

**Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund
2020 Request for Proposals (RFP)**

Project Title:

ENRTF ID: 143-CH

Lake Superior Zoo; Water Protection Intuitive Exhibit

Category: H. Proposals seeking \$200,000 or less in funding

Sub-Category: C. Environmental Education

Total Project Budget: \$ 197,500

Proposed Project Time Period for the Funding Requested: June 30, 2022 (2 yrs)

Summary:

Create an environmental water protection intuitive exhibit that uses Kingsbury Creek within the Lake Superior Zoo to demonstrate the importance and value of buffer areas adjacent to our watersheds.

Name: Erik Simonson

Sponsoring Organization: Lake Superior Zoological Society

Job Title: CEO

Department: _____

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Duluth MN 55807

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Location:

Region: Statewide, Central, Northeast

County Name: Statewide

City / Township:

Alternate Text for Visual:

The visual is the footprint of the Lake Superior Zoo to include Kingsbury Creek and highlighting the areas to be developed as part of the exhibit.

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



Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) 2020 Main Proposal Template

PROJECT TITLE: Lake Superior Zoo; Water Protection Intuitive Exhibit

I. PROJECT STATEMENT

Minnesota has a long history of being environmentally responsible, and of protecting its waters. With the recent passage of water resources protection standards, it is critically important that examples and intuitive education is readily available for the general public to understand. Most Minnesotans don't know there are water protection standards in place with respect to land adjoining our waterways, and this interpretive exhibit would allow the education of tens of thousands of zoo guests each year as to the importance of "buffers" in protecting our streams.

The Lake Superior Zoo in Duluth, MN is fortunate to have Kingsbury Creek, a tributary to the St. Louis River and Lake Superior, running through its picturesque grounds. We believe this provides us a unique and ideal opportunity to create an educational exhibit and wrap around program that will:

- Identify the importance of public waters;
- Provide real time examples of riparian protection requirements;
- Provide examples of perennial vegetation management practices;
- Provide intuitive education to more than 80,000 visitors annually;
- Include water resources, riparian protection, and its importance to sustainable ecosystems to over 20,000 participants in our educational programs annually.

The Lake Superior Zoo's attendance includes about 30% from Duluth and the immediate surrounding region, another 50% to 60% from all across Minnesota, and the rest from outside our state.

The project itself would include:

- Creation of nearly a full acre of vegetated buffer – between guest pathways and several thousand feet of Kingsbury Creek on zoo grounds.
- Planting of appropriate perennial plants within the managed area coordinated with the local SWCD.
- An elevated viewing platform for educational programming/overlook, as well as transparent physical barriers to delineate boundaries.
- Intuitive educational signage strategically located along the physical barrier for visitors to experience.

We believe in our mission here at the Lake Superior Zoo, which includes an intense focus on conservation and sustainability. We also believe that the more of the general public that is exposed to best practices surrounding water management and quality, the more likely we are to create future generations that will provide multiple benefits to our environment and natural resources.

II. PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES

Activity 1 Title: Construct physical barrier and elevated educational/viewing platform.

Description: Construct approximately 1,850' of barrier between designated protection areas and visitor pathways. Barrier to comply with Minnesota State Building Code, and will signify the boundary for the managed protection area. It will be non-intrusive, and support installation of educational signage and programming. Plan and construct elevated platform for viewing and for group educational programming.



Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)
2020 Main Proposal Template

ENRTF BUDGET: \$ 162,500

Outcome	Completion Date
1. <i>Finalize boundary of management area with SWCD.</i>	<i>August, 2020</i>
2. <i>Develop and execute RFP for project – Award Bid.</i>	<i>November, 2020</i>
3. <i>Construction and Completion</i>	<i>June, 2021</i>

Activity 2 Title: Complete vegetation management planting.

Description: Plant approximately 55,000 square feet of selected perennials in management area(s). Planting would be determined in cooperation with local SWCD.

ENRTF BUDGET: \$ 30,000

Outcome	Completion Date
1. <i>Finalize boundary of management area with SWCD.</i>	<i>August, 2020</i>
2. <i>Develop appropriate plan with SWCD.</i>	<i>December, 2020</i>
3. <i>Prepare area, secure plants, and execute arrangement.</i>	<i>August, 2021</i>

Activity 3 Title: Complete intuitive educational components.

