



Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

2021 Request for Proposal

General Information

Proposal ID: 2021-442

Proposal Title: Minnesota State Trails Development

Project Manager Information

Name: Kent Skaar

Organization: MN DNR - State Parks and Trails Division

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Project Basic Information

Project Summary: This project proposes to expand recreational opportunities on Minnesota State Trails through the rehabilitation or replacement of existing state trail bridges.

Funds Requested: \$994,000

Proposed Project Completion: 2023-06-30

LCCMR Funding Category: Land Acquisition for Habitat and Recreation (G)

Project Location

What is the best scale for describing where your work will take place?

Statewide

What is the best scale to describe the area impacted by your work?

Statewide

When will the work impact occur?

During the Project

Narrative

Describe the opportunity or problem your proposal seeks to address. Include any relevant background information.

This project fulfills legislative direction to expand recreational opportunities on Minnesota State Trails through the development of new trail segments; and the rehabilitation and enhancement of existing State Trails. Each of the individual state trail projects identified by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resource (MN DNR), Parks and Trails Division represent opportunities to enhance recreational opportunities and improve user safety by completing the repair and/or replacement of 4 existing trail bridges located on three separate State Trails. Each specific project is a MNDNR a priority given current condition as determined by formal inspections and user comments. Each of the individual state trail bridges to be subject to replacement have recently received formal inspection condition rating of Fair to Poor, and have been recommended for replacement in 2 years. One of the identified bridges is a former railroad structure. The remaining three bridges include two primitive timber structures and the third is a timber and steel truss bridge, all developed by the MNDNR and have been in service for between 20 and 30 years. As proposed, these improvements will be completed as 4 separate projects. One of the projects will provide matching funds for an existing Federal Recreational Trail Grant.

What is your proposed solution to the problem or opportunity discussed above? i.e. What are you seeking funding to do? You will be asked to expand on this in Activities and Milestones.

This proposal will provide for the replacement of up to four existing state trail bridges that have been determined by formal inspection to require replacement. The proposed bridge replacements are to be completed as four separate projects, on three separate state trail corridors, including the Taconite State Trail, the Great River Ridge State Trail, and the C.J. Ramstad/Northshore State Trail. As proposed two of the four bridges identified are to be replaced with 140 foot long, modern steel truss structures. The two remaining bridges are small, timber structures developed by MNDNR staff and have now exceeded their design life, are to be replaced with large three sided culverts. .

What are the specific project outcomes as they relate to the public purpose of protection, conservation, preservation, and enhancement of the state's natural resources?

The individual projects identified, once complete, will permit the continued, safe use of three of the MNDNR administered state trails, including the Taconite, Great River Ridge and CJ Ramstad/Northshore state trails. While none of the current bridges are closed to use, two of the bridges, located on the Taconite State Trail and Great River Ridge State Trail have posted load limits of 5000 lbs. and 6000 lbs. respectively which precludes any maintenance equipment, including snowmobile groomers from crossing the bridge. Annual inspections have been implemented until replacements are complete or inspection results require the bridge to be closed.

Activities and Milestones

Activity 1: State Trail Bridge Renewal or Replacement

Activity Budget: \$994,000

Activity Description:

This project includes the renewal or replacement of (4) four existing state trail bridges, all of which have a Conditional Index Rating of Fair to Poor and are recommended for complete replacement within 2 years. The bridges to be subject to renewal or replacement are located on the following State Trails and are listed in the order of priority: (1) Taconite State Trail-Koochiching Co.-This bridge carries the State Trail over the Pike River; (2) Great River Ridge State Trail-Wabasha Co.-This bridge that carries the State Trail over the North Branch of the Whitewater River near Elgin; (3) CJ Ramstad/North Shore State Trail-Lake Co.: This bridge carries the natural surfaced, state trail over Little 39 Creek, near Silver Bay; (4) CJ Ramstad/North Shore State Trail-Lake Co.- This bridge carries the State Trail over the East Branch Manitou River just outside of the boundary of George H. Crosby-Manitou State Park.. Each of the proposed replacement bridges or culverts will be a new steel structures on concrete footings with a conservative useful life of 50 years.

Activity Milestones:

Description	Completion Date
Completion of Required Engineering	2021-12-31
Construction Contracts Awarded	2022-06-30
Project Construction Complete	2022-12-31
Project Closeout - Final Reporting	2023-06-30

Project Partners and Collaborators

Name	Organization	Role	Receiving Funds
Wabasha County	Regional Rail Authority	Great River Ridge State Trail - Current State Trail Segment administered by MnDNR Parks and Trails Division under Agreement with Wabasha Co. County provides Trail rights of way and design review assistance.	No

Long-Term Implementation and Funding

Describe how the results will be implemented and how any ongoing effort will be funded. If not already addressed as part of the project, how will findings, results, and products developed be implemented after project completion? If additional work is needed, how will this be funded?

