

**Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund
2019 Request for Proposals (RFP)**

Project Title:

ENRTF ID: 225-F

Sauk River Dam Removal and Rock Rapids Replacement

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

Sub-Category:

Total Project Budget: \$ 2,768,000

Proposed Project Time Period for the Funding Requested: June 30, 2021 (2 yrs)

Summary:

This project consists of habitat restoration, water quality and fish passage improvements through the removal of the existing fixed elevation dam, construction of rock arch rapids and in-stream habitat restoration.

Name: Michael Brethorst

Sponsoring Organization: City of Melrose

Title: Project Manager

Department: _____

Address: 225 1ST Street NE

Melrose MN 56352

Telephone Number: (320) 256-4278

Email mbrethorst@cityofmelrose.com

Web Address www.cityofmelrose.com

Location

Region: Central

County Name: Stearns

City / Township: Melrose

Alternate Text for Visual:

The map depicts the location of the existing dam structure and conceptual plan for the proposed rock arch structure within the City of Melrose MN.

_____ Funding Priorities	_____ Multiple Benefits	_____ Outcomes	_____ Knowledge Base
_____ Extent of Impact	_____ Innovation	_____ Scientific/Tech Basis	_____ Urgency
_____ Capacity	_____ Readiness	_____ Leverage	_____ TOTAL _____%
_____ If under \$200,000, waive presentation?			



**Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)
2019 Main Proposal Template**

PROJECT TITLE: Sauk River Dam Removal and Rock Rapids Replacement

I. PROJECT STATEMENT

The Sauk River is a major perennial stream in central Minnesota with a watershed that is 667,200 acres in size. Our project consists of habitat restoration, water quality and fish passage improvements through removal of the existing fixed elevation dam, construction of a rock arch rapids structure and stream habitat restoration. This project will have watershed wide impacts and reconnect a 72-mile large-scale river in a major watershed. Sauk River Dam currently entraps suspended sediment from all surface water flowing from Sauk Lake located in Sauk Centre, Minnesota to the Dam in Melrose, Minnesota. The Dam is a fixed site dam with two associated slues gates and allows for minimal fish passage. An assessment was completed for the Sauk River Dam by the MNDNR Dam and Safety. The results of the assessment define the dam a "Significant Hazard" dam. Dam failure would cause catastrophic environmental and flood impact within the watershed. Currently the Sauk River Dam is on the MNDNR stream restoration priority list.

Removal of the existing dam in conjunction with the rock arch rapids and habitat restoration will provide refuge for fish and aquatic organisms. During low flow conditions the rapids provide longer duration of flow through the fish ladder which benefits the river with lower water temperature and increase oxygen levels downstream. Greater spillway length, removes existing fragmented aquatic habitat particularly during frequent storm events translates to increased stream habitat, fish passage and biodiversity in Sauk River. Riffle-pool design will support productivity for both fish and invertebrates compared to the existing dam structure and tail water. Sport fish species such as channel catfish, walleye, northern pike, and crappie populations will be capable of recolonizing waters upstream. The project will provide greater access to seasonal habitats for many species. Preferred habitats include areas upstream from the existing dam such as headwaters areas for northern pike spawning and downstream during low flow conditions for improved oxygen levels.

This project supports health of the watershed as it will create a more naturally flowing healthier ecosystem. Project funding will restore approximately 1,000 liner feet of stream habitat, replace and modify a decades old dam that is classified as a "Significant Hazard" by the Minnesota DNR Dam Safety Unit Inspection Team with a rock arch rapids that will allow fish to migrate upstream restoring a more natural hydraulic condition and improve biology within the stream. In addition, the project will improve recreational recourses and become a regional draw for public use.

II. PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES

Activity 1: Final Design, Engineering and Environmental Permitting

ENRTF BUDGET: \$510,000.00

Outcome	Completion Date
1. Engineering/Construction Plans and Specifications	December 2019
2. Permit Requirements: PMCA, MNDNR, USCOE, SWCD, City and County	January 2020

Activity 2: Construction Services of the Dam and In-Stream Habitat Restoration

ENRTF BUDGET: \$2,258,000



Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)
2019 Main Proposal Template

Outcome	Completion Date
<i>1. Sauk River Dam Removal</i>	<i>March 2020</i>
<i>2. Replacement with Rock Arch Dam Construction</i>	<i>December 2020</i>
<i>3. Shoreland Restoration Construction</i>	<i>December 2020</i>
<i>4. Native Vegetation Plantings</i>	<i>May 2021</i>

III. PROJECT PARTNERS:

A. Partners receiving ENRTF funding

Name	Title	Affiliation	Role
Michael Brethorst	City Administrator	City of Melrose	Project Manager

B. Partners NOT receiving ENRTF funding

Name	Title	Affiliation	Role
Dennis Fuchs	Administrator	Stearns County SWCD	Review Board/Permits
Scott Henderson	Administrator	Sauk River Watershed District	Review Board
Jodi Teich	Director	Stearns County Highway Department	Review Board

IV. LONG-TERM- IMPLEMENTATION AND FUNDING:

Long term goals of the project are to restore aquatic habitat, fish passage and structural elements on the Sauk River. Stearns County has received full funding for replacement of CSAH 13 Bridge construction is scheduled for 2019. The City of Melrose is also currently seeking project funding from other state sources. The second phase of the project is habitat restoration between the proposed rock arch structure and CSAH 13 Bridge reconstruction, the project will require future funding request. A long-term monitoring/maintenance plan will be implemented to assure all constructed habitat restoration measures are adequately functioning as designed for the project.

V. TIME LINE REQUIREMENTS:

The goal for timeline requirements of overall project is approximately 3 years. Phase I which we are requesting funding timeline requirements is approximately 1.5 years.

2019 Proposal Budget Spreadsheet

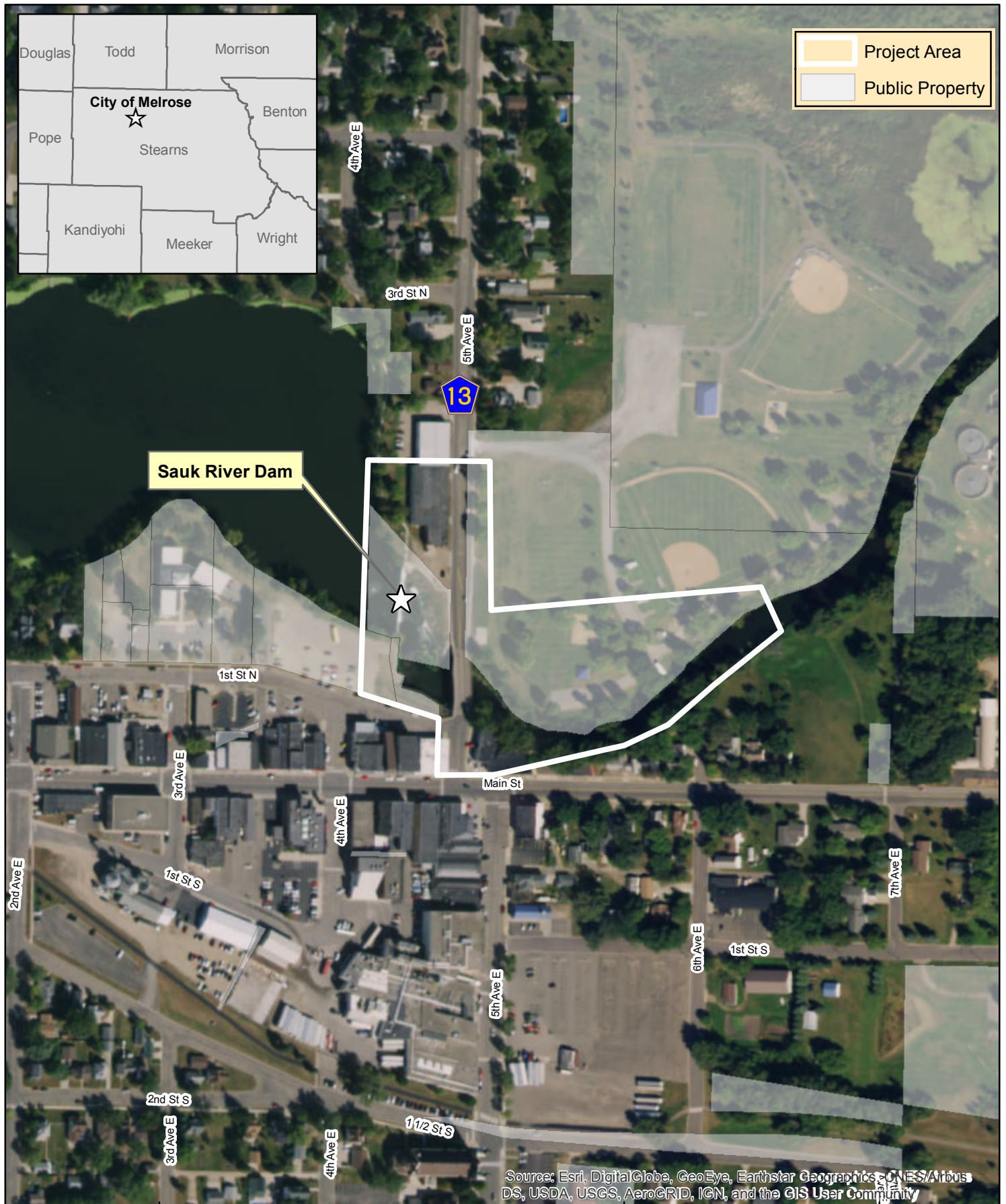
Project Title: Sauk River Dam Removal and Rock Rapids Replacement

IV. TOTAL ENRTF REQUEST BUDGET 2 years

BUDGET ITEM (See "Guidance on Allowable Expenses")	AMOUNT
Personnel:	\$ -
Professional/Technical/Service Contracts: Construction Services (Selective Bid Process) and Construction Materials which include rock riprap, sheet pilings, erosion control, native vegetation (seed and live plantings)-\$2,268,000. Engineering Services (Selective Bid Process) - \$510,000	\$ 2,768,000
Equipment/Tools/Supplies:	
Acquisition (Fee Title or Permanent Easements):	\$ -
Travel:	\$ -
Additional Budget Items:	\$ -
TOTAL ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND \$ REQUEST =	\$ 2,768,000

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
City of Melrose committed project funds - \$700,000 (Secured)	\$ 700,000	Secured
Other State \$ To Be Applied To Project During Project Period: , Sauke River Watershed - \$250,000	\$ 250,000	Secured
In-kind Services To Be Applied To Project During Project Period: City of Melrose administrative and construction compliance inspections services.	\$ 50,000	Secured
Past and Current ENRTF Appropriation:	\$ -	
Other Funding History:	\$ -	



Sauk River Dam Removal and Rock Rapids Replacement

City of Melrose MN: Project Location Map



0 300 Feet
1 inch = 300 feet

Project Manager Qualifications and Organization Description

City of Melrose: Michael M. Brethorst – Administrator/Project Manager Qualifications

Experience includes enterprise and commodities sales, governmental and economic development professional, Chief Administrative Officer, who builds high level of customer and employee confidence in organization. Collaborative with all stakeholders within an integrated service territory and industry. Duties include; Government Administrator, Budgeting and Finance 21 million Budget, Economic Development, Administrative and Financial Analysis skills, Public Speaking and Systems Redesign / Change Management.

City of Melrose MN: Organization Description

Our mission statement is to actively grow the community while promoting and protecting the high quality of life. The City of Melrose operates under the "Optional Plan A" form of government as defined in Minnesota Statutes Sec. 412.111 and is a fourth-class statutory city. Governed by an elected Mayor and four elected Council Members.