

**Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund**

# 2023 Request for Proposal

## **General Information**

**Proposal ID:** 2023-100

**Proposal Title:** Planting for the Future

## **Project Manager Information**

**Name:** Shannon Wettstein

**Organization:** Morrison Soil and Water Conservation District

**Office Telephone:** (320) 631-3553

**Email:** shannon.wettstein@morrisonswcd.org

## **Project Basic Information**

**Project Summary:** This project integrates specific cultural customs among American Indian groups with environmental education on native prairie plants.

**Funds Requested:** $82,000

**Proposed Project Completion:** October 31, 2026

**LCCMR Funding Category:** Small Projects (H) **Secondary Category:** Environmental Education (C)

## **Project Location**

**What is the best scale for describing where your work will take place?** Region(s): Central

**What is the best scale to describe the area impacted by your work?** Region(s): Central

**When will the work impact occur?** During the Project and In the Future

## **Narrative**

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

The historical use of culturally significant plants is of interest to many Tribal peoples and to the general public. The Bug-O-Nay Ge-Shig School of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe requested access to Camp Ripley to harvest sage as a component of their cultural curriculum in 2019. Tribal school field trips have occurred for several years before this dialogue to expand the event. This proposal seeks to expand the sage harvest event to include additional public schools and schools within the Anishinaabe Tribes and will include traditional grassland plantings, cultural activities lead by the Mille Lacs Tribal Preservation Officer and the Mille Lacs Indian Museum and Trading Post. The event will be hosted by leadership staff from Camp Ripely Training Center and include support from the Minnesota National Guard's office of Diversity and Inclusion. The event seeks to enhance hands-on learning opportunities about Minnesota's native prairies and many cultural customs that exist on several species of plants.

**What is your proposed solution to the problem or opportunity discussed above? Introduce us to the work you are seeking funding to do. You will be asked to expand on this proposed solution in Activities & Milestones.**

This event will include a field trip for high school students engaged with plantings of native prairie plants that are intended to increase understanding of Anishinaabe traditional culture and the use of sacred plants; as well as engage in land management techniques that are used to maintain and preserve Minnesota's native prairie's. Camp Ripely has several sites that are managed for native prairies. These sites will serve as the additional planting enhancements sites and sage harvesting sites. All sage that is harvested from the locations will be taken by the Tribal schools for ceremonial use throughout the year. In addition, students will be integrated with natural resource professionals as well as soldiers within the Minnesota National Guard. This integration teaches Minnesota National Guard Soldiers about diverse cultures and students see first hand that diversity and inclusion is respected within the National Guard.

**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?**

Enhancing Minnesota native prairie's while learning about ecological management and conservation and cultural customs related to native plants.

## **Activities and Milestones**

### **Activity 1: Event Coordination**

**Activity Budget:** $25,000

**Activity Description:**Event coordination will include working with area schools to promote the event and secure attendance. Budget for this activity includes transportation and meals for students attending events.

**Activity Milestones:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Description** | **Completion Date** |
| School confirmations | September 30, 2023 |

### **Activity 2: Prairie enhancement activities**

**Activity Budget:** $15,000

**Activity Description:**Plugs of several species of prairie plants will be acquired to plant during the event.

**Activity Milestones:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Description** | **Completion Date** |
| Plants acquired | September 30, 2023 |

### **Activity 3: Planting for the Future Event**

**Activity Budget:** $1,000

**Activity Description:**Event will include implementation of the coordinated activities

**Activity Milestones:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Description** | **Completion Date** |
| Event Implementaiton | October 31, 2023 |

### **Activity 4: Event Coordination Year 2**

**Activity Budget:** $25,000

**Activity Description:**Event coordination will include working with area schools to promote the event and secure attendance. Budget for this activity includes transportation and meals for students attending events.

**Activity Milestones:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Description** | **Completion Date** |
| Event facilitation details completed | September 30, 2024 |

### **Activity 5: Prairie enhancement activities year 2**

**Activity Budget:** $15,000

**Activity Description:**Plugs of several species of prairie plants will be acquired to plant during the event.

**Activity Milestones:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Description** | **Completion Date** |
| Plants acquired | September 30, 2024 |

### **Activity 6: Planting for the Future event Year 2**

**Activity Budget:** $1,000

**Activity Description:**Event will include implementation of the coordinated activities

**Activity Milestones:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Description** | **Completion Date** |
| Event Implementation | October 31, 2024 |

## **Project Partners and Collaborators**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Organization** | **Role** | **Receiving Funds** |
| Camp Ripley Training Center | Minnesota Department of Military Affairs | Host | No |
| Mille Lacs Indian Museum and Trading Post | Minnesota Historical Society Museum | Event Coordination and Support | Yes |
| Mille Lacs Tribal and Historical Preservation Office | Government entitiy | Event coordination | No |
| Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig | Tribal School | Participant | Yes |
| Nay-Ah-Shing School | Tribal School | Participant | Yes |
| Mille Lacs-Kathio State Park | Minnesota Department of Natural Resources | Coordination and activity lead | 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 work be funded?**Project partnerships and additional collaborators will seek to sustain the educational events after project completion.

## **Other ENRTF Appropriations Awarded in the Last Six Years**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Appropriation** | **Amount Awarded** |
| Morrison County Performance Drainage and Hydrology Management II | M.L. 2021, First Special Session, Chp. 6, Art. 6, Sec. 2, Subd. 03j | $197,000 |
| Oak Wilt Suppression At The Northern Edge II | M.L. 2021, First Special Session, Chp. 6, Art. 6, Sec. 2, Subd. 06c | $423,000 |

## **Project Manager and Organization Qualifications**

**Project Manager Name:** Shannon Wettstein

**Job Title:** District Manager

**Provide description of the project manager’s qualifications to manage the proposed project.**Project manager is the district manager for the Morrison SWCD, which provides many programs and services that help protect the landscape of Morrison County. One of many programs is the Clean Water festival, which facilitates environmental education programming to every 5th grade class in Morrison County.