Each of the identified projects are all existing components of the Outdoor Recreation System and will be implemented through the MNDNR Parks and Trails Division staff. All project engineering, design, contract administration and construction inspection will be completed by or under the direct oversight of the MNDNR Operation Services Division. The MNDNR will operate, maintain and protect each of the facilities when complete. The implementation of these projects will also significantly reduce the Parks and Trails Division's annual operational costs for the defined trail segments and bridges from 10 to 25 years.

Other ENRTF Appropriations Awarded in the Last Six Years

Name	Appropriation	Amount Awarded
Minnesota State Trails Development	M.L. 2019, First Special Session, Chp. 4, Art. 2, Sec. 2, Subd. 09d	\$5,000,000
Minnesota State Trail Development	M.L. 2018, Chp. 214, Art. 4, Sec. 2, Subd. 09j	\$2,500,000
Minnesota State Trails Acquisition, Development and Enhancement	M.L. 2017, Chp. 96, Sec. 2, Subd. 09d	\$1,038,000

Project Manager and Organization Qualifications

Project Manager Name: Kent Skaar

Job Title: Parks and Trails Division - Senior Project Manager

Provide description of the project manager's qualifications to manage the proposed project.

Kent Skaar has been an employee of the State of Minnesota for more than 30 years. For the last 19 years, as an employee of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Parks and Trails Division he has been principally responsible for the development of MNDNR administered public water accesses, state trails and motorized off-highway recreational facilities. His experience includes facility design, construction, and project management for project of all sizes. Many of the projects include multiple disciplines and local partners. Mr. Skaar has extensive experience with the grant management, procedures and the requirements associated with a variety of federal and non-federal funding.

Organization: MN DNR - State Parks and Trails Division

Organization Description:

The Department of Natural Resources, Parks and Trails Division operates 67 state parks, 8 state recreation areas, more than 650 miles of surfaced, improved state trail, 1,610 water access sites, 30 water trails and 9 state waysides throughout Minnesota. The Parks and Trails Division connects people to the state's natural resources by providing access to outdoor recreation, conservation education and natural resource restoration and management. The vision of the Parks and Trails Division is to create unforgettable park, trail and water recreation experiences that inspire people to

pass along the love for the outdoors to current and future generations. More information on the Minnesota DNR can be found at MNDNR.gov

Budget Summary

Category / Name	Subcategory or Type	Description	Purpose	Gen. Ineligible	% Benefits	# FTE	Classified Staff?	\$ Amount
Personnel								
							Sub Total	-
Contracts and Services								
MNDNR Operation Services Division	Professional or Technical Service Contract	All proposed project engineering, design, contract administration and construction inspection will be completed by or under the direct oversight of the MNDNR Division of Operation Services / Construction and Design.				2		\$109,000
							Sub Total	\$109,000
Equipment, Tools, and Supplies								
							Sub Total	-
Capital Expenditures								
		Taconite State Trail - Pike River Bridge	Replacement of existing deficient trail bridge					\$197,150
		Great River Ridge State trail - No. Branch Whitewater River Bridge	Replacement of existing deficient trail bridge					\$418,780
		CJ Ramstad/Northshore State Trail-Little 39 Creek Bridge	Replacement of existing deficient trail bridge					\$128,056
		CJ Ramstad/Northshore State Trail - E. Branch Manitou River Bridge	Replacement of deficient trail bridge					\$128,056
							Sub Total	\$872,042
Acquisitions and Stewardship								
							Sub Total	-
Travel In Minnesota								

							Sub Total	-
Travel Outside Minnesota								
							Sub Total	-
Printing and Publication								
							Sub Total	-
Other Expenses								
		MNDNR Direct and Necessary Costs	Pay for activities that are directly related to and necessary for accomplishing appropriated programs/projects. Direct and necessary costs cover HR Support (~\$0), Safety Support (~\$0), Financial Support (~\$10,433), Communication Support (~\$1,388), IT Support (~\$0), and Planning Support (~\$1,138) that are necessary to accomplishing funded programs/projects.					\$12,958
							Sub Total	\$12,958
							Grand Total	\$994,000

Classified Staff or Generally Ineligible Expenses

Category/Name	Subcategory or Type	Description	Justification Ineligible Expense or Classified Staff Request
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Non ENRTF Funds

Category	Specific Source	Use	Status	Amount
State				
			State Sub Total	-
Non-State				
Cash	Federal Recreation Trail Grant	For the replacement of the Taconite State Trail Bridge over the Pike River.	Secured	\$150,000
			Non State Sub Total	\$150,000
			Funds Total	\$150,000

Attachments

Required Attachments

Visual Component

File: [80628110-9e0.pdf](#)

Alternate Text for Visual Component

Four maps identifying the location of each of the four bridges to be replaced under this project; Map 1/Page 1: Location of the Taconite State Trail bridge over the Pike River southwest of Tower; Map 2/Page 2: Location of the Great River Ridge State Trail bridge over the North Branch of the Whitewater River; Map 3/Page 3: Location of CJ Ramstad/North Shore State Trail bridge over Little 39 Creek; and Map 4/Page 4: Location of the CJ Ramstad/North Shore State Trail bridge over the East Branch of the Manitou River.

Administrative Use

Does your project include restoration or acquisition of land rights?

No

Does your project have patent, royalties, or revenue potential?

No

Does your project include research?

No

Does the organization have a fiscal agent for this project?

