



Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

2024 Request for Proposal

General Information

Proposal ID: 2024-167

Proposal Title: Replace Bridge on Poplar River after 2022 Flooding

Project Manager Information

Name: Sharon Hexum-Platzer

Organization: Lutsen TrailBreakers Snowmobile Club

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Project Basic Information

Project Summary: 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

Funds Requested: \$436,000

Proposed Project Completion: December 31, 2024

LCCMR Funding Category: Methods to Protect, Restore, and Enhance Land, Water, and Habitat (F)

Project Location

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

Region(s): NE

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

Statewide

When will the work impact occur?

In the Future

Narrative

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

In May 2022 flooding occurred in our area due to rains and land that was still snow covered and frozen. Flooding impacted Poplar River damaging several bridges and totally washing away our 58.6 foot bridge. We must replace it with longer [because of washed shoreline] and approved engineered bridge since in the flooding the banks were also washed away. The cost is estimated to be between \$400-\$500K. As a small club we must apply for funding through grants. Without this bridge recreational users may damage the land and banks around the river. Some off road recreational vehicle users may also start riding in nearby road ditches which could/does destroy plant growth which could also impact watershed.

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.

Our plan is to replace the bridge and have obtained some estimates. Bridge design and construction are first steps. Moving the bridge parts to the site during the early winter when ground is frozen so as not to impact the trail and finally installation when weather allows is next. A final step is completing any trail changes to meet the current trail points.

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?

An approved engineered bridge will protect the waterway which is a designated trout stream and will allow trail users access to enjoy one of the most scenic trails in Minnesota which provides views of craggy mountain sides and quiet forest land.

Activities and Milestones

Activity 1: Engineering/Design Fee

Activity Budget: \$65,000

Activity Description:

This number would include all design, engineering, site visits and possible geotechnical explorations

Activity Milestones:

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Bridge design requested as soon as grant is approved; includes site visit	November 30, 2023

Activity 2: Construction -

Activity Budget: \$174,000

Activity Description:

This includes site preparation, installing the bridge foundation and then constructing the bridge off site.

Activity Milestones:

Description	Approximate Completion Date
site preparation and possible bridge foundation	November 30, 2023
construction of bridge off site	January 31, 2024

Activity 3: Installation and trail adjustment

Activity Budget: \$197,000

Activity Description:

Because the remote trail leading to the bridge site needs special care, the constructed bridge will be brought to the site after the ground is frozen. A slight trail re alignment is necessