

**2024 ENRTF Request for Proposal (RFP) - FY2025
Selected Proposals Received by Category with Summaries**

As of March 31, 2023, the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) received 218 proposals requesting a total of approximately \$174 million. The amount available for appropriation from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) is approximately \$79 million. This RFP process is for FY 2025 funds that become available beginning July 1, 2024.

LCCMR reviews and evaluates all proposals against their 10 adopted evaluation criteria. On June 8, members selected 102 proposals to invite for presentation before the LCCMR on June 22-23 and 27-28 in order to receive further consideration. On July 20, the LCCMR will meet to make final selection and funding allocation decisions. In late 2023, the commission will meet to approve appropriation bill language for these projects that will be presented to the 2024 Minnesota Legislature as the official LCCMR recommendations for spending from the ENRTF.

| Selected to Present | Proposal ID | First Name | Last Name | Title | Summary | Organization | Requested \$ |
|--|-------------|------------|-----------|---|--|--|--------------|
| A. Foundational Natural Resource Data and Information (22 Proposals / \$15,035,000) | | | | | | | |
| | 2024-026 | Preston | Dowell | PLSS Restoration T58R13 | Restore and certify monuments of the Public Land Survey System. Collect geodetic coordinate values in order to improve foundational Geographic Information System (GIS) data. | St. Louis County | \$218,000 |
| X | 2024-044 | Alexis | Grinde | Characterizing Tree Cavities and Use by Minnesota's Wildlife | Pileated Woodpeckers are keystone habitat modifiers that support an array of game, non-game, and conservation concern species. Additional information is needed to understand cavity dynamics for these species. | U of MN, Duluth - NRRRI | \$349,000 |
| X | 2024-046 | Ardeshir | Ebtehaj | Fate of Minnesota's Lakes in the Next Century | This proposal aims to answer this question: How would the water quality of Minnesota's lakes change in the next century under future scenarios of urbanization, agricultural growth, and climate change? | U of MN, College of Science and Engineering | \$499,000 |
| | 2024-054 | Robert | Blair | Detecting Window Collisions of Minnesota's Migratory Bird Species | We propose developing and implementing a system that will remotely detect bird-building collisions in order to understand where and when collisions occur and expeditiously implement mitigation at identified collision hotspots. | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | \$393,000 |
| X | 2024-068 | Sona | Psarska | Determining Ambient Background PFAS Concentrations in Minnesota Soils | This project determines ambient background per- and polyfluoroalkyl substance (PFAS) levels in urban and non-urban soils. This information will help Minnesota develop management strategies for PFAS contaminated soils. | Minnesota Pollution Control Agency | \$655,000 |
| X | 2024-071 | Eric | Michel | Investigating Life History Characteristics of Minnesota Elk | We will assess movements, survival, and causes of mortality of Minnesota elk while developing a non-invasive, safer method to estimate population size. This information is important for long-term management efforts. | MN DNR, Fish and Wildlife Division | \$933,000 |
| X | 2024-078 | Paul | Putzier | DNR County Groundwater Atlas | This project supports continuing development of the County Groundwater Atlases for approximately two years. The goal is to provide this valuable water and resource management "information infrastructure" to every county. | MN DNR, Ecological and Water Resources Division | \$3,200,000 |
| | 2024-079 | Kristine | Maurer | Collaborative Natural Resources Data Evaluation and Decision-Making | This project will coordinate natural resources conservation by identifying shared and needed datasets, developing a GIS tool to capture boots-on-the-ground knowledge, and sharing this information through a web portal. | Hennepin County | \$405,000 |
| X | 2024-083 | Joseph | Bump | Voyageurs Wolf Project - Phase III | Wolf survival and predation in summer are almost unknown but critical to deer, moose, and wolf, management. We'll study wolf predator-prey ecology, share charismatic natural history, and promote Voyageurs' region. | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | \$996,000 |
| X | 2024-088 | Michael | Joyce | Distribution and Population Status of Weasels in Minnesota | We will determine the distribution, relative density, and spatial occupancy patterns of 3 small weasel species in Minnesota to fill key knowledge gaps in weasel distribution and status in Minnesota. | U of MN, Duluth - NRRRI | \$400,000 |

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| X | 2024-172 | Mingzi | Xu | Sublethal Effects of Pesticides on Invertebrate Community | This project seeks to provide data on pesticide contamination in soil, water and the insect community across the state and the effect of exposure to insecticide exposure on insect reproduction. | U of MN, College of Biological Sciences | \$398,000 |
| | 2024-183 | Benjamin | Anderson | Carlton County Remonument | Restore and certify monuments of the Public Land Survey System. Collect geodetic coordinate values in order to improve foundational Geographic Information System (GIS) data. | Carlton County | \$292,000 |
| X | 2024-186 | Bruce | Carlson | Modernizing Minnesota's Plant Community Classification and Field Guides | Update the state's 20-year-old native plant community classification guides to incorporate new data; streamline user application and access to products; and increase connections to evolving climate and vegetation trends. | MN DNR, Ecological and Water Resources Division | \$1,800,000 |
| X | 2024-192 | Erik | Runquist | Assessing Prairie Health to Inform Pollinator Conservation | We will assess the environmental quality of prairies across Minnesota. On-the-ground surveys and contaminant risk assessments will help inform partner management actions, endangered species recovery plans, and pollinator reintroduction efforts. | Minnesota Zoological Society | \$297,000 |
| X | 2024-193 | Alec | Lackmann | Understanding Native Fishes in the Bowfishing Era | Minnesotans increasingly value native fishes. For example, >95% of bowfished species in MN are native, yet all are poorly understood. Foundational natural resource data is absolutely necessary for all stakeholders. | U of MN, Duluth | \$588,000 |
| | 2024-199 | Jiarong | Hong | Real-Time Monitoring of Statewide Pollen in Minnesota | Develop a smartphone-based, real-time pollen monitoring system using digital inline holography to track plant biodiversity, pollinator health, and invasive species, informing conservation efforts and aiding allergy sufferers. | U of MN, St. Anthony Falls Laboratory | \$229,000 |
| X | 2024-215 | Meggan | Craft | White-Tailed Deer Movement and Disease in Suburban Areas | Our project aims to better understand white-tailed deer movement, habitat use, and disease dynamics at the suburban/agricultural interface to inform more efficient deer management and disease control. | U of MN, College of Biological Sciences | \$699,000 |
| | 2024-220 | Matthew | Tierney | Minnesota Ecological Design Toolkit | Develop an online toolkit that allows designers, engineers, state employees, developers and others to rapidly understand the ecological and cultural context of a site and implement sustainable design strategies. | U of MN, Center for Sustainable Building Research | \$433,000 |
| X | 2024-223 | Barbara | Lusardi | Geologic Atlases for Water Resource Management | Geologic atlases provide maps/databases essential for improved management of ground and surface water. This proposal will complete current projects and start new projects to equal about 4 complete atlases. | U of MN, MN Geological Survey | \$1,236,000 |
| X | 2024-247 | Axel | Garcia y Garcia | Harnessing Cover Crops and Roots for Sustainable Cropping | This project proposes to increase the adoption of cover cropping in southern Minnesota to address issues of loss of diversity and environmental degradation. By generating important information on cover crops, | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | \$375,000 |
| X | 2024-278 | Lauren | Lynch | Genetic Detection of Endangered Mussels in the Mississippi | This project will create and optimize eDNA assays to detect the presence of 8 endangered or threatened mussel species around Buffalo Slough near Prairie Island Indian Community. | US Geological Survey, Ohio Water Microbiology Lab | \$241,000 |
| | 2024-288 | Leif | Olmanson | Minnesota Lake Water Quality and Temperature Forecasting App | App to deliver up-to-date actionable comprehensive lake water quality and temperature information to Minnesota swimming, boating, fishing, and lake management communities to improve natural, recreational, and travel experiences. | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | \$399,000 |

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| | | | | | | Subtotal = | \$15,035,000 |
| A. Foundational Natural Resource Data and Information | | | | | | | |
| H. Small Projects (21 Proposals / \$3,854,000) | | | | | | | |
| | 2024-011 | Patrick | Veraguth | Grant County Public Land Survey System Project | Remonumenting and Certifying 90 Public Land Survey System in Grant County. | Grant County | \$200,000 |
| X | 2024-014 | Virginia | Breidenbach | Native Plant Community Data in City of Duluth | Develop Native Plant Community data and maps for the City of Duluth and St. Louis River estuary to support conservation and restoration activities. | Minnesota Land Trust | \$198,000 |
| | 2024-024 | Nicolas | Jelinski | Soil Data Integration into the Ecological Classification System | We will integrate soil data into the Minnesota Native Plant Community (NPC) Classification to provide high-resolution predictions of most probable native plant communities to assist managers in developing restoration targets. | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | \$170,000 |
| X | 2024-036 | Lienne | Sethna | Reconstructing Historical Wild Rice to Understand Its Future | We will characterize environmental drivers contributing to the decline of wild rice using lake sediment cores to reconstruct historical wild rice abundance in relation to lake and watershed stressors. | Science Museum of Minnesota, St. Croix Watershed Research Station | \$200,000 |
| | 2024-040 | Jenny | Sanders | PLSS Section Corner Remonumentation | Restore and certify monuments of the Public Land Survey System. Collect geodetic coordinate values in order to secure land boundaries and improve foundational Geographic Information System (GIS) data. | Morrison County | \$195,000 |
| X | 2024-048 | Annette S. | Lee | Turtle Island Skywatchers – Minnesota Research and Data Visualization | Turtle Island Skywatchers - Innovative Research and Data Visualization project works to protect Minnesota water, wildlife, and natural resources while empowering Indigenous youth as leaders and all citizens as researchers. | Native Skywatchers Inc | \$200,000 |
| X | 2024-063 | Matthew | Petersen | Monitoring Minnesota’s Insects: Connecting Habitat to Insect Prey | The protection of insect-feeding animals is reliant on sustained insect abundance. We will investigate the ecological roles and energy transfer by Minnesota insects and train future insect researchers. | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | \$199,000 |
| | 2024-065 | Liz | Lund | Roseau County Re-Monumenting of Jadis & Spruce Township | Restore and certify monuments of the Public Land Survey System. Collect geodetic coordinate values in order to improve foundational Geographic Information System (GIS) data. | Roseau County | \$156,000 |
| X | 2024-072 | Kyle | Johnson | Foundational Data for Moth and Butterfly Conservation | This project will build the first comprehensive list of Minnesota moths and butterflies. Information gained through surveys and outreach efforts will inform land managers and inspire public appreciation. | MN DNR, Ecological and Water Resources Division | \$195,000 |
| | 2024-118 | Daniel | McAninch | Public Land Survey Monument Restoration T 140 R29 | Restoration and maintenance of the Public Land Survey(PLS) monuments in Woodrow Township, T 140 N, R 29 W, Cass County Minnesota. | Cass County Highway Department | \$160,000 |
| | 2024-119 | Wayne | Hensche | T64NR4E- PLS Corner Restoration | Restoration of 90 PLS land/protracted corners in 12 sections of T64N R4E, 4th PM, Cook Co. No corners presently exist in the entire area negating any safe environmental practices. | Cook County | \$165,000 |

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| | 2024-123 | Chad | Gramentz | Kanabec County PLS Corner Restoration | Restore 63 Public Land Survey corners in Kanabec County, located in 4 Townships (Ford, Peace, Knife Lake, and Arthur Townships). | Kanabec County | \$152,000 |
| X | 2024-150 | Holly | Bernardo | Improving Aquatic Plant Knowledge for Healthy Waters | Enhance knowledge of Minnesota's native aquatic plant biodiversity, the backbone of healthy aquatic systems, by delivering data products that support conservation, protection and management for decision-makers and scientists. | MN DNR, Ecological and Water Resources Division | \$198,000 |
| X | 2024-158 | Ron | Moen | New Small Mammal Monitoring Methods for Minnesota | We will develop camera trapping methods for small mammals, a new tool in the toolbox to fill key knowledge gaps in status of Minnesota mammal species. | U of MN, Duluth - NRRI | \$199,000 |
| | 2024-160 | Steven | Van Natta | Natural Resources Inventory/Analysis for Restoration and Resilience | UMLA will conduct a comprehensive floristic inventory and assessment to understand and identify resiliency, community changes, and restoration priorities across UMLA's natural communities. | U of MN, Landscape Arboretum | \$63,000 |
| X | 2024-163 | Ron | Moen | Status of Bats and Roost Trees after White-Nose | We will deploy acoustic detectors and revisit roost trees identified in our previous ENRTF project to measure effect of seven years of white-nose syndrome on Minnesota bats. | U of MN, Duluth - NRRI | \$195,000 |
| X | 2024-206 | Ya | Yang | Preserving Minnesota Wildflower Information | We propose to integrate Minnesota Wildflowers Information, an online tool for plant identification, with the Minnesota Biodiversity Atlas, to preserve and extend this popular ENRTF-supported resource for future use. | U of MN, Bell Museum of Natural History | \$199,000 |
| X | 2024-222 | Victoria | Hall | Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza and Minnesota Raptors | Evaluation of Minnesota raptors, in rehabilitation and free ranging settings, for current or previous exposure to highly pathogenic avian influenza virus to better understand outbreak impacts to raptor populations. | U of MN, Raptor Center | \$187,000 |
| X | 2024-224 | Wendy | Caldwell | Remote Sensing for Pollinator Habitat | This project uses remote sensing technology (UAVs) to evaluate pollinator habitat on energy and transportation lands across Minnesota. | Monarch Joint Venture | \$180,000 |
| X | 2024-251 | Daniel | Tix | Effects of Conservation Grazing on Solar Pollinator Habitat | This research will analyze the effects of sheep grazing and mowing on the vegetation of solar sites that have been managed for pollinator habitat. | Minnesota Native Landscapes | \$88,000 |
| | 2024-290 | Michelle | Terrell | Ensuring Continued Access to Minnesota's Ornithological Records | Continued online access to statewide avian records and information maintained by the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union requires that the MOU contract with a website development vendor to modernize its custom website. | Minnesota Ornithologists' Union | \$175,000 |
| X | 2024-296 | Todd | Arnold | Integrated Population Modeling for Trumpeter Swans | We will compile all available data for Minnesota Trumpeter Swans and use these sources to model historical population abundance and predict future population dynamics. | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | \$180,000 |
| | | | | | | Subtotal = | \$3,854,000 |
| B. Water Resources (23 Proposals / \$13,806,000) | | | | | | | |

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| X | 2024-037 | Ardeshir | Ebtehaj | Hyperspectral Characterization of Toxic Harmful Algal Blooms | The project will investigate why, when, and where different species of harmful algal blooms release toxins into the water using hyperspectral microscopic imaging towards developing early warning remote sensing tools. | U of MN, St. Anthony Falls Laboratory | \$399,000 |
| X | 2024-057 | Grace | Wilson | Characterization of Chemicals in Structural Fire Wastewater | The wastewater from extinguishing structural fires will be analyzed to identify and characterize chemicals present and better understand potential toxicity to humans and water systems. | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | \$369,000 |
| X | 2024-061 | James | Cotner | Climate Change and Management Effects on Lake Methane | Rising temperatures and increased precipitation contribute to decreased oxygen and increased methane in Minnesota lakes and wetlands. We will identify impacts on water quality and methane emissions, providing management guidance. | U of MN, College of Biological Sciences | \$599,000 |
| X | 2024-073 | Timothy | LaPara | Enhancing Wastewater Treatment while Bioprospecting for Novel Pharmaceuticals | We will generate genome sequences of bacteria growing in wastewater treatment bioreactors, allowing us to improve phosphorus and nitrogen removal from wastewater in Minnesota and to discover novel pharmaceutical compounds. | U of MN, College of Science and Engineering | \$690,000 |
| X | 2024-086 | William | Arnold | Fluorine Beyond PFAS: Pesticide and Pharmaceutical Degradation | The project will assess the fluorinated breakdown products produced from pesticides and pharmaceuticals to identify potentially persistent or toxic byproducts and allow development of sustainable chemistries. | U of MN, College of Science and Engineering | \$560,000 |
| X | 2024-152 | Ted | Preister | Red River Basin Nutrient Offset Plan | The overall purpose of this project is to develop and implement an effective basin-wide plan for the implementation of water quality offset program the Red River Basin of the North. | Red River Basin Commission | \$469,000 |
| X | 2024-161 | Bo | Hu | Novel Nutrient Recovery Process from Wastewater Treatment Plants | This proposal requests renewed funding for a new integrated process with potential to promote nutrient removal/recovery and renewable energy production at rural municipal and industrial wastewater treatment plants (WWTP). | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | \$486,000 |
| X | 2024-164 | Bonnie | Keeler | Visitor Perceptions of Lake Water Quality | Use mobile AI-assisted technologies to survey lake visitors. Assess perceptions of water quality and perceived threats. Combine survey data with water quality trend monitoring to inform lake management. | U of MN, Humphrey School of Public Affairs | \$411,000 |
| X | 2024-173 | Christopher | Filstrup | Wildfire Impacts on Mercury Cycling in Wilderness Lakes | Increasing wildfires in Minnesota are mobilizing mercury and degrading water in wilderness lakes, potentially causing increased mercury concentrations in fish. We will develop approaches to protect our lakes and fish. | U of MN, Duluth - NRRRI | \$297,000 |
| | 2024-203 | Junaed | Sattar | Robotic Detection and Cleanup of Harmful Algal Blooms | This project will prototype a distributed robotic system that relies on observations from two autonomous aerial and surface vehicles to properly detect and clean harmful algal blooms from Minnesota's lakes. | U of MN, College of Science and Engineering | \$1,213,000 |
| X | 2024-210 | Tianhong | Cui | Sulfate Sensors for Monitoring Water Pollution in Minnesota | We propose to develop a small, cheap, and accurate sensor using a graphene transistor to monitor sulfate concentrations for protection of wild rice waters and the environment in Minnesota. | U of MN, College of Science and Engineering | \$460,000 |
| | 2024-211 | Nigel | Pickering | Open Living Database for Stormwater Costs and Benefits | This project will collect data and create an open living database for stormwater treatment costs and benefits. The database will be easily accessible, inflation adjusted, and support future plug-in tools. | Geosyntec Consultants, Inc. | \$300,000 |

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| X | 2024-213 | Wendy | Moylan | Flood and Drought Prediction for Minnesota | This project will analyze existing and projected data to develop simple tools to predict the effect of land use and climate change on extreme floods and droughts. | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | \$499,000 |
| | 2024-216 | Miki | Hondzo | Rapid Pathogen Detection and Mitigation in Minnesota Lakes | Protection and enhancement of Minnesota waters by rapidly detecting, forecasting, and selectively mitigating viral and bacterial pathogens. Public and policymaker education on how to detect and mitigate emerging pathogens. | U of MN, College of Science and Engineering | \$646,000 |
| X | 2024-226 | Natasha | Wright | Recovering Salts from Highly Saline Wastewater | We aim to develop a method of recovering useful salts from concentrated saline waste, increasing the economic sustainability of high water-recovery softening, sulfate removal, and industrial wastewater treatment. | U of MN, College of Science and Engineering | \$241,000 |
| | 2024-233 | Roger | Ruan | Integrated Bioprocessing of Organic Wastes towards Resource Circularity | Assess the effectiveness of novel integrated bioprocessing approaches for treatment and valorization of organic wastes towards resource circularity. | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | \$582,000 |
| | 2024-254 | Boya | Xiong | Novel Laundry Filters to Reduce Microfiber Pollution | We will make a novel and effective laundry filter that can capture all types of microfibers to reduce plastic pollution in Minnesota's waterways. | U of MN, College of Science and Engineering | \$230,000 |
| X | 2024-257 | Andrew | McCabe | Breaking the PFAS Cycle with a Full-Scale Demonstration | This full-scale pilot will evaluate supercritical water oxidation (SCWO) for managing PFAS in biosolids and water treatment residuals. SCWO can destroy PFAS in a variety of wastes and recover energy. | Barr Engineering Co. | \$1,724,000 |
| | 2024-260 | Beatriz | Baselga Cervera | Biogeography of Cyanobacteria and Their Toxins Across Minnesota | Knowledge regarding the occurrence and spread of cyanobacteria and their cyanotoxins across time and space is only in its infancy. We propose a systematic phylogenetic survey of Minnesota freshwater bodies. | U of MN, College of Biological Sciences | \$285,000 |
| | 2024-265 | Joe | Magner | Water and Ecosystems at Risk in Northeastern Minnesota | Northeastern Minnesota contains rich yet fragile unique public land and water. Changes in precipitation and recreation vehicle use may threaten pristine water quality, and the ecological character of the region. | U of MN, College of Science and Engineering | \$406,000 |
| | 2024-267 | Jana | Danker | Remove Pollutants from Well Water on Superfund Sites | Demonstrate a suite of technologies to remove dioxins and hydrocarbon contaminants from the water on Minnesota superfund sites. | Akiing 8th Fire | \$697,000 |
| | 2024-276 | Jeffrey | Strock | Ditches: Potential Water Storage Domain Providing Multiple Co-Benefits | This research project will demonstrate that ditch management is highly effective at protecting water quality and increasing water storage on the landscape. Guidance will be developed for resource managers statewide. | U of MN, Southwest Research and Outreach Center | \$1,122,000 |
| X | 2024-279 | Adam | Heathcote | Uncovering the Past to Protect Minnesota's Walleye Fisheries | We will reconstruct historical lake conditions to identify factors linked to successful walleye fisheries and guide effective management in the face of warming temperatures, invasive species, and nutrient loading. | Science Museum of Minnesota, St. Croix Watershed Research Station | \$1,121,000 |
| | | | | | | Subtotal = | \$13,806,000 |
| B. Water Resources | | | | | | | |
| H. Small Projects (9 Proposals / \$1,543,000) | | | | | | | |

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| | 2024-038 | Andrew | Wickert | Stormy Southern Minnesota: Future Floods, Erosion, and Management | Frequent extreme floods are reshaping southern Minnesota's rivers and valleys. We aim to uncover their causes and predict future flood statistics alongside their impacts on river widening and erosion. | U of MN, St. Anthony Falls Laboratory | \$200,000 |
| X | 2024-077 | Heidi | Quinn | Improving Water Efficiency Programming with Measurable Outcomes | The project will accelerate the implementation of three water efficiency programs that are estimated to save 79 million gallons of water annually and serve as an example for other communities. | City of Woodbury | \$200,000 |
| | 2024-104 | Jon | Erickson | KNA Boulevard and Watershed Grant | This project creates rain gardens on the boulevard portions of Kenny Neighborhood, which will help manage stormwater runoff, improve water quality, and enhance the natural beauty of the area. | Kenny Neighborhood Association | \$75,000 |
| | 2024-209 | Tianhong | Cui | Tiny Sensor to Detect Heavy Metals in Fish | We propose to develop an accurate, cheap and easy-to-use microsensor for detection of heavy metals in fish. It can be used for statewide fisheries management and household fish safety inspection. | U of MN, College of Science and Engineering | \$200,000 |
| | 2024-231 | Robyn | Dwight | Keep it Clean Winterized Sanidump Stations | Infrastructure for the safe collection and removal of raw sewage/waste from Shelter holding tanks throughout the winter fishing season. | Upper Red Lake Area Association | \$200,000 |
| | 2024-258 | Yuxin | Miao | Developing a Subfield Scale Soil Nitrate Virtual Estimator | This project will develop a virtual tool that can accurately estimate soil nitrate concentrations to help corn growers, researchers, crop consultants and state regulatory agencies to minimize nitrate contaminations. | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | \$199,000 |
| | 2024-261 | Afton | Clarke-Sather | Empowering Minnesota Lake Associations to Improve Water Quality | This project will lay the foundation for accelerated improvements to water quality by documenting for local Lake Associations a set of governance practices and actions that are most effective. | U of MN, Duluth | \$173,000 |
| X | 2024-269 | Andrew | Robertson | Are Stream Restoration Efforts Effective? An Evidence-Based Assessment | Assessing stream habitat improvement projects to improve trout populations and stream health in the Driftless Area. | Saint Mary's University | \$200,000 |
| | 2024-275 | Michael | Grochala | Lino Lakes Water Stewards Program | The City is proposing to implement a web based, interactive application for municipal water customers and City utility staff that provides information to make informed decisions about future usage. | City of Lino Lakes | \$96,000 |
| | | | | | | Subtotal = | \$1,543,000 |
| C. Environmental Education (26 Proposals / \$18,259,000) | | | | | | | |
| X | 2024-015 | Luke | Reese | Jay C. Hormel Nature Center Supplemental Teaching Staff | This project sustains momentum from the pilot project funded previously by the ENRTF for growing environmental education opportunities for learners from outside of Austin. | City of Austin | \$410,000 |
| X | 2024-017 | Christina | Hausman Rhode | Connecting Communities to Voyageurs Classroom & Minnesota's National Park | Voyageurs Conservancy will connect 17,000 Minnesotans to the state's only national park through standards-aligned K-12 education, career-building fellowships, and enhanced programs that engage diverse audiences in the park's conservation. | Voyageurs Conservancy | \$994,000 |

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| X | 2024-023 | Seth | Thompson | Supporting Minnesota Teachers Implement Culturally Sustaining Environmental Education | To support teachers in addressing new science standards , we propose a series of workshops across Minnesota facilitating conversation about sustainability and water conservation, specifically integrating western science and Indigenous perspectives. | U of MN, College of Biological Sciences | \$311,000 |
| X | 2024-027 | Robert | Blair | Phenology Investigations in Minnesota Schools | Provide professional development workshops at three Greater Minnesota locations for 60 teachers to use phenology education curriculum and community science resources, reaching >7,000 students in the first three years. | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | \$392,000 |
| X | 2024-028 | Kelly | Amoth | Get the Lead Out: Lead-Free Fishing Tackle Education | Get the Lead Out is focused on protecting common loons and wildlife through education and outreach about the danger of lead fishing tackle and promoting lead-free tackle alternatives. | Minnesota Pollution Control Agency | \$258,000 |
| | 2024-034 | Suzanne | Baumann | Municipal Wastewater Treatment Facility Operator Toolkit | Provide technical assistance and training resources to statewide municipal wastewater treatment plant operators. | Minnesota Pollution Control Agency | \$449,000 |
| X | 2024-058 | Alexander | Frie | Water Science and Policy Fellowships for Minnesota | Minnesota Sea Grant seeks to create a science-policy fellowship program to train Minnesota's science-policy workforce and advance Minnesota's water resource policy, emulating Sea Grant's successful federal-level fellowship program. | U of MN, Duluth - Sea Grant | \$445,000 |
| X | 2024-059 | Deborah | Loon | Mentoring Next Generation of Conservation Professionals Phase 2 | Internships and apprenticeships on the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge will introduce 37 diverse young people to careers in the conservation field. | Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Trust Inc | \$793,000 |
| | 2024-075 | Jeffrey | Marr | Educating Communities to Navigate the Mississippi's Future | The project will develop educational materials on the present day and future Mississippi River within the Twin Cities corridor and will deliver content through a rich media web environment. | U of MN, St. Anthony Falls Laboratory | \$598,000 |
| | 2024-084 | Lori | Nelson | Pilot Recycling Economy, Climate, and Plastics Outreach | Pilot outreach to selected Minnesota households will boost recycling participation based on data-driven behavior change research and updated natural resources, climate, and economic benefit data. | Recycling Association of Minnesota | \$500,000 |
| X | 2024-091 | Hannah | Smith | Restoring Land, Reviving Heritage: Indigenous Conservation-Phase Two | This project will restore healthy ecosystems and Indigenous cultural practices. Through expanded programming for preK-12th grade, urban Native students and families will reestablish enduring connections to land and culture. | Belwin Conservancy | \$765,000 |
| X | 2024-099 | Beth | Becker | Unlocking Minnesota Wilderness for Youth | Our goals are to engage 100,000 underserved youth statewide in environmental education, engaging them in the conservation and preservation of Minnesota wilderness through the experiences in the outdoors. | YMCA of the North | \$762,000 |
| X | 2024-100 | Meg | Krueger | Outdoor Pathways to Environmental Education, Recreation, and Careers | Wilderness Inquiry engages 20,000 Minnesotans through outdoor adventures, promoting equity in access to outdoor activities, places, and careers and supporting stewardship and conservation values for current and future generations. | Wilderness Inquiry | \$1,500,000 |
| X | 2024-115 | Pete | Cleary | Launching Environmental Education at Shepard Farm | Dodge Nature Center will build environmental skills and increase knowledge for 10,000 Minnesota K-6 youth through standards-aligned, outdoor experiences and hands-on learning at our new Shepard Farm property. | Dodge Nature Center | \$639,000 |

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| X | 2024-139 | Alison | Nyenhuis | The Boundary Waters is Our Backyard | Connecting students from Northeastern Minnesota, especially Ely and Cook County schools, to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness through grade-wide day trips and overnight wilderness experiences during the school year. | Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness | \$582,000 |
| | 2024-154 | Heidi | Roop | Minnesota Climate and Conservation Solutions for Justice Fellowship | The Climate and Conservation Solutions for Justice Fellowship builds a network of community changemakers to share narratives of hope and lead collective actions to strengthen Minnesota's frontline community climate resilience. | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | \$260,000 |
| | 2024-176 | Betsy | Alzheimer | Wakan Tipi/Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary | Wakan Tipi/Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary | Lower Phalen Creek Project | \$369,000 |
| X | 2024-177 | Timothy | Dudley | Rural MN Mobile Lab: Environmental/Earth Science Education | The CREST team wants to create a mobile lab with innovative, engaging educational activities that would be used to travel to underserved, underrepresented schools and community events in Northwest Minnesota. | U of MN, Crookston | \$459,000 |
| X | 2024-188 | Lindsay | Bjorklund | Increasing Accessibility of Environmental Education at Deep Portage | To enhance the accessibility of environmental education and outdoor recreation at Deep Portage Learning Center through projects that provide opportunities and support independence for physically disabled students visiting the campus. | Deep Portage Learning Center | \$228,000 |
| | 2024-202 | Mike | Anderson | Post-Baccalaureate Teacher-Researchers at Macalester's Ordway Field Station | A pilot post-baccalaureate program at Macalester's Ordway Field Station. Recent graduates will be recruited, preferentially from underrepresented groups, for 1-year terms to conduct place-based environmental research, education, and outreach activities. | Macalester College | \$555,000 |
| | 2024-217 | Brian | Huberty | Carbon Goods are Woods! | Forest carbon storage outreach and education with woodland owners and the public. Capacity Building. | Minnesota Forestry Association | \$1,087,000 |
| X | 2024-250 | Nikolaos | Papanikolopoulos | Water Quality and Robots: Experientially Educating Minnesotan Youth | We propose educational activities for middle school youth on water quality in Minnesota. Youth will gain skills for measuring water quality and communicating results through group study and hands-on projects. | U of MN, College of Science and Engineering | \$353,000 |
| X | 2024-272 | Brian | Nerbonne | Expanding Youth and Family Fishing Opportunities | Expand fishing opportunities in urban areas, teach more kids and families how to fish, and inventory and inform the public about safe and legal shore fishing sites throughout Minnesota. | MN DNR, Fish and Wildlife Division | \$1,162,000 |
| | 2024-281 | Autumn | Hubbell | Implementing the Minnesota River Greenway Interpretive Plan | Dakota County seeks to develop the final design plan for, and fabricate and install, the four remaining interpretive sites or exhibits conceptualized in the Minnesota River Greenway Interpretive Plan. | Dakota County | \$1,800,000 |
| | 2024-286 | Autumn | Hubbell | Implementing the Mississippi River Greenway Interpretive Plan | Dakota County seeks to develop the final design plan for, and fabricate and install, the four remaining interpretive sites or exhibits conceptualized in the Mississippi River Greenway Interpretive Plan. | Dakota County | \$1,800,000 |

**2024 ENRTF Request for Proposal (RFP) - FY2025
Selected Proposals Received by Category with Summaries**

| Selected to Present | Proposal ID | First Name | Last Name | Title | Summary | Organization | Requested \$ |
|---|-------------|------------|-----------|--|--|---|---------------------|
| X | 2024-292 | DeAnna | Perkins | North Minneapolis Nature Connection: Storytelling and Leadership Pathways | Loppet and community collaborators will promote urban nature connection for North Minneapolis residents through storytelling, nature and environmental justice programming, and environmental leadership pathways for high schoolers and young adults. | The Loppet Foundation | \$788,000 |
| | | | | | | Subtotal = | \$18,259,000 |
| C. Environmental Education | | | | | | | |
| H. Small Projects (13 Proposals / \$2,224,000) | | | | | | | |
| | 2024-067 | MaryLynn | Pulscher | Immersive Outdoor Experiences for Underserved Youth | Underserved teens will engage in immersive outdoor experiences to develop an action-based conservation ethic. Teens will learn new outdoor skills, gain environmental knowledge, and create connections with nature. | Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board | \$200,000 |
| X | 2024-111 | Bryan | Wood | Increasing Access to Environmental Education Youth Camps | Osprey Wilds Environmental Learning Center will provide meaningful, hands-on environmental education learning opportunities to underserved rural and metro area children through our day-use and residential summer camps. | Osprey Wilds Environmental Learning Center | \$163,000 |
| X | 2024-129 | Kalley | Pratt | YES! Students Step Up To Reduce Carbon Footprint | YES! (Youth Eco Solutions) will empower Minnesota youth to reduce their carbon footprints by losing 5,000 pounds of CO2 per YES! team each school year. | Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center | \$199,000 |
| | 2024-155 | Keith | Peterson | Rock Ridge Deep Winter Greenhouse for Environmental Education | Build a deep winter greenhouse on the Rock Ridge ISD 2909 campus and hire a greenhouse coordinator to provide environmental education for elementary and high school students using appropriate curricula. | Iron Range Partnership for Sustainability | \$149,000 |
| X | 2024-168 | Sarah | Bignall | Season Watch: Cultivating Young Naturalists with Phenology Education | This education project will continue building the next generation of conservationists in Minnesota by engaging youths and adults in science and outdoor learning through radio, podcasts, newsletters and schoolyard exploration. | Northern Community Radio, Inc. | \$180,000 |
| | 2024-184 | Andy | Chambers | Building Environmental Educator Capacity through Regional Learning Communities | The Science Museum will recruit elementary teachers and students from regions across Minnesota to participate in scaffolded capacity building in watershed education through residencies, on-demand professional development, and annual conferences. | Science Museum of Minnesota | \$190,000 |
| | 2024-194 | Jay | Walker | Great Lakes Aquarium Nature Playscape Improvement | We will create an urban nature playscape with protective shelter and native plants to provide opportunities for aquarium education programs, community members and tourists to be immersed in nature play. | Lake Superior Center and Great Lakes Aquarium | \$176,000 |
| | 2024-196 | Morteza | Maher | Enhancement of Environmental Aspects of Impoundments (Pilot Project) | This pilot project will look innovatively to the existing and planned impoundment projects to enhance their environmental aspects compared to their traditional design. | Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District | \$126,000 |
| X | 2024-200 | Kimberly | Musser | College-School Collaboration to Promote Environmental Career Paths | This project builds partnerships among natural resource professionals, college, middle and high schools to work collaboratively to increase youth exposure to outdoor experiences, environmental issues, and natural resource career paths. | Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, Minnesota State University Mankato | \$174,000 |