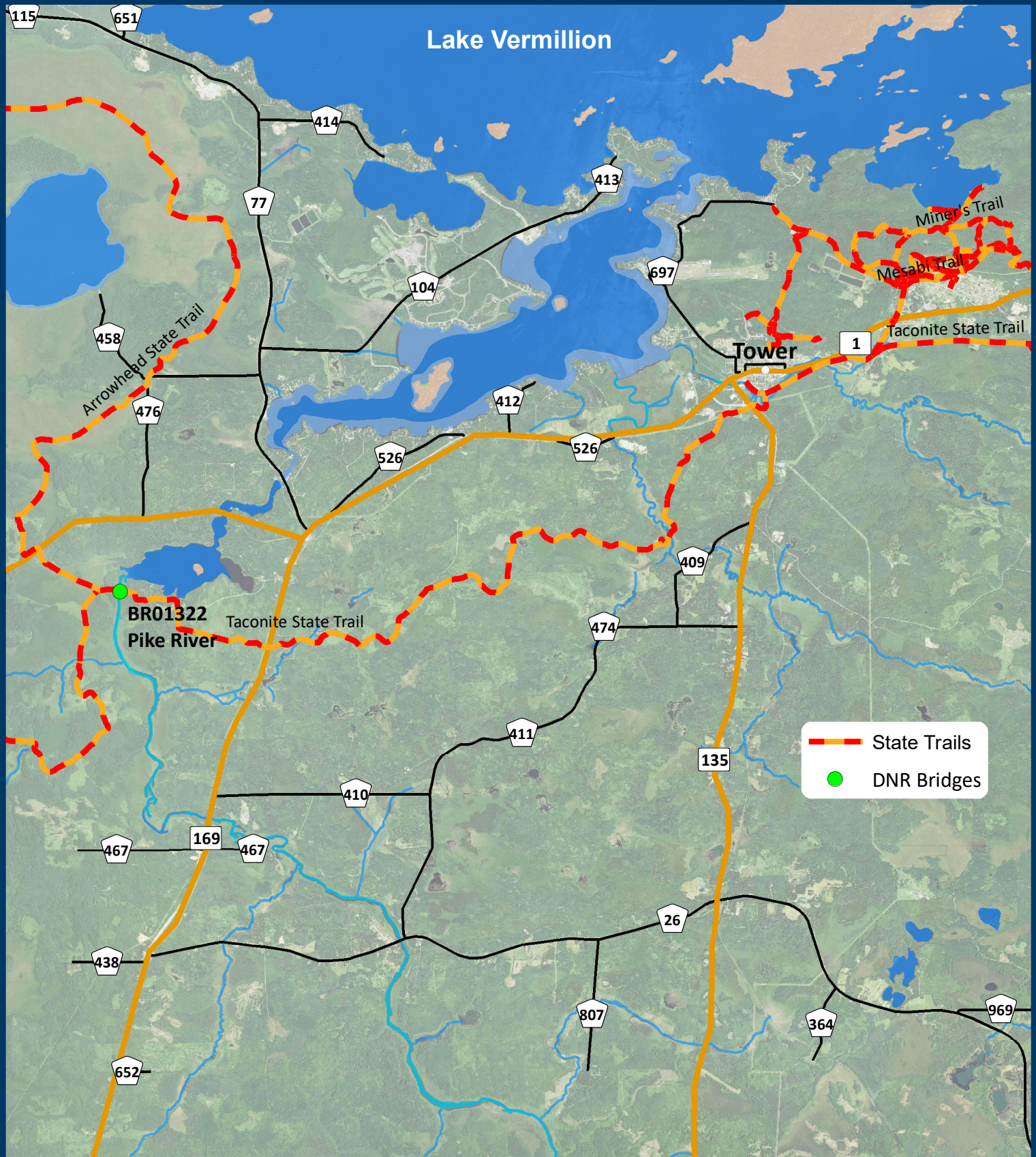
No

ACTIVITY 1

MAP 1

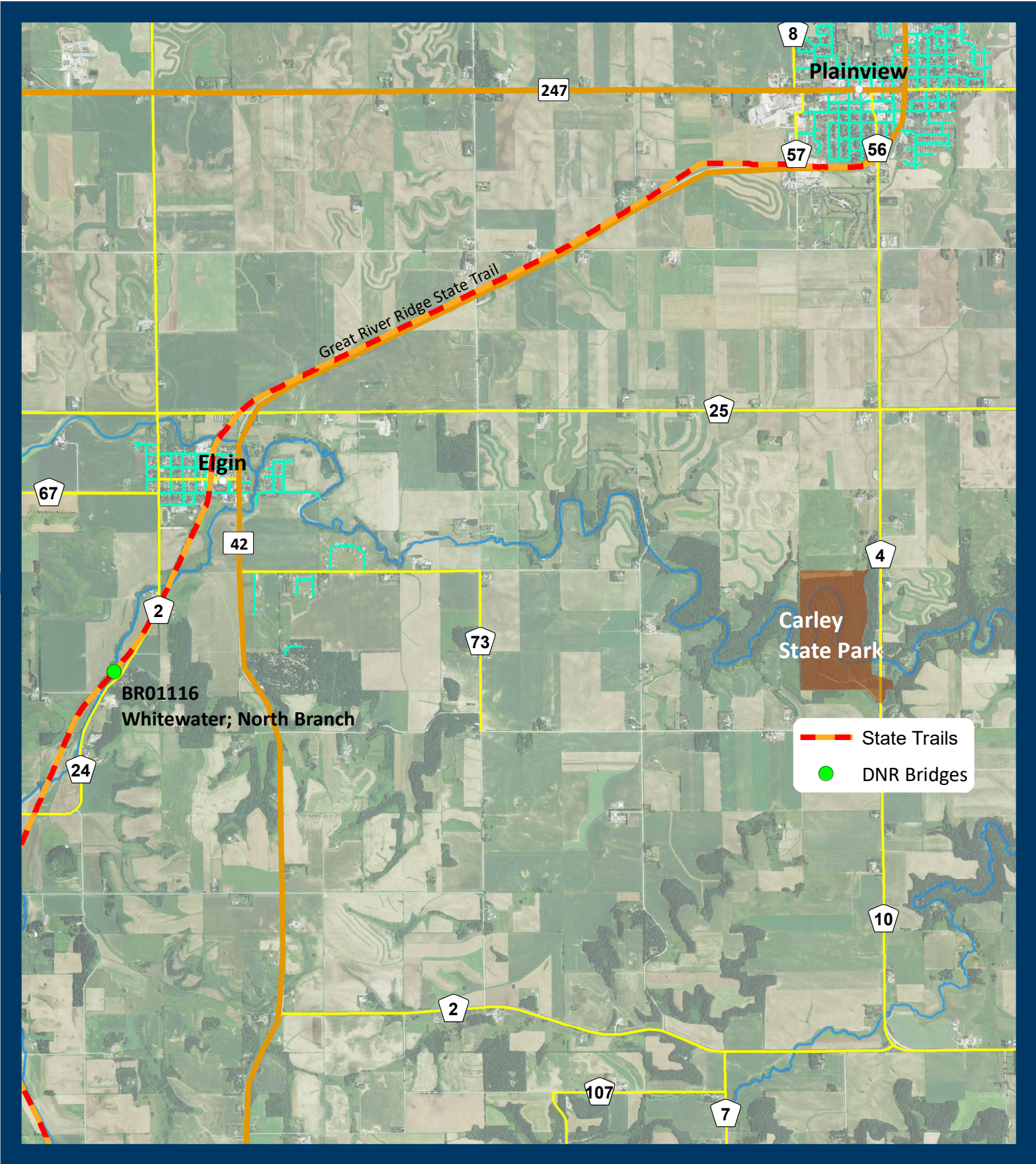
Taconite State Trail- St. Louis County

Replace Bridge BR01322 - Pike River Bridge



ACTIVITY 1
MAP 2

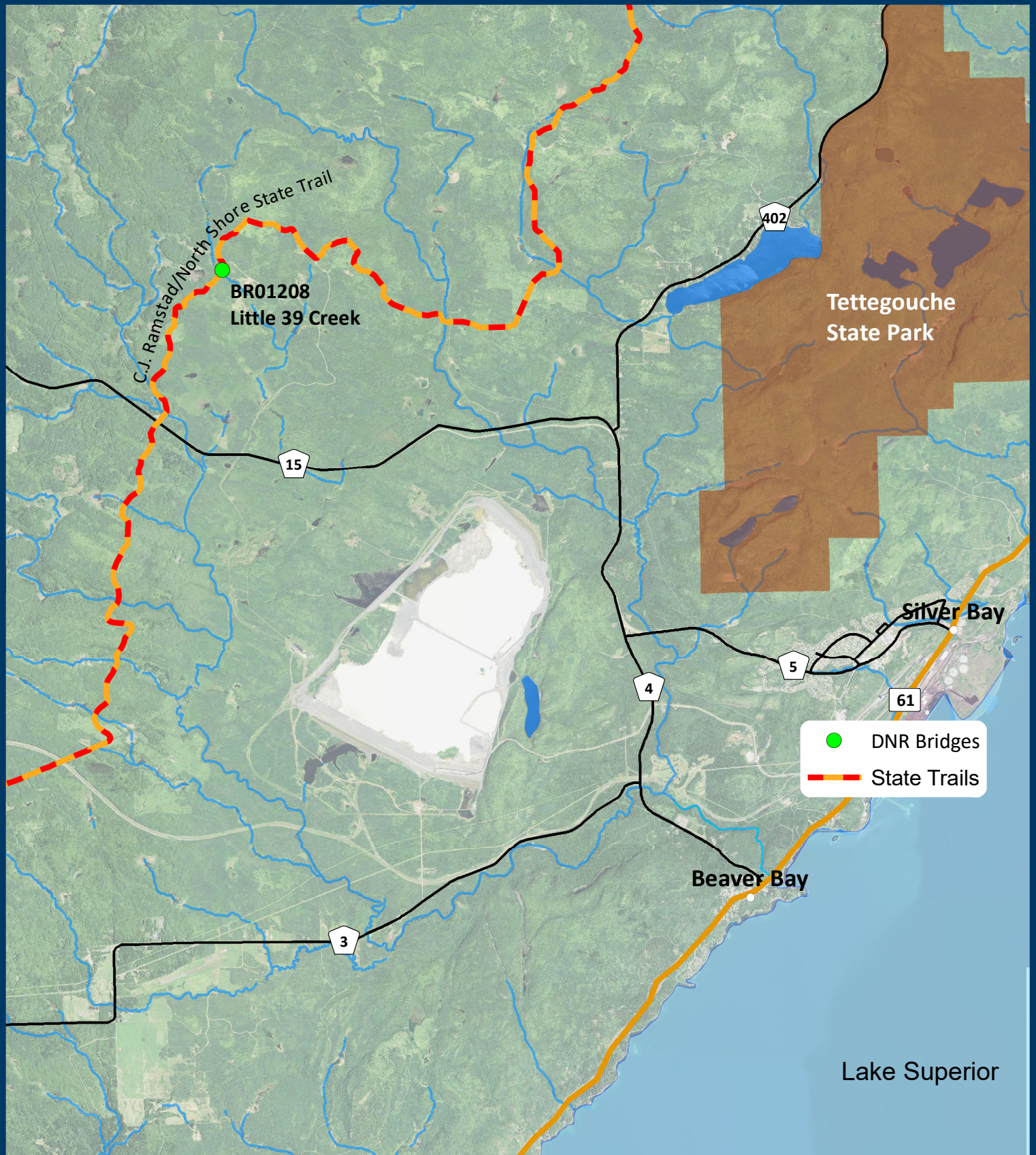
Great River Ridge State Trail- Wabasha Co.
Replace Bridge BR01116



ACTIVITY 1

MAP 3

North Shore State Trail- Lake Co. Replace Bridge BR01208



ACTIVITY 1

MAP 4

North Shore State Trail- Lake Co.
Replace Bridge BR01216