Description: Plan and develop intuitive educational signage and explanatory material – install.

ENRTF BUDGET: \$ 5,000

Outcome	Completion Date
1. <i>Design</i>	<i>April, 2021</i>
2. <i>Create</i>	<i>July 2021</i>
3. <i>Installation</i>	<i>September, 2021</i>

II. PROJECT PARTNERS AND COLLABORATORS:

- a. Southern St. Louis County Soil and Water Conservation District

IV. LONG-TERM IMPLEMENTATION AND FUNDING:

The Lake Superior Zoo will complete the work to incorporate the educational components into its on-site educational programming, as well as develop the instructional methodology that will incorporate the physical exhibit. The Lake Superior Zoo has the capacity to incorporate maintenance of the project upon completion.

V. SEE ADDITIONAL PROPOSAL COMPONENTS:

- A. Proposal Budget Spreadsheet**
- B. Visual Component or Map**
- C. Project Manager Qualifications and Organization Description**
- D. Letter or Resolution**
- E. Financial Capacity**

Attachment A: Project Budget Spreadsheet
 Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund
 M.L. 2020 Budget Spreadsheet

Legal Citation:

Project Manager: Erik Simonson

Project Title: Lake Superior Zoo; Water Protection Intuitive Exhibit

Organization: Lake Superior Zoological Society

Project Budget: \$197,500

Project Length and Completion Date: 2 years: September 2021

Today's Date: April 15th, 2019



ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND BUDGET		Budget	Amount Spent	Balance
BUDGET ITEM				
Personnel (Wages and Benefits)		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Professional/Technical/Service Contracts				
* Contract with TBD to construct physical barrier will be selected via competitive bidding process		\$ 92,500		\$ 92,500
* Contract with TBD to construct elevated educational platform will be selected via competitive bidding process.		\$ 70,000		\$ 70,000
		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Equipment/Tools/Supplies				
* Select perennials in cooperation with SWCD		\$ 30,000	\$ -	\$ 30,000
Capital Expenditures Over \$5,000				
Fee Title Acquisition				
		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Easement Acquisition				
		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Professional Services for Acquisition				
		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Printing				
		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Travel expenses in Minnesota				
		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Other				
* Purchase intuitive educational displays		\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ 5,000
COLUMN TOTAL		\$ 197,500	\$ -	\$ 197,500
SOURCE AND USE OF OTHER FUNDS CONTRIBUTED TO THE PROJECT	Status (secured or pending)	Budget	Spent	Balance
Non-State:		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
State:		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
In kind: Lake Superrio Zoo Staff Time		\$ 30,000	\$ -	\$ 30,000
Other ENRTF APPROPRIATIONS AWARDED IN THE LAST SIX YEARS	Amount legally obligated but not yet spent	Budget	Spent	Balance
		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

LAKE SUPERIOR ZOO MASTER PLAN

WATER PROTECTION
INTUITIVE EXHIBIT

— ZOO FOOTPRINT

- - - PROPOSED
EXHIBIT

* NOT TO SCALE



The Lake Superior Zoo in Duluth, MN, is the region's wildest place to explore – and be inspired. It is the only zoo in Northeastern Minnesota and Northwestern Wisconsin. We have a rich history of providing close-up animal experiences.

Our leadership team is dedicated to carrying out the zoo's mission: providing close-up animal experiences that inspire connections to wildlife including action toward conservation in our region and around the world. We do this through numerous animal exhibits, animal enrichment demonstrations, educational programs and camps, events, and more.

We are located on more than 19 picturesque acres, including rocky hillsides, majestic pines and beautiful Kingsbury Creek. One of only a few Duluth, MN, attractions open year-round, it attracts tens of thousands of visitors annually.

This "Water Protection Intuitive Exhibit" will be managed by Lake Superior Zoo CEO Erik Simonson. His responsibilities include facilities management, and is experienced in managing construction projects as well as in public bid procedures. In addition, other LSZ staff will be instrumental in planning and construction, as well as developing the educational programming to support the completed exhibit.