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|---|-------------|------------|-----------|--|---|--|--------------------|
| | 2024-236 | Katy | Chapman | Demonstrating the Resiliency of a 40kW SolarArray | We seek to create a solar and pollinator garden in order to design a curriculum at the K-12 and post-secondary level to engage rural MN students in the STEM field. | U of MN, Crookston | \$200,000 |
| | 2024-243 | Stephen | Swazee | Geolocation Technology for Minnesota Environmental Education | Project will create collaborative community-based partnerships to install permanent geolocation markers that will facilitate environmental education and research, and improve public access and safety in Minnesota's outdoor recreational spaces. | SharedGeo | \$198,000 |
| | 2024-249 | Emily | Barker | Reuse for the Future: Youth Education and Engagement | To offer curriculum-based opportunities for students to learn about reuse and engage in hands-on activities to cultivate excitement for adopting reuse behaviors into their lives, now and in the future. | Reuse Minnesota | \$199,000 |
| X | 2024-273 | Nicole | Pokorney | Youth Conservation Empowerment Project | UMN Extension Center for Youth Development will partner with Winona and Rochester ALCs to engage 40 youth in year-long activities that connect, engage, and empower youth as environmental change-agents. | U of MN, Extension Center for Youth Development | \$70,000 |
| | | | | | | Subtotal = | \$2,224,000 |
| D. Aquatic and Terrestrial Invasive Species (4 Proposals / \$8,650,000) | | | | | | | |
| X | 2024-089 | Robert | Venette | Minnesota Invasive Terrestrial Plants and Pests Center, 6 | The Minnesota Invasive Terrestrial Plants and Pests Center (MITPPC) requests \$7 million to fund up to 15 new, high-priority applied TIS research projects to improve Minnesota's natural and agricultural resources. | U of MN, MITPPC | \$7,000,000 |
| X | 2024-097 | Vera | Krischik | Mitigating the Spread of Invasive Jumping Worms | Jumping worms are an invasive, exotic that poses a threat to forests by removing soil organic matter and seedlings. It is necessary to develop IPM tactics for mitigating jumping worms. | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | \$516,000 |
| X | 2024-114 | Brian | Nerbonne | Implementing Innovative Techniques to Manage Low-Density Invasive Carp | This project will enhance the current program, integrating new invasive carp control and detection methods to monitor and remove invasive carp to avoid establishment in Minnesota. | MN DNR, Fish and Wildlife Division | \$634,000 |
| | 2024-208 | Tianhong | Cui | Sequencing and Portable Device to Detect Invasive Species | This project is to use high throughput sequencing to characterize the invasive species constituency and use this information to develop a low-cost, easy-to-use, point-of-collection portable device to detect invasive species. | U of MN, College of Science and Engineering | \$500,000 |
| | | | | | | Subtotal = | \$8,650,000 |
| D. Aquatic and Terrestrial Invasive Species | | | | | | | |
| H. Small Projects (2 Proposals / \$400,000) | | | | | | | |
| | 2024-151 | Shannon | Wettstein | Oak Wilt Suppression at the Northern Edge III | Suppress oak wilt at the leading edge to prevent infestation in private and public forests to the north and west including Pillsbury State Forest and Camp Ripley. | Morrison Soil and Water Conservation District | \$200,000 |
| X | 2024-198 | Declan | Schroeder | Early Detection of Invasive Viruses in Native Pollinators | Forewarned is Forearmed: Our goal is to protect the newly described MN DNR native bees from invasive virus-derived diseases and population declines. | U of MN, College of Veterinary Medicine | \$200,000 |
| | | | | | | Subtotal = | \$400,000 |
| E. Air Quality, Climate Change, and Renewable Energy (21 Proposals / \$23,572,000) | | | | | | | |

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|---------------------|-------------|------------|-----------|--|---|--|--------------|
| | 2024-019 | Petrina | Rhines | Environmental Welfare through Sustainable Reuse in Iron Range | Protect and preserve Minnesota's environment through sustainable reuse and workforce development initiatives, prioritizing environmental protection and natural resource conservation through socially responsible and sustainable building practices within the built environment. | Birch Group | \$1,103,000 |
| | 2024-031 | Jennifer | Theodore | Next-Gen Refrigeration & Technician Training: A Climate Solution | Preparing Minnesota to meet the call of a national commitment to reduce emissions of high global warming potential refrigerants through training, workforce development, technical and financial assistance. | Minnesota Pollution Control Agency | \$511,000 |
| X | 2024-039 | Jason | Allen | Minimizing Minnesota's Landfill Problem by Expanding Waste Diversion | Expanding waste diversion practices across the state this project will: create 16 jobs, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, provide data to measure the social, economic, and environmental benefits of waste diversion. | Better Futures Minnesota | \$2,596,000 |
| X | 2024-049 | Todd | Rexine | Building Resilient Urban Forests for Climate Change | We will partner with urban municipalities and school districts to support planting of climate-resilient tree species. Activities include planting trees, gravel bed nursery creation, tree assessment and mapping, and community. | Great River Greening | \$752,000 |
| | 2024-050 | Lawrence | Zanko | Paving the Future with Biochar Modified Asphalt | Use biochar produced from Minnesota biomass in modified asphalt mixes (conventional and recycled material-based) to demonstrate/quantify its greenhouse gas and noxious emission reduction, resource/energy conservation, and economic benefits. | U of MN, Duluth - NRRRI | \$369,000 |
| | 2024-056 | Colleen | Hetzel | Modeling Emissions Data from Consumption and Waste | The MPCA would hire a contractor to develop an efficient and standardized process to quantify the greenhouse gas emissions generated by Minnesotans' consumption and to create an environmental impact calculator. | Minnesota Pollution Control Agency | \$500,000 |
| | 2024-069 | Joel | Tallaksen | Reduced Ecosystem Impacts through Solar Powered Container Farming | Long-distance shipping of imported produce into Minnesota has significant environmental impacts. Containerized farming, incorporating solar energy, could mitigate environmental, energy, and climate challenges in Minnesota's urban and rural food supply. | U of MN, WCROC | \$998,000 |
| X | 2024-076 | Eric | Buchanan | Improving Agricultural Ecosystems through Autonomous Weed Control | Autonomous robots, powered by green hydrogen and solar power, designed to remove weeds in row crop fields can improve agricultural ecosystems with reduced herbicide application and fossil fuel use. | U of MN, WCROC | \$978,000 |
| | 2024-080 | Hua | Zhao | Capturing and Converting Carbon Dioxide from Flue Gas | This project aims to develop a green and effective route for carbon dioxide capture and conversion, especially from flue gases generated by various industries in Minnesota. | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | \$505,000 |
| X | 2024-098 | Satoshi | Ishii | Advanced Biofilter for N2O Removal | This project will develop innovative and low-cost biofilters to decrease the concentration of nitrous oxide (N2O), a strong greenhouse gas and ozone layer destructor. | U of MN, College of Biological Sciences | \$335,000 |
| | 2024-132 | Jason | Hill | Reducing Rural Air Pollution to Benefit All Minnesotans | Pollution from agriculture is a major cause of air-quality-related deaths in Minnesota. This project explores how better farming practices in our state can improve air quality and promote environmental justice. | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | \$251,000 |

