquiring land in this corridor is limiting landowner options for easements. LCCMR funding will strengthen the number of options available for the BRRWD to acquire land in this targeted corridor. The watershed has been meeting with the project landowners since the 1980s, and landowners are ready to implement the project and protect this valuable resource for future generations.

B. Project Impact and Long-Term Strategy

The long-term vision for the project includes establishment of a permanently protected habitat corridor along this prairie stream, expansion of natural stream habitat, and restoration of perennial wetland and prairie plant communities. The results of the project will be measurable. The BRRWD is committed to long-term water quality monitoring of the Wolverton Creek watershed through their Regional Assessment Locations (RALs), which will allow for measurement of the actual project benefits over time. RALs are intended to represent real locations within the BRRWD for establishing quantifiable goals representing some desired future condition. The BRRWD plans to fund a Maintenance Plan for Wolverton Creek that will monitor and take care of long-term maintenance to ensure project success.

C. Timeline Requirements

Land Acquisition will be required prior to the start of construction. Easement negotiations for the middle reach are expected to be finalized by the end of 2017. Construction for the restoration of the middle reach is estimated to last 1 year. Easement negotiations for the remaining reaches are expected to be finalized by July 1 of 2018. Channel restoration construction for the remaining reaches is estimated to take a total of 1 year and will begin following the completion of the middle reach.

2017 Detailed Project Budget

Project Title: Wolverton Creek Land Acquisition and Stream Habitat Restoration

IV. TOTAL ENRTF REQUEST BUDGET: 3 years

| BUDGET ITEM | AMOUNT |
|---|---------------------|
| Personnel: | N/A |
| Professional/Technical/Service Contracts: | |
| Engineering to provide Final Design, Construction Staking, Construction Administration, and Grant and Administration | \$ 640,000 |
| Long-term maintenance plan | \$ 10,000 |
| General contractor selected through a competitive bid process to perform the stream habitat restoration | |
| Installation of Best Management Practices | \$ 500,000 |
| Establish Riparian and Prairie Habitat | \$ 1,030,000 |
| Stream Restoration | \$ 6,370,000 |
| Equipment/Tools/Supplies: | N/A |
| Acquisition (Fee Title or Permanent Easements): | |
| Permanent easements on a portion of 63 parcels (50 landowners) totaling 740.5 acres to be held by Buffalo-Red River Watershed District. Reinvest in Minnesota (RIM) easement rates were utilized in the land value estimation and comes to an average of \$3,840 per acre. Remaining acres to be purchased with funds from other sources. | \$ 1,000,000 |
| Travel: | N/A |
| Additional Budget Items: | N/A |
| TOTAL ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND \$ REQUEST = | \$ 9,550,000 |

V. OTHER FUNDS

| SOURCE OF FUNDS | AMOUNT | Status |
|---|---------------|----------------|
| Other Non-State \$ To Be Applied To Project During Project Period: | \$ 500,000 | <i>Secured</i> |
| Local Watershed District Funds | | |
| Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) | \$ 500,000 | <i>Pending</i> |
| Water Management District fees (\$100,000 annually for 3 years) | \$ 300,000 | <i>Pending</i> |
| Enbridge Ecofootprint Grant (Through Minnesota Association of Resource Conservation and Development Councils, Inc.) | \$ 100,000 | <i>Secured</i> |
| Other State \$ To Be Applied To Project During Project Period: | \$ 1,830,000 | <i>Pending</i> |
| Conservation Programs (Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, RIM, etc.) | | |
| In-kind Services To Be Applied To Project During Project Period: | N/A | |
| Funding History: | N/A | |
| Remaining \$ From Current ENRTF Appropriation: | N/A | |

