

**Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund**

# 2023 Request for Proposal

## **General Information**

**Proposal ID:** 2023-239

**Proposal Title:** Otter and Campbell Lake Restoration Project

## **Project Manager Information**

**Name:** John Paulson

**Organization:** City of Hutchinson

**Office Telephone:** (320) 234-5682

**Email:** JPaulson@ci.hutchinson.mn.us

## **Project Basic Information**

**Project Summary:** The Otter and Campbell Lakes Restoration Project will restore and improve habitat within the lakes and provide additional public access and opportunities for lake recreation activities.

**Funds Requested:** $5,050,000

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

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

## **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

## **Narrative**

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

The City of Hutchinson has several problems they are seeking to address:
• The popularity of fishing in and around 180th Street crossing of Otter Lake creates several safety concerns for pedestrians using the road and bridge for fishing. Citizens park cars along the shoulder creating a safety issue for themselves, nearby residents in the area, and others using the road;
• Otter Lake is surrounded by multiple parks and campgrounds. These public areas lack accessible fishing piers, and walk in boat access;
• Over a century of sediment has built up within these lakes, reducing habitat, encouraging growth of undesirable vegetation, reducing access and contributing to winter fish kills.
• Large rocks under the South Grade Road bridge are causing damage to boats and hindering access to the southern portion of Otter Lake.

**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.**

The City of Hutchinson is proposing to address these problems by:
• Constructing a safe parking location adjacent to 180th Street on City owned land to eliminate on street parking.
• Provide pedestrian safety improvements and ADA accessible fishing pier.
• Remove or reposition the large rocks from under the bridge.
• Deepen the lake in specified areas to increase fish habitat, reduce nuisance and undesirable vegetation and reduce winter kill.
• Construct a walk-in boat launch at 180th Street.
• Construct a fishing pier at Drift Rider Park and in-lake habitat near the pier.
These additions will improve habitat, accessibility, and recreational opportunities.

**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?**

This project will enhance the state natural resource known as “Otter Lake” within the City of Hutchinson. This a regionally used waterbody with users from all around MN will be preserved, restored and enhanced to provide improved outdoor recreational opportunities. This project will improve access to shore fishing, canoeing, kayaking and boating accessibility for all Minnesotans. The Lake restoration will also decrease the potential for loss of fish over the winter months with a deeper basin.

## **Activities and Milestones**

### **Activity 1: Final design, engineering, and environmental permitting for the Otter Lake Improvements.**

**Activity Budget:** $750,000

**Activity Description:**Final design and engineering/construction plans for improved lake fish/aquatic habitats, sedimentation removal & collection from Otter lakebed, fishing pier installation, construction of community access points, and lakeshore restoration. Project permit requirements will include MNDNR public waters, MNWCA, US Army Corps of Engineers 404 and MPCA NPDES. The engineer will complete all bid specifications for public RFP process.

**Activity Milestones:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Description** | **Completion Date** |
| The engineering consultant will complete all services required to obtain all the project permits. | May 31, 2023 |
| The City of Hutchinson will complete formal review of submitted RFPs responding to the proposal. | August 31, 2023 |
| All design and construction plans will be completed in cooperation with the City of Hutchinson. | December 31, 2023 |
| Engineering consultant will complete construction services supervision and permit compliance inspection throughout the project timeline. | December 31, 2026 |

### **Activity 2: Construction of walk-in access points, boat launches, boulder removal, and parking lot and installation of fishing piers on Otter Lake.**

**Activity Budget:** $1,200,000

**Activity Description:**Construction Management. This activity includes construction materials and construction services for fishing pier installation, walk-in access points, boat launches, boulder removal for kayak/canoe accessibility, and the parking lot on Otter Lake. The parking lot will be constructed as shown in the figure at the bridge that brings the northern and southern lobes of Otter Lake together.

**Activity Milestones:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Description** | **Completion Date** |
| The engineering consultant will complete all environmental services required to obtain all the project permits. | December 31, 2024 |
| Contractor begin construction of parking lot and boat launches along Otter Lake. | October 31, 2025 |
| Construction contractor will construct fishing piers located in specified locations along with walk-in access locations. | October 31, 2025 |
| Engineering consultant will complete construction services supervision and permit compliance inspection throughout the project timeline. | December 31, 2025 |

### **Activity 3: Otter Lake habitat restoration and construction implementation of community improvements towards natural resources and recreation.**

**Activity Budget:** $3,100,000

**Activity Description:**This activity includes construction materials and construction services for improved lake fish/aquatic wildlife habitats, deepening of the lake by removing sedimentation, and lakeshore restoration on the southern lobe of Otter Lake. Sedimentation removal & collection, in addition to deepening the lakebed, will also improve fish ecosystems within Otter Lake. The construction process will require construction supervision and permit compliance inspections during the fish habitat restoration. Improvement to the shoreline surrounding Otter Lake includes seeding and erosion control techniques performed by the contractor.

**Activity Milestones:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Description** | **Completion Date** |
| Sediment removal and collection of Otter Lake | December 31, 2026 |
| Improvements to the fish/aquatic wildlife habitats and shoreline | December 31, 2026 |
| Project Completion | December 31, 2026 |

## **Project Partners and Collaborators**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Organization** | **Role** | **Receiving Funds** |
| Gary Bennet | Hutchinson DNR | Area Hydrologist | No |
| Scott Mackenthun | Hutchinson DNR | Area Fisheries Supervisor | No |
| Ryan Freitag | McLoed SWCD | District Manager | No |
| Diana Sander | Crow River Organization of Water (CROW) | Watershed Coordinator | No |
| Gary Forcier | City of Hutchinson | Mayor | No |
| Steve Cook | City of Hutchinson | Councilman | No |
| Andy Nissen | Hutchinson Waters | Advisory Role | No |
| Robert Hantge | Hutchinson Waters | Advisory Role | No |
| Bill Arndt | Local Resident of Hutchinson (Citizen) | Advisory and Local Community Role | No |
| Eric Hanson | US Army Corps of Engineers | Project Manager | No |
| Dolf Moon | City of Hutchinson | Parks and Recreation Director | No |
| Matt Jaunich | City of Hutchinson | City Administrator | No |
| Katundra Spears | USDA NRCS | District Conservationist | No |
| Scott Lucas | MPCA | Pollution Control Specialist | No |
| Howard "Skip" Quade | Gopher Campfire Conservation Club | Gopher Campfire State Game Refuge Member | No |
| Varies by who can attend the day of meeting(s) | Hutchinson Wildlife Management Area | Hutchinson Wildlife Management Area Representative | 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?**This project is a portion of the overall Otter and Campbell Lakes Restoration Project. The larger project includes additional recreational access, boat launches, fishing piers, shoreline restoration, deepening of Campbell Lake and the northern portion of Otter Lake, and the installation of fish habitat in Otter and Campbell Lakes. Funding for the larger project will come from eligible grants received, State and Federal allocations, and from the City of Hutchinson. Once this portion of the project is completed, the City of Hutchison will be responsible for maintaining the fishing piers and public shoreline.

## **Project Manager and Organization Qualifications**

**Project Manager Name:** John Paulson

**Job Title:** Project/Environmental/Regulatory Manager at City of Hutchinson

**Provide description of the project manager’s qualifications to manage the proposed project.**Before serving as the City of Hutchinson Project/Environmental/Regulatory Manager, he served as an Environmental Specialist for the City of Hutchinson as well. His experience includes his work as an environmental and regulatory affairs specialist, implementation of the MS4 program, wastewater pretreatment coordinator, regulatory permitting for city facilities and projects, sustainability liaison, energy efficiency and facility energy use tracking and public works code enforcement. John assists the City Engineer, Public Works, and other City departments with special projects such as grant writing, shoreline restoration, native prairie restoration, drainage, and water quality improvements. He works with local watershed organizations and lake associations to educate, preserve, restore, and enhance local water resources. He is experienced in managing special projects for the city that requires complex negotiations and coordination with other governmental units, various stakeholder groups and private developers. He also provides project administration, documentation and coordination support on City-led infrastructure projects that have involved a variety of funding sources such as Federal Aid, Municipal State Aid, grant allocations, bonding, utility funds, special assessments and others.

John has worked for the City of Hutchinson since 2006.

**Organization:** City of Hutchinson

**Organization Description:**Not Applicable

## **Budget Summary**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Category / Name** | **Subcategory or Type** | **Description** | **Purpose** | **Gen. Ineli gible** | **% Bene fits** | **# FTE** | **Class ified Staff?** | **$ Amount** |
| **Personnel** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | **Sub Total** | **-** |
| **Contracts and Services** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Engineering Design Permitting Inspection (TBD) | Professional or Technical Service Contract | Engineering Design will be required to design the lake restoration project. Provide required permit documentation and permit compliance working in state waters. Company/Consultant/City to be determined for design work by City of Hutchinson bid process. |  |  |  | - |  | $750,000 |
| Construction Contractor TBD | Professional or Technical Service Contract | Construction contractor selected by City of Hutchinson. Construction cost such as the following activities. The Fishing Piers installation. Walk-in access and boat launch. Walk-in located at both sites and boat lunch constructed near parking lot. Bolder removal removal for kayak/canoe accessibility. Lake shoreline restoration work. Sediment from Otter Lakebed. |  |  |  | - |  | $4,300,000 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | **Sub Total** | **$5,050,000** |
| **Equipment, Tools, and Supplies** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | **Sub Total** | **-** |
| **Capital Expenditures** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | **Sub Total** | **-** |
| **Acquisitions and Stewardship** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | **Sub Total** | **-** |
| **Travel In Minnesota** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | **Sub Total** | **-** |
| **Travel Outside Minnesota** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | **Sub Total** | **-** |
| **Printing and Publication** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | **Sub Total** | **-** |
| **Other Expenses** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | **Sub Total** | **-** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | **Grand Total** | **$5,050,000** |

### **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** |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | **Non State Sub Total** | **-** |
|  |  |  | **Funds Total** | **-** |

## **Acquisition and Restoration**

### **Parcel List**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **County** | **Site Significance** | **Activity** | **Acres** | **Miles** | **Estimated Cost** | **Type of Landowner** | **Easement or Title Holder** | **Status of Work** |
| 234190100 and ROW 180th Ave. | McLeod | Shoreline restoration, parking lot development, fishing pier installation, walk-in accessibility, and boat launch. | Restoration | 0.97 | 0.22 | - | Public | City of Hutchinson | Has Not Begun |
| 234230710 (Drift Rider Park) | McLeod | Shoreline restoration, fishing pier installation, and walk-in accessibility. | Restoration | 4.82 | 0.04 | - | Public | City of Hutchinson | Has Not Begun |
| Bed of Public Waters in Otter Lake | McLeod | Lakebed sediment removal and collection of Otter Lake and habitat improvements. | Restoration | 642 | 0 | - | Public | State of Minnesota | Has Not Begun |
| **Totals** |  |  |  | **647.79** | **0.26** | **-** |  |  |  |

### **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 work will be done with in the public water of the State at Otter Lake or on parcels owned by the City of Hutchinson. These restoration activities will take place on land that will not be sold.

**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.**The City of Hutchinson has prepared a concept plan and data review for the Otter and Campbell Lakes projects. This concept was completed with the assistance of a Technical Advisory Committee consisting of regulatory agencies and local partners and stakeholders. The city has also completed an EAW for the project that is currently out for review with comments to be received in June, 2022.
All studies, and documentation will be held by the City of Hutchinson for all long-term plan implementation elements.

**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.**These guidelines will be incorporated into all the design specifications and will have professional oversight during construction and installation. We also require warranty and maintenance for two years by contractors.

**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.**The City of Hutchinson will maintain these parcels with their crews or through contractors.

**5. Describe how consideration will be given to contracting with Conservation Corps of Minnesota for any restoration activities.**We will reach out and discuss any assistance the Conservation Corps may be able to assist with on the projects.

**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.**The City will be visiting these sites routinely for maintenance and oversight. They have professional public works staff that can provide updates and evaluations at required intervals.

## **Attachments**

### **Required Attachments**

#### ***Map***

File: [f2f30acc-2dd.pdf](https://lccmrprojectmgmt.leg.mn/media/map/f2f30acc-2dd.pdf)

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

There is an aerial satellite view/map showing City of Hutchinson, Otter Lake, and Campbell Lake showing the location of work and other project information. Information such as previously completed Projects, currently in progress projects, proposed LCCMR funded projects, and future lake accessibility and habitat improvements....

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

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Title** | **File** |
| Resolution 15463 for LCCMR Grant Application for Otter Lake | [6c8515ea-c48.pdf](https://lccmrprojectmgmt.leg.mn/media/attachments/6c8515ea-c48.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