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|---|-------------|------------|------------|---|--|--|---------------------|
| X | 2024-153 | Heidi | Roop | Managing Future Floods and Droughts in Minnesota | Leveraging new statewide climate data, we will assess future change in the duration, frequency and magnitude of heavy precipitation and drought events and engage communities to prepare for these extremes. | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | \$480,000 |
| | 2024-204 | Bill | Keegan | Innovative Solution to Renewable Energy from Food Waste | A private-public partnership supporting the State climate and renewable energy goals by diverting organics from landfills and producing Renewable Natural Gas (RNG) from anaerobic digestion and sequestering carbon into biochar. | Dem-Con | \$10,000,000 |
| | 2024-218 | Bradley | Heins | Reducing Methane Emissions for Dairy Production Systems | The project team at the WCROC will model and evaluate nutritional and genetic strategies that will reduce methane emissions of dairy cattle. | U of MN, WCROC | \$520,000 |
| | 2024-219 | Lian | Shen | Innovative Detection-Mapping-Prediction System for Wildfire Smoke and Air-Quality | We propose a novel drone-based technology for autonomously measuring wildfire smoke aerosols and mapping wildfires, and a simulation tool for fast-and-accurate prediction of wildfire and smoke spread and air quality. | U of MN, St. Anthony Falls Laboratory | \$545,000 |
| | 2024-225 | Sebastian | Behrens | Biomass to Biochar – Maximizing Minnesota’s Carbon Value | Improving carbon storage, climate resilience, and health of Minnesota’s soils by enhancing the carbon value of biochar. Life cycle analysis of biochar technology for effective soil carbon sequestration in Minnesota. | U of MN, College of Science and Engineering | \$543,000 |
| | 2024-229 | Roger | Ruan | Electrify Nitrogen Fertilizer Production using Solar Energy | Local and distributed production of liquid nitrogen fertilizer with high nitrate concentration and crop yield-boosting properties using renewable, low-cost resources. | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | \$552,000 |
| | 2024-238 | Sayan | Biswas | Waste-Derived Synthetic Fuels for Sustainable Resource Recovery | Through University and Community partnerships, develop an affordable, eco-friendly synthetic fuel derived from waste streams with high combustion efficiency, low pollutant emissions, and competitive pricing compared to traditional fuels. | U of MN, College of Science and Engineering | \$420,000 |
| | 2024-256 | Uwe | Kortshagen | Agrivoltaics to Combine Photovoltaics with Commodity Crop Farming | Minnesota utilities need to transition to carbon-free energy by 2040. This project will determine the potential for agrivoltaic dual-use of land for commodity crop growth and photovoltaics in Minnesota. | U of MN, College of Science and Engineering | \$425,000 |
| | 2024-259 | Aditya | Bhan | Carbon-Free Hydrogen for Sustainable Power and Steel Production | Methane pyrolysis generates both hydrogen, a carbon-free energy resource, and solid carbon used in steel manufacturing. The proposed plasma-catalytic pyrolysis technology aims to supplant existing carbon-intensive technologies leveraging renewable electricity. | U of MN, College of Science and Engineering | \$490,000 |
| | 2024-293 | David | Bauer | Building Soil Health with Compost Top-Dressing in Communities | Eleven community partners will build soil health through compost top-dressing on four half-acre sites for three consecutive years and test the soil for improvements in soil health and | Minnesota Composting Council | \$699,000 |
| | | | | | | Subtotal = | \$23,572,000 |
| E. Air Quality, Climate Change, and Renewable Energy | | | | | | | |
| H. Small Projects (7 Proposals / \$1,293,000) | | | | | | | |
| | 2024-147 | Jason | Hill | Cleaning Minnesota's Air with Plant-Based Proteins | Agriculture contributes to poor air quality and climate change. This project explores the potential for plant-based protein production to clean Minnesota's air while supporting its rural economic base. | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | \$145,000 |

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|---|-------------|------------|---------------------|---|--|--|--------------------|
| | 2024-156 | Sam | Toan | Post-Combustion Capture & Green-Fuel Production via CO2 Reduction | To mitigate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in Minnesota, we propose to convert post-combustion CO2 to green butanol fuel via a novel CuP2/3D graphene catalyst. | U of MN, Duluth | \$200,000 |
| | 2024-187 | Troy | Goodnough | Build Out - Center for Renewable Energy Technology | The focus of this project is to build out the University of Minnesota Center for Renewable Energy Storage Technology (CREST) in Morris, Minnesota . | U of MN, Morris | \$200,000 |
| | 2024-190 | Roger | Ruan | Sequester Waste CO2 Using Microalgae-Based Biohybrid Semi-Artificial System | High efficiency CO2 biosequestration for valuable microalgal biomass production using a biohybrid semi-artificial system that combines photovoltaic and microbial fuel cells with optimized algal cathode. | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | \$200,000 |
| | 2024-197 | Erin | Cortus | Roadmap to Decarbonize Livestock Farms | This project will inventory opportunities for decarbonizing livestock farms based on current fossil fuel needs and explore the economic and environmental implications for these opportunities while supporting food production. | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | \$200,000 |
| | 2024-239 | Sayan | Biswas | Carbon-Free Green Ammonia to Power Minnesota Farms | This proposal aims to demonstrate a cost-effective and efficient low-temperature plasma catalysis process to produce and utilize ammonia as fuel, a cleaner and more sustainable energy source. | U of MN, College of Science and Engineering | \$199,000 |
| | 2024-244 | Peter | Snyder | Challenges and Opportunities of Minnesota's Changing Winter Weather | In this data-driven project I address the changing character of Minnesota's winter weather. Winter weather impacts tourism, the environment, infrastructure, and the overall functioning of society both beneficially and detrimentally. | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | \$149,000 |
| | | | | | | Subtotal = | \$1,293,000 |
| F. Methods to Protect, Restore, and Enhance Land, Water, and Habitat (23 Proposals / \$15,898,000) | | | | | | | |
| X | 2024-022 | Shannon | Wettstein | Morrison County Historical Society Streambank Stabilization and Restoration | Construction funding is needed to stabilize a unique shoreline site using a bioengineered design incorporating native plants soil wraps, stream barbs and root wads to create aquatic habitat. | Morrison Soil and Water Conservation District | \$519,000 |
| X | 2024-045 | Marcella | Windmuller-Campione | Can Increased Tree Diversity Increase Community Diversity? | While aspen is one of the most dominant forest types, predicted future conditions will negatively impact aspen growth. Increasing tree diversity can provide increase ecological and economic resilience. | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | \$415,000 |
| X | 2024-096 | Rebecca | Tucker | Pollinator Central 4: Habitat Improvement with Public Engagement | Continuing pollinator habitat creation and enhancement on 11 sites from Lakeville to St. Cloud, with public engagement and education centered on youth, schools, and community awareness of natural resource stewardship. | Great River Greening | \$698,000 |
| X | 2024-103 | Dale | Gentry | Conservation Grazing for Birds, Beef, and Better Soil | Assessing Audubon Conservation Ranching as a strategic approach to biodiversity conservation and grassland soils and vegetation ecosystem resilience. | Audubon Minnesota | \$361,000 |
| X | 2024-108 | Brett | Barney | Minnesota Microbes for Enhanced Biodegradation of Microplastics | We will investigate the potential of natural microbes indigenous to Minnesota to biodegrade conventional plastics in the environment as a means for cleaning contaminated soils and waters across the state. | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | \$524,000 |

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|---------------------|-------------|------------|---------------|--|--|---|--------------|
| | 2024-116 | Jacob | Swanson | Soil Gas Measurements Protect/Enhance Minnesota Soil Health | We seek to build and deploy 25 soil gas instruments across the state that will measure soil health, to preserve and enhance farming and other land resources. | Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, Minnesota State University Mankato | \$415,000 |
| | 2024-157 | Brett | Barney | Lowering Nitrogen Fertilizer Application to Restore Water Quality | Our project will identify native microbes that provide nitrogen to plants through natural biological processes, and apply these to replace current industrial fertilizers while lowering fertilizer costs for farmers. | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | \$292,000 |
| | 2024-167 | Sharon | Hexum-Platzer | Replace Bridge on Poplar River after 2022 Flooding | Lutsen Trailbreakers need to replace a bridge across Poplar River that was washed away in spring storm 2022. This vital link to Lutsen for fuel, food, and safety is essential to | Lutsen Trailbreakers Snowmobile Club | \$436,000 |
| X | 2024-170 | John | Mertens | Completing the Mississippi River Greenway: Dakota County | Restore and enhance 54 acres of natural areas, five miles of linear natural signature plantings and install seven EV charging stations along the 27 mile Mississippi River Greenway. | Dakota County | \$675,000 |
| X | 2024-175 | Romas | Kazlauskas | Enabling Nature to Destroy Environmental PFAS Contaminants | Low-levels of perfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) contaminate water and soil in Minnesota. We propose to identify enzymes and microbes that break down PFAS, making them non-toxic. | U of MN, College of Biological Sciences | \$378,000 |
| X | 2024-185 | Elena | West | Bioacoustics for Species Monitoring and Conservation Phase II | This study will leverage our current bioacoustics monitoring framework to assess avian diversity at the statewide scale through a citizen science acoustic monitoring program, with a focus on private lands. | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | \$568,000 |
| X | 2024-189 | Roger | Ruan | Preventing PFAS and Microplastics Contaminants across Minnesota | This project helps Minnesota entities that directly or indirectly cause PFAS and microplastics contamination stop the flow of the contaminants by developing strategies to manage solid waste streams. | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | \$722,000 |
| X | 2024-227 | Adam | Arvidson | Shingle Creek Aquatic and Shoreline Habitat Enhancement | This request will transform 1.6 miles of Shingle Creek in north Minneapolis into a functioning ecological corridor, leveraging an additional \$3.27 million in planned recreational improvements. | Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board | \$1,100,000 |
| X | 2024-237 | Sayan | Biswas | LiDAR Technology Preventing Wildlife Fatalities from Wind Turbines | Create a low-cost and advanced LiDAR package to detect and prevent wildlife collisions with wind turbines, safeguarding bats, birds, and other wildlife from fatal accidents. | U of MN, College of Science and Engineering | \$550,000 |
| | 2024-242 | Clarence | Lehman | Restoring the Planet While Feeding the World | This project will evaluate ways of restoring natural habitats to maintain Minnesota wildlife populations while simultaneously providing material to produce clean, healthy foods for human populations. | U of MN, Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Reserve | \$346,000 |
| | 2024-252 | Pedro | Urriola | Green Livestock Foods for Minnesota | The objective is to conserve and improve soil, water, and climate by providing farmers necessary information to market the use of perennial and winter annual crops in diets for pigs. | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | \$367,000 |
| X | 2024-255 | John | Gulliver | Road Salt Pollution of Surface Waters from Groundwater | We propose identifying hot spots of groundwater chloride pollution of surface waters due to excessive road salt use, which is a long term source increasing chloride impairment of surface waters. | U of MN, College of Science and Engineering | \$689,000 |