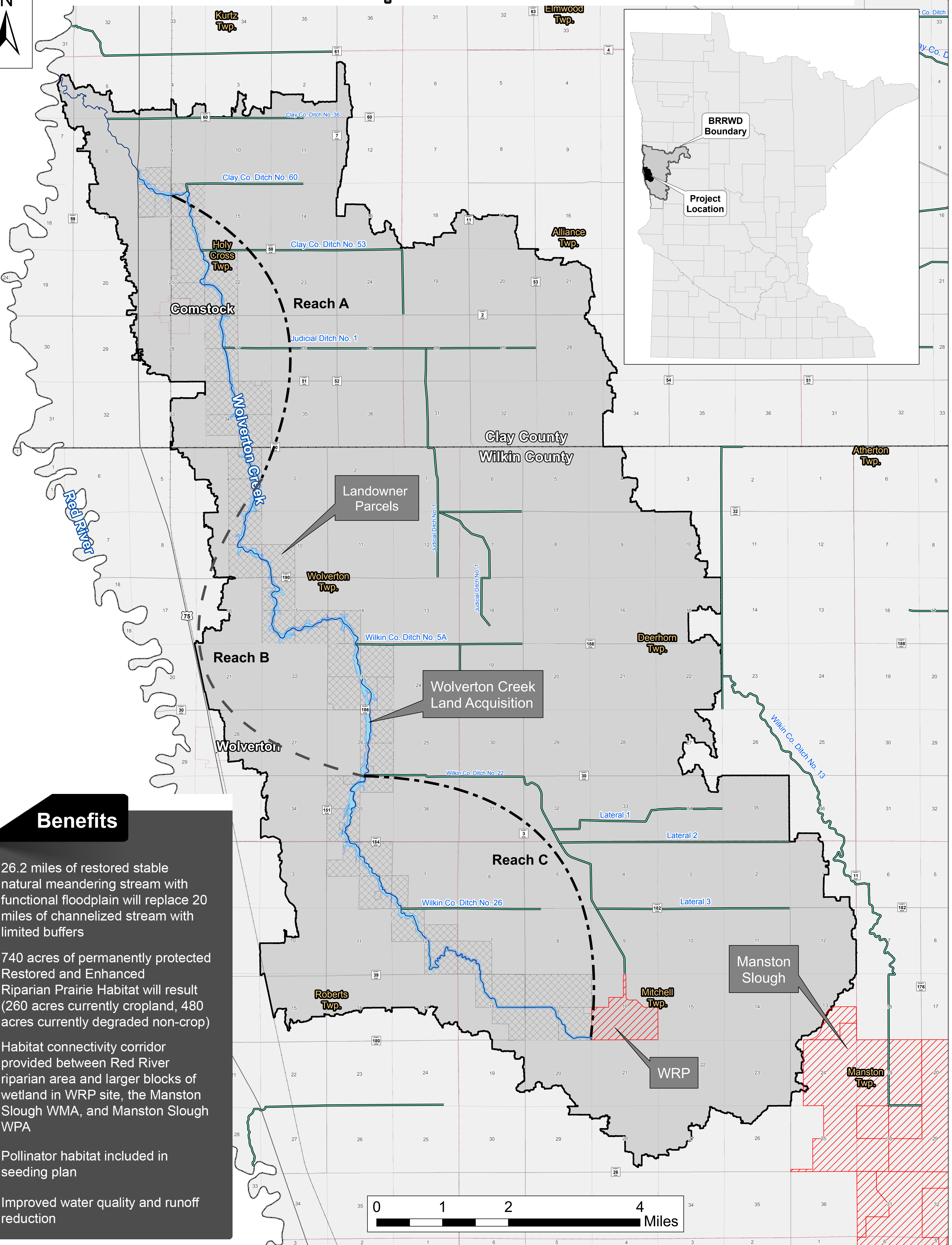
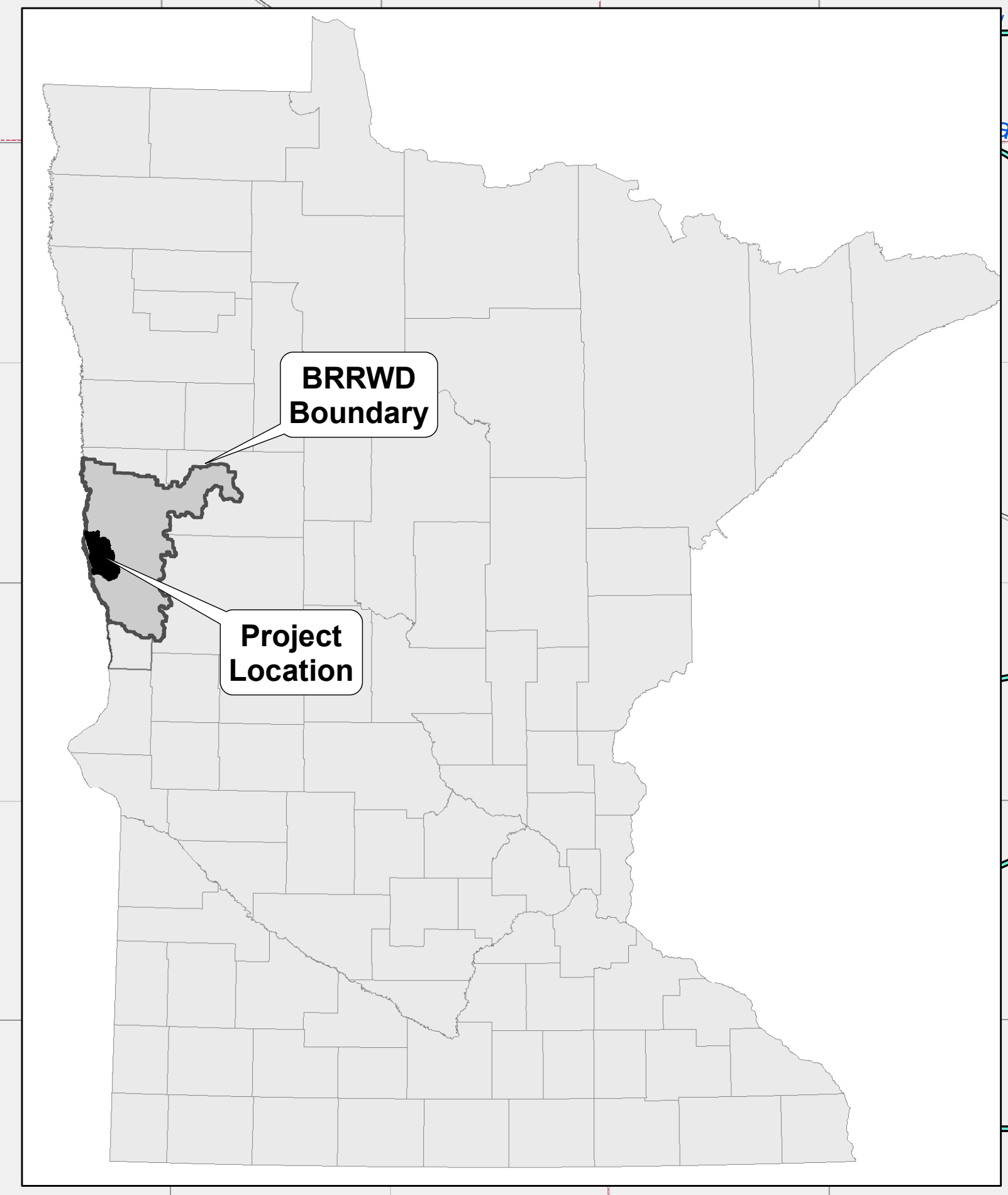
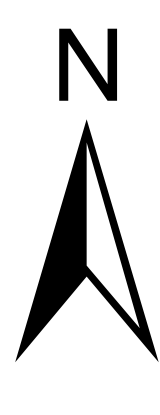
**Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund
2017 Proposed Acquisition/Restoration List**

Project Title: Wolverton Creek Land Acquisition and Stream Habitat Restoration
Project Manager Name: Bruce Albricht
Organization: Buffalo-Red River Watershed District
ENRTF \$ Request: \$9,550,000

| # | Acquisition or Restoration Name | Geographic Coordinates Format: [Deg.]° [Min.]' [Sec.]" [Hemis.] | | Estimated Cost | County | Ecological Significance | Activity Description | # of Acres | # of Shoreline Miles | Type of Landowner | Proposed Fee Title or Easement Holder (if applicable) |
|----|---------------------------------|---|------------------|----------------|--------|-------------------------|----------------------|------------|----------------------|--------------------------|---|
| | | Latitude | Longitude | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | 15-000-0050 | 96° 44' 51.93" W | 46° 41' 9.41" N | \$990 | Clay | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 0.28 | 0.03 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 2 | 15-009-3700 | 96° 45' 26.75" W | 46° 41' 21.20" N | \$27,650 | Clay | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 7.43 | 0.55 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 3 | 15-009-3301 | 96° 45' 26.70" W | 46° 41' 19.50" N | \$1,080 | Clay | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 0.31 | 0 | Non-Profit Organization | BRRWD |
| 4 | 15-016-2600 | 96° 45' 16.45" W | 46° 41' 14.80" N | \$27,130 | Clay | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 6.66 | 0.48 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 5 | 15-016-1600 | 96° 45' 1.99" W | 46° 41' 10.27" N | \$83,800 | Clay | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 20.35 | 1.52 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 6 | 15-016-1800 | 96° 44' 30.74" W | 46° 41' 0.46" N | \$33,790 | Clay | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 8.19 | 0.74 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 7 | 15-016-4000 | 96° 44' 23.99" W | 46° 40' 39.18" N | \$57,940 | Clay | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 16.27 | 1.36 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 8 | 15-021-1000 | 96° 44' 16.19" W | 46° 40' 21.87" N | \$34,750 | Clay | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 9.47 | 0.77 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 9 | 15-022-0201 | 96° 44' 13.80" W | 46° 40' 20.83" N | \$10 | Clay | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 0 | 0 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 10 | 15-021-3500 | 96° 44' 16.23" W | 46° 39' 58.97" N | \$5,830 | Clay | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 1.68 | 0.17 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 11 | 15-022-0200 | 96° 44' 1.15" W | 46° 39' 55.71" N | \$133,210 | Clay | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 32.06 | 2.32 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 12 | 15-027-2001 | 96° 43' 55.40" W | 46° 39' 31.50" N | \$1,180 | Clay | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 0.34 | 0 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 13 | 15-027-2000 | 96° 43' 52.90" W | 46° 39' 21.45" N | \$86,800 | Clay | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 20.09 | 1.3 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 14 | 15-027-3000 | 96° 43' 46.92" W | 46° 38' 54.55" N | \$82,340 | Clay | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 17.78 | 1.33 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 15 | 15-034-4000 | 96° 43' 29.28" W | 46° 38' 3.17" N | \$95,200 | Clay | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 23.37 | 1.25 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 16 | 15-034-2000 | 96° 43' 37.49" W | 46° 38' 23.68" N | \$77,540 | Clay | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 18.84 | 1.33 | For-Profit Entity | BRRWD |