**Organization:** Morrison Soil and Water Conservation District

**Organization Description:**Morrison Soil and Water Conservation District

## **Budget Summary**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Category / Name** | **Subcategory or Type** | **Description** | **Purpose** | **Gen. Ineli gible** | **% Bene fits** | **# FTE** | **Class ified Staff?** | **$ Amount** |
| **Personnel** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| SWCD Staff member |  | Coordinate event and acquisition of prairie plants |  |  | 0% | 0.2 |  | $22,000 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | **Sub Total** | **$22,000** |
| **Contracts and Services** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Mille Lacs Indian Museum and Trading Post | Sub award | entity will be providing coordination services and presentations during the day of the event |  |  |  | 48 |  | $10,000 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | **Sub Total** | **$10,000** |
| **Equipment, Tools, and Supplies** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Tools and Supplies | Prairie Plants | A planting will occur as a component of the event |  |  |  |  | $30,000 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | **Sub Total** | **$30,000** |
| **Capital Expenditures** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | **Sub Total** | **-** |
| **Acquisitions and Stewardship** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | **Sub Total** | **-** |
| **Travel In Minnesota** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Miles/ Meals/ Lodging | Coordination with 4 Tribal schools | Transportation and meals for student attending the event |  |  |  |  | $20,000 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | **Sub Total** | **$20,000** |
| **Travel Outside Minnesota** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | **Sub Total** | **-** |
| **Printing and Publication** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | **Sub Total** | **-** |
| **Other Expenses** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | **Sub Total** | **-** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | **Grand Total** | **$82,000** |

### **Classified Staff or Generally Ineligible Expenses**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Category/Name** | **Subcategory or Type** | **Description** | **Justification Ineligible Expense or Classified Staff Request** |

### **Non ENRTF Funds**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Category** | **Specific Source** | **Use** | **Status** | **Amount** |
| **State** |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | **State Sub Total** | **-** |
| **Non-State** |  |  |  |  |
| In-Kind | National Guard Bureau | Planning capacity, outreach and marketing | Secured | $25,000 |
| In-Kind | National Guard Bureau | Public Affairs | Secured | $5,000 |
| In-Kind | Site Preparations | Preparing sites for prairie plantings | Secured | $10,000 |
|  |  |  | **Non State Sub Total** | **$40,000** |
|  |  |  | **Funds Total** | **$40,000** |

## **Acquisition and Restoration**

### **Parcel List**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **County** | **Site Significance** | **Activity** | **Acres** | **Miles** | **Estimated Cost** | **Type of Landowner** | **Easement or Title Holder** | **Status of Work** |
| Camp Ripley | Morrison | Native prairie | Restoration | 25 | - | $30,000 | Public |  | Has Not Begun |
| **Totals** |  |  |  | **25** | **0** | **$30,000** |  |  |  |

### **Restoration**

**1. Provide a statement confirming that all restoration activities completed with these funds will occur on land permanently protected by a conservation easement or public ownership.**All restoration activities will occur on State owned land

**2. Summarize the components and expected outcomes of restoration and management plans for the parcels to be restored by your organization, how these plans are kept on file by your organization, and overall strategies for long-term plan implementation.**Management plans are kept within Camp Ripley's integrated Natural Resource Management Plan and available to the public

**3. Describe how restoration efforts will utilize and follow the Board of Soil and Water Resources “Native Vegetation Establishment and Enhancement Guidelines” in order to ensure ecological integrity and pollinator enhancement.**BWSR guidelines will be used in selection of vegetation to be planted and all site preparation activities.

**4. Describe how the long-term maintenance and management needs of the parcel being restored with these funds will be met and financed into the future.**Long term needs will be managed by Camp Ripley environmental office

**5. Describe how consideration will be given to contracting with Conservation Corps of Minnesota for any restoration activities.**NA

**6. Provide a statement indicating that evaluations will be completed on parcels where activities were implemented both 1) initially after activity completion and 2) three years later as a follow-up. Evaluations should analyze improvements to the parcel and whether goals have been met, identify any problems with the implementation, and identify any findings that can be used to improve implementation of future restoration efforts at the site or elsewhere.**SWCD staff and Camp Ripely environmental staff will conduct evaluations of prairie sites and coordinate adjustments to management as needed.

## **Attachments**

### **Required Attachments**

#### ***Map***

File: [9bb76f28-830.pdf](https://lccmrprojectmgmt.leg.mn/media/map/9bb76f28-830.pdf)

#### ***Alternate Text for Map***

The attachment is a flyer developed for the Planting for the Future event....

#### ***Board Resolution or Letter***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Title** | **File** |
| Board Resolution letter | [c4b0d601-892.pdf](https://lccmrprojectmgmt.leg.mn/media/attachments/c4b0d601-892.pdf) |

## **Administrative Use**

**Does your project include restoration or acquisition of land rights?**   
 Yes: Restoration,

**Does your project have potential for royalties, copyrights, patents, or sale of products and assets?**   
 No

**Do you understand and acknowledge IP and revenue-return and sharing requirements in 116P.10?**   
 N/A

**Do you wish to request reinvestment of any revenues into your project instead of returning revenue to the ENRTF?**   
 N/A

**Does your project include original, hypothesis-driven research?**   
 No

**Does the organization have a fiscal agent for this project?**   
 No