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| | 2024-274 | Jana | Danker | Removal of Dioxin and PCBs from Native Land | Demonstrate a suite of technologies to remove toxins from the soil on Minnesota superfund sites. | Akiing 8th Fire | \$987,000 |
| X | 2024-277 | Edward | Quinn | Growing the Minnesota Bison Conservation Herd | Design and construct fencing and handling facility needed to reintroduce bison to Camden State Park as part of preserving and interpreting the population and genome of American Plains bison. | MN DNR, State Parks and Trails Division | \$2,415,000 |
| | 2024-284 | Steve | Apfelbaum | Native Prairie Grass for Human Food and Habitat | Virginia wildrye is a native prairie grass that produces edible seeds for direct human consumption. We will study its production, processing, and commercialization to expand it for wildlife and agriculture. | Applied Ecological Institute, Inc. | \$596,000 |
| | 2024-285 | Matthew | Leiphon | Nutrient Recovery and Recycling for Agricultural Lands | Identification, validation, and market assessment of technologies to recover and recycle nitrogen, phosphorus and other nutrients from process waste streams for use in agricultural land applications. | Agricultural Utilization Research Institute | \$700,000 |
| | 2024-294 | Matthew | Julius | Lake Restoration, Outreach, and Algae Commoditization | Applying novel algal harvesting technology to restore lake ecosystems and produce a high value organic fertilizer for agricultural application. Experimentation involves public, and private institutions with community and corporate partners. | Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, St. Cloud State University | \$255,000 |
| X | 2024-298 | Crystal | Mathisrud | Priority Lakes: Meeting Protection Goals and Multiplying Benefits | Use existing tools and partnerships to meet protection goals and transition to long-term community driven, coordinated management for multiple benefits, including: habitat, water, forest health, local economy and climate resiliency. | Hubbard County Soil & Water Conservation District | \$1,890,000 |
| | | | | | | Subtotal = | \$15,898,000 |
| F. Methods to Protect, Restore, and Enhance Land, Water, and Habitat | | | | | | | |
| H. Small Projects (10 Proposals / \$1,393,000) | | | | | | | |
| X | 2024-005 | David | Remucal | Long-Term Preservation of Minnesota's Ball Cactus Population | A long-term project to protect Minnesota's only population of ball cactus has begun successfully. To cement this success, population expansion/establishment will finish and long-term volunteer monitors will be trained. | U of MN, Landscape Arboretum | \$100,000 |
| | 2024-074 | Kara | Komoto | Facilitating Community Conservation through Urban Agriculture | Developed scenarios of current and possible urban agriculture help connect conservation programs with community agricultural sites. Created outreach and information tools enable growers' and landholders' conservation investments, benefiting ecosystem health. | Twin Cities Community Agricultural Land Trust | \$200,000 |
| X | 2024-090 | Ted | Gray | Restoration of Riverside Park | Project will mitigate the effects of climate change by restoring water retentive capabilities to 7 acres on the Long Prairie River while also creating both recreational and educational opportunities. | City of Long Prairie | \$141,000 |
| | 2024-131 | Wiley | Buck | Accelerated Migration of Oaks Phase 2 | Collect and disseminate the 5-10 year data on growth and survival, of 3 bur oak ecotypes planted in 4 restoration sites under ML2015 "Enhancing Restoration Techniques for Improved Climate Resilience". | Great River Greening | \$144,000 |
| | 2024-182 | Sabrina | Clays | Enhancement of Grassland Habitats through Grazing | Increase opportunities for Minnesota's private and public grasslands to be enhanced through the provision of technical expertise and educational awareness of grasslands conservation. | Ducks Unlimited Inc | \$200,000 |

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| | 2024-228 | Jeff | Haberman | Quarry Hill Nature Center Invasive Species Removal Replacement | Reduce presence of woody invasive species through a combination of mechanical, chemical and prescribed burn tactics. Introduce desirable vegetation by seeding native grass and forb species. | City of Rochester | \$46,000 |
| | 2024-230 | Alison | Schaub | Changing the Flight of Bird Conservation | Reduce and then eliminate bird strikes at the Bloomington Education and Visitor Center. | Minnesota Valley Refuge Friends | \$17,000 |
| | 2024-245 | Brandon | Miller | Preservation of the State Threatened Satiny Willow | Satiny willow is a state threatened shrub species which is considered vulnerable to severe weather events and land development. Preserving plants in off-site repositories will better protect this species. | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | \$170,000 |
| | 2024-248 | Roger | Ruan | Rapid Restoration of Soil Functions Using Algal Crusts | Select suitable desert algal species through artificial intelligence-powered virtual screening and use a biological in-situ resource utilization-based approach to establish artificial algal crusts for rapid restoration of soil functions. | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | \$200,000 |
| | 2024-270 | Stephen | Swazee | Using Underground Utility Mapping to Preserve Minnesota's Environment | Project will protect Minnesota's water resources and environment from hazardous material spills by developing nationally unique underground utility mapping software which will help minimize strikes on buried infrastructure. | SharedGeo | \$175,000 |
| | | | | | | Subtotal = | \$1,393,000 |
| G. Land Acquisition, Habitat, and Recreation (27 Proposals / \$66,489,000) | | | | | | | |
| | 2024-007 | Amber | Moon Peterson | Gull Lake Trail: Nisswa Connection | This final half mile of paved trail in Nisswa makes the vital connection to Lake Shore and rest of the regionally significant Gull Lake Trail in the Brainerd Lakes Area. | City of Nisswa | \$900,000 |
| X | 2024-009 | Marty | Walsh | Minnesota Driftless Hiking Trail | Building a backpacking focused trail across Southeast Minnesota's Driftless Area. | Minnesota Driftless Hiking Trail | \$426,000 |
| | 2024-016 | Chris | Giesen | Harmony State Trail Extension Construction | To finish the construction of a new recreational trail segment linking the Harmony Preston Valley Trail and City of Harmony to the Minnesota/Iowa border and Niagara Cave. | City of Harmony | \$5,500,000 |
| | 2024-042 | Dave | Cizmas | Split Rock Wilds Beaver Bay Expansion | The Split Rock Wilds Beaver Bay Expansion will create a trail that directly connects Beaver Bay with a bike optimized, multiuse single track trail system. | Lake County Forestry | \$500,000 |
| | 2024-060 | Tony | Wotzka | River to River Greenway – Underpass and Trail Reconstruction | Two-mile trail reconstruction of the Dakota County River to River Greenway through Valley Park, connecting from Trunk Highway 13 to a proposed underpass of Trunk Highway 149, in Mendota Heights. | Dakota County | \$3,942,000 |
| X | 2024-064 | Audrey | Mularie | Local Parks, Trails and Natural Areas Grant Programs | Provide approximately 18 matching grants for local parks, trail, acquisition of natural areas and trails to connect people safely to desirable community locations and regional or state facilities. | MN DNR, State Parks and Trails Division | \$5,000,000 |