| 17 | 15-034-1000 | 96° 43' 34.19" W | 46° 38' 18.30" N | \$5,690 | Clay | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 1.14 | 0 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 18 | 15-034-3001 | 96° 43' 39.80" W | 46° 38' 14.74" N | \$16,750 | Clay | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 3.93 | 0.16 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 19 | 15-034-4301 | 96° 43' 26.29" W | 46° 37' 50.99" N | \$2,830 | Clay | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 0.81 | 0.09 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 20 | 22-004-0600 | 96° 43' 17.24" W | 46° 37' 7.66" N | \$70,150 | Wilkin | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 18.09 | 1.15 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 21 | 22-004-0200 | 96° 43' 29.48" W | 46° 37' 42.70" N | \$14,830 | Wilkin | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 4.52 | 0.34 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 22 | 22-004-0100 | 96° 43' 21.27" W | 46° 37' 35.21" N | \$53,770 | Wilkin | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 14.46 | 0.97 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 23 | 22-004-0700 | 96° 43' 12.51" W | 46° 37' 22.45" N | \$17,410 | Wilkin | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 5.06 | 0.34 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 24 | 22-009-0100 | 96° 43' 29.23" W | 46° 36' 43.19" N | \$85,820 | Wilkin | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 21.75 | 1.47 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 25 | 22-015-0210 | 96° 42' 56.45" W | 46° 36' 3.26" N | \$8,670 | Wilkin | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 2.64 | 0.3 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 26 | 22-009-0600 | 96° 43' 15.22" W | 46° 36' 26.17" N | \$77,340 | Wilkin | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 20.78 | 1.22 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 27 | 22-010-0500 | 96° 43' 3.69" W | 46° 36' 19.70" N | \$42,430 | Wilkin | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 10.72 | 0.85 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 28 | 22-015-0200 | 96° 42' 46.54" W | 46° 35' 56.64" N | \$98,180 | Wilkin | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 24.4 | 1.36 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 29 | 22-014-0400 | 96° 41' 42.63" W | 46° 35' 19.98" N | \$45,390 | Wilkin | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 12.05 | 0.71 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 30 | 22-015-0400 | 96° 42' 6.81" W | 46° 35' 29.12" N | \$49,970 | Wilkin | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 13.43 | 0.92 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 31 | 22-015-0500 | 96° 42' 20.15" W | 46° 35' 25.94" N | \$30,880 | Wilkin | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 7.94 | 0.52 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 32 | 22-014-0300 | 96° 41' 25.55" W | 46° 35' 24.58" N | \$60,050 | Wilkin | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 16.43 | 1.04 | For-Profit Entity | BRRWD |
| 33 | 22-015-0300 | 96° 42' 44.57" W | 46° 35' 19.98" N | \$137,910 | Wilkin | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 33.64 | 2.01 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 34 | 22-023-0200 | 96° 41' 18.77" W | 46° 35' 0.89" N | \$72,620 | Wilkin | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 20.92 | 1.22 | For-Profit Entity | BRRWD |
| 35 | 22-026-0100 | 96° 41' 5.55" W | 46° 34' 8.67" N | \$103,200 | Wilkin | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 28.69 | 1.3 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 36 | 22-023-0100 | 96° 41' 13.93" W | 46° 34' 50.85" N | \$5,010 | Wilkin | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 1.52 | 0.12 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 37 | 22-023-0300 | 96° 41' 15.86" W | 46° 34' 46.29" N | \$6,300 | Wilkin | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 1.5 | 0 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 38 | 22-023-0500 | 96° 40' 55.62" W | 46° 34' 30.14" N | \$180 | Wilkin | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 0.04 | 0 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 39 | 22-023-0400 | 96° 41' 4.47" W | 46° 34' 25.77" N | \$103,940 | Wilkin | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 30.97 | 1.44 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 40 | 22-026-0600 | 96° 41' 8.78" W | 46° 33' 40.94" N | \$56,880 | Wilkin | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 16.44 | 1.23 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 41 | 22-026-0700 | 96° 41' 5.30" W | 46° 33' 33.29" N | \$1,310 | Wilkin | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 0.4 | 0.04 