2024 ENRTF Request for Proposal (RFP) - FY2025
Selected Proposals Received by Category with Summaries

| Selected to Present | Proposal ID | First Name | Last Name | Title | Summary | Organization | Requested \$ |
|---------------------|-------------|------------|-------------|--|---|---|--------------|
| X | 2024-081 | Brett | Feldman | Acquisition of State Parks In-Holdings | Complete efficient, time-sensitive acquisition of high priority State Park inholdings, conduct needed site cleanup, and convey the properties to the state to enhance Minnesota's environment and public recreation opportunities. | Parks & Trails Council of Minnesota | \$2,000,000 |
| X | 2024-092 | Judy | Schulte | Scientific and Natural Area (SNA) Biodiversity Protection | Scientific and Natural Area (SNA) strategic acquisition (~100 acres) will conserve Minnesota's most unique places and rare species for everyone's benefit. | MN DNR, Ecological and Water Resources Division | \$1,100,000 |
| X | 2024-093 | Jessica | Lee | Metropolitan Regional Parks System Land Acquisition Phase 8 | Acquire properties with high-quality natural resources or natural resources restoration potential for the metropolitan Regional Parks System. This project will be matched over 100% with Council and local Agency funds. | Metropolitan Council | \$3,000,000 |
| X | 2024-101 | Charles | Lehn | City of Champlin Brown Property Acquisition | The City is attempting to acquire of the last natural land parcels in the City to keep as natural habitat before it sells to a developer. | City of Champlin | \$693,000 |
| | 2024-102 | Stacy | Smith | Minnesota State Park Historic Structure Rehabilitation | Rehabilitation of historic structures, Seppmann Mill (Minneopa State Park) and WPA Beach house / beach walls (Lake Shetek State Park). Rehabilitation will preserve extraordinary examples and demonstrate significance of the parks. | MN DNR, State Parks and Trails Division | \$5,500,000 |
| | 2024-107 | Brian | Pogodzinski | Wildcat Park and Landing Improvements | Houston County is proposing a roadway access rehabilitation project and bathroom addition to Wildcat Park located on the banks of the Mississippi River in Southeastern Minnesota. | Houston County | \$500,000 |
| | 2024-109 | Caleb | Peterson | Historic D&NE St. Louis River Multi-Use Bridge | This project consists of upgrading the Historic D&NE St. Louis River Multi-use Bridge to allow safe use of the bridge by entities that enjoy outdoor recreation. | City of Cloquet | \$2,000,000 |
| X | 2024-113 | Niki | Geisler | Spring Lake Park Reserve Restoration and River Access | Development of Mississippi River access that includes parking, a non-motorized boat launch, access to the national Mississippi River Trail and hiking trails, natural resource restoration, and cultural resource management. | Dakota County | \$4,770,000 |
| | 2024-120 | John | Paulson | Otter and Campbell Lakes Accessible Recreational Opportunities Project | The Otter and Campbell Lakes Accessible Recreational Opportunities Project will improve public access and opportunities for recreational activities. | City of Hutchinson | \$1,400,000 |
| | 2024-125 | Lori | Cacka | Recreational Improvement Grant | Improvements at Brownton Area Civic Center Complex, including trail connections, splash pad, shelter, tennis/pickleball/basketball court restoration, playground replacement, and related improvements. | City of Brownton | \$1,375,000 |
| X | 2024-136 | Kent | Skaar | Minnesota State Trails Development | This project proposes to expand recreational opportunities on Minnesota State Trails through the rehabilitation and enhancement of existing state trails and replacement or repair of existing state trail bridges. | MN DNR, State Parks and Trails Division | \$5,125,000 |
| | 2024-169 | Nick | Arola | Carey Lake Recreation Area Campground | Continued development of Carey Lake Park into the Carey Lake Recreation Area with the construction of a new full-service campground, community facilities, and alignment of the trails to regional systems. | City of Hibbing | \$2,478,000 |

2024 ENRTF Request for Proposal (RFP) - FY2025
Selected Proposals Received by Category with Summaries

| Selected to Present | Proposal ID | First Name | Last Name | Title | Summary | Organization | Requested \$ |
|--|-------------|------------|-------------------|--|---|----------------------|---------------------|
| | 2024-232 | Anna | Gruber | The Waterfront Park & Trail Development | Project includes development of a new park along the Mississippi River in Sartell, including site work to restore vegetation, construct a berm and new trails, and install lighting. | City of Sartell | \$980,000 |
| | 2024-241 | Craig | Schlichting | Jones Lake Restoration Project | The Jones Lake Restoration project will provide critical local and regional water quality and flood protection, habitat preservation, and recreational opportunities for the City of New Brighton. | City of New Brighton | \$725,000 |
| | 2024-263 | Brian | Silber | Virginia All Wheel Park | Construction of the Virginia All Wheel Park that is adjacent to and tied into the Silver Lake Trail providing a safe multi-modal recreational amenity to the public. | City of Virginia | \$1,210,000 |
| X | 2024-264 | Nicholas | Leonard | Dent and Vergas Spur Trails | Construction of a 6.6 mile bituminous trail along CSAH 35 connecting the cities of Dent and Vergas to the Heart of the Lakes Regional Trail and Maplewood State Park. | Otter Tail County | \$934,000 |
| | 2024-282 | Kaycee | Melin | Brookston Campground, Boat Launch, and Outdoor Recreation Facility | The City of Brookston will be building a campground, boat launch, and outdoor recreation area on the banks of the St. Louis River in northeastern Minnesota. | City of Brookston | \$4,605,000 |
| | 2024-289 | Michael | Nigbur | Willow Creek Regional Trail & Safety Connection | Construction of approximately 2.5 miles of trail, wayfinding, rest areas, and trail head that connects the Rochester urban area under Trunk Highway 52 to Gamehaven Regional Park. | City of Rochester | \$4,000,000 |
| | 2024-291 | Jeff | Jacobson | City of Biwabik Recreation Area Phase 2 | Updating and expanding utility service to add 50 additional campsites as well as resurfacing the roadway through the campground. Replacement of retaining wall at beach and pickleball court installation. | City of Biwabik | \$2,270,000 |
| | 2024-295 | Ronald | Gregg | Historic Forestville Bridge - Preserving Recreational Connections | The project will rehabilitate the failing 1899 Historic Forestville Bridge, located in and owned by Fillmore County, connecting Forestville State Park to the Historic Forestville State Historic Site. | Fillmore County | \$1,993,000 |
| | 2024-300 | Ellissa | Owens | City of Moose Lake - Campground Improvements | Expansion of Moose Lake Campground adding 21 campsites to accommodate recreational vehicles and tent campers. New campground office/garage will be constructed and both existing bathhouses will be upgraded. | City of Moose Lake | \$3,563,000 |
| Subtotal = | | | | | | | \$66,489,000 |
| G. Land Acquisition, Habitat, and Recreation | | | | | | | |
| H. Small Projects (8 Proposals / \$1,510,000) | | | | | | | |
| | 2024-021 | Sonja | Pelland | Littlefork Public RV Campground Design | This project consists of the design, surveying, permitting, wetlands delineation, site evaluations and geotechnical engineering (Phase 1) of the Littlefork Public RV Campground. | City of Littlefork | \$195,000 |
| X | 2024-094 | Sunny | Bjorklund Schultz | Zumbro River Regional Water Trail | Completion of the Master Plan for the Zumbro River Regional Water Trail (ZRRWT). Roughly 150 miles of navigable waters that wind through a diverse landscape before joining the Mississippi River. | City of Oronoco | \$170,000 |

2024 ENRTF Request for Proposal (RFP) - FY2025
Selected Proposals Received by Category with Summaries

| Selected to Present | Proposal ID | First Name | Last Name | Title | Summary | Organization | Requested \$ |
|---|-------------|------------|---------------|---|--|--|----------------------|
| | 2024-110 | Jeremy | Bartosh | Sandy Point Park Expansion | Expanding Recreational Opportunities at Sandy Point Park. | Jackson County | \$195,000 |
| | 2024-141 | Ray | Sogard | Minnesota Forest Zone Trappers Association Land Acquisition | The Minnesota Forest Zone Trappers Association (MFZTA) is requesting a \$165,000 grant to acquire additional property/closing costs to eventually develop a Sportsmen's & Sportswomen's Outdoor Training and Development Center. | Minnesota Forest Zone Trappers Association | \$165,000 |
| | 2024-146 | Sherril | Gautreux | Ranier City Park Improvements | This project is to improve, update, upgrade the city of Ranier's Park. | City of Ranier | \$195,000 |
| | 2024-159 | Corinne | Suonvieri | Floodwood Campground Pavilion | The City of Floodwood is requesting \$195,000 from the LCCMR to construct a new pavilion in the Floodwood Campground. | City of Floodwood | \$195,000 |
| X | 2024-174 | Kathy | Vraa | Birch Lake Marina Design (Phase 1) | This project consists of the design of a new marina/dock complex on Birch Lake in Babbitt Minnesota. | City of Babbitt | \$197,000 |
| | 2024-191 | Bob | Otremba | Pierz Park Master Plan and Acquisition | Create a Park Master Plan for a regional park with connections to local, regional, and statewide trails and acquire a 33.53-acre parcel of land for the future park. | City of Pierz | \$198,000 |
| | | | | | | Subtotal = | \$1,510,000 |
| I. Administration (1 Proposal / \$275,000) | | | | | | | |
| X | 2024-117 | Katherine | Sherman-Hoehn | ML 2024 Contract Agreement Reimbursement | Provide contract management to ENRTF pass-through appropriation recipients for approximately 115 open grants. Ensure funds are expended in compliance with appropriation law, state statute, grants policies, and approved work plans. | MN DNR, Grants Unit | \$275,000 |
| | | | | | | Subtotal = | \$275,000 |
| | | | | | | Total = | \$174,201,000 |