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 42 | 22-035-0100 | 96° 41' 11.87" W | 46° 33' 25.71" N | \$33,060 | Wilkin | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 7.44 | 0.37 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 43 | 22-035-0210 | 96° 41' 17.85" W | 46° 33' 24.43" N | \$8,790 | Wilkin | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 2.33 | 0.19 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 44 | 22-035-0200 | 96° 41' 23.69" W | 46° 33' 12.82" N | \$108,830 | Wilkin | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 24.31 | 1.29 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 45 | 22-035-0310 | 96° 41' 26.55" W | 46° 32' 57.52" N | \$56,210 | Wilkin | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 13.49 | 1.06 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 46 | 22-035-0300 | 96° 41' 33.37" W | 46° 32' 50.61" N | \$830 | Wilkin | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 0.25 | 0 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 47 | 22-035-0305 | 96° 41' 32.01" W | 46° 32' 45.74" N | \$53,620 | Wilkin | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 12 | 0.42 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 48 | 19-002-0210 | 96° 41' 24.86" W | 46° 32' 35.51" N | \$56,350 | Wilkin | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 14.98 | 0.53 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 49 | 19-002-0100 | 96° 41' 7.00" W | 46° 32' 19.05" N | \$56,670 | Wilkin | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 16.71 | 1.33 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 50 | 19-002-0500 | 96° 40' 49.77" W | 46° 32' 0.35" N | \$51,780 | Wilkin | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 14.66 | 1.01 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 51 | 19-002-0510 | 96° 40' 51.74" W | 46° 31' 58.33" N | \$40 | Wilkin | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 0.01 | 0 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 52 | 19-001-0500 | 96° 40' 33.41" W | 46° 31' 50.56" N | \$29,700 | Wilkin | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 8.87 | 0.67 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 53 | 15-007-0300 | 96° 39' 9.82" W | 46° 31' 4.28" N | \$47,050 | Wilkin | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 12.93 | 1.63 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 54 | 19-012-0300 | 96° 40' 16.94" W | 46° 31' 39.40" N | \$81,400 | Wilkin | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 25.14 | 1.63 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 55 | 19-012-0200 | 96° 39' 58.87" W | 46° 31' 20.36" N | \$6,650 | Wilkin | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 2.07 | 0.24 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 56 | 15-007-0310 | 96° 39' 0.72" W | 46° 31' 0.75" N | \$7,160 | Wilkin | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 2.49 | 0.23 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 57 | 19-012-0500 | 96° 39' 50.75" W | 46° 30' 58.38" N | \$100,270 | Wilkin | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 30.91 | 3.46 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 58 | 15-017-0300 | 96° 37' 18.15" W | 46° 30' 5.82" N | \$67,880 | Wilkin | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 16.89 | 2.07 | For-Profit Entity | BRRWD |
| 59 | 15-018-0200 | 96° 38' 51.27" W | 46° 30' 37.90" N | \$42,990 | Wilkin | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 10.66 | 1.27 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 60 | 15-018-0100 | 96° 38' 34.52" W | 46° 30' 27.09" N | \$37,470 | Wilkin | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 9.18 | 1.24 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 61 | 15-017-0100 | 96° 37' 50.38" W | 46° 30' 27.04" N | \$20,550 | Wilkin | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 5.35 | 0.8 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 62 | 15-018-0600 | 96° 38' 23.02" W | 46° 30' 26.09" N | \$21,040 | Wilkin | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 5.1 | 0.48 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |
| 63 | 15-017-0200 | 96° 37' 38.01" W | 46° 30' 26.08" N | \$38,480 | Wilkin | Prairie Stream Habitat | Fee Acquisition | 9.3 | 0.97 | Private Individual/Trust | BRRWD |

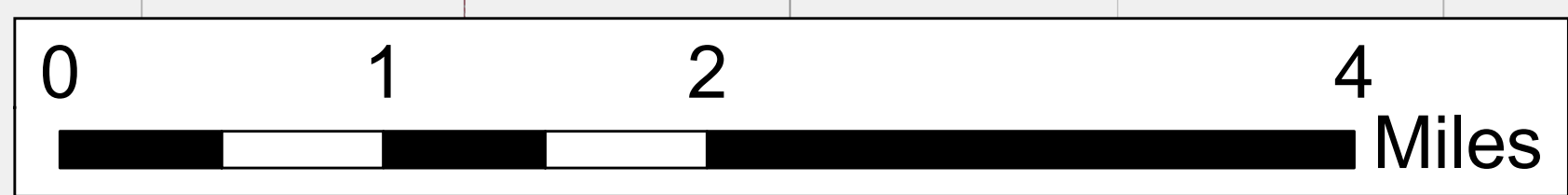
NOTES: Funds provided through the ENRTF will not be spent on the state-mandated buffers. A portion of the easements will be funded by other sources.

Wolverton Creek Land Acquisition and Stream Habitat Restoration



Benefits

- 26.2 miles of restored stable natural meandering stream with functional floodplain will replace 20 miles of channelized stream with limited buffers
- 740 acres of permanently protected Restored and Enhanced Riparian Prairie Habitat will result (260 acres currently cropland, 480 acres currently degraded non-crop)
- Habitat connectivity corridor provided between Red River riparian area and larger blocks of wetland in WRP site, the Manston Slough WMA, and Manston Slough WPA
- Pollinator habitat included in seeding plan
- Improved water quality and runoff reduction





PROJECT TITLE: Wolverton Creek Land Acquisition and Stream Habitat Restoration

I. PROJECT MANAGER QUALIFICATIONS

Bruce Albright has served as the Administrator for the BRRWD for more than 35 years. He supports the Board of Managers and manages the District’s daily operations, budget, outreach efforts, and partnerships with other government agencies, nonprofits, consultants, and the public. During his time with the BRRWD, Bruce has successfully led multiple wildlife, river, and habitat restoration projects, such as the award-winning Manston Slough Restoration project, which was completed in 2014. The Manston Slough Restoration project resembles the Wolverton Creek Land Acquisition and Stream Habitat Restoration project in that both bring multiple partners into a coordinated and collaborative effort to improve upon natural resources in the State of Minnesota. The Manston Slough Restoration Project was a multi-year project that required working closely with the Minnesota DNR and US Fish & Wildlife Service, who have significant land ownership within the project’s boundaries, as well as the signing of 33 private landowner permanent easement agreements. His ability to work with both government agencies and these landowners was key. The Manston Slough Restoration won the *2015 Partnership of the Year* and the *Natural Resources* awards at the Environmental Initiative Awards and is proof of Bruce’s ability to coordinate a project of this scale and complexity.

Bruce also brings with him a strong support staff of resource professionals and engineers to assist him in the acquisition of easements and the coordination of the stream corridor restoration construction. With LCCMR Funding, the Wolverton Creek project would become the project priority for Bruce, the BRRWD Board of Managers, and the District Engineer Erik Jones. Bruce often works with Erik Jones and his staff to ensure that work is completed on a timely basis. Bruce’s honesty and fairness have earned him the respect of landowners, government staff at every level, and other conservation professionals.

II. ORGANIZATION DESCRIPTION

The BRRWD, located in northwest Minnesota, covers an area of 1,785 square miles over parts of Clay, Wilkin, and Otter Tail counties. All or parts of three major watersheds are located within the legal boundary of the BRRWD: the Buffalo River, the upper Red River, and the Otter Tail River downstream from Orwell Dam. Wolverton Creek is a major tributary located within the upper Red River watershed. The Board of Managers are responsible for guiding the direction of the BRRWD and are appointed by the County Board of Commissioners. There are three managers from Clay County, two managers from Wilkin County, and one manager each from Otter Tail and Becker counties. The Mission Statement for the BRRWD as described in the BRRWD Watershed Management Plan is as follows: “The mission of the Buffalo-Red River Watershed District (BRRWD) is to alleviate flooding and to manage the water resources of the District in a manner that best protects this valuable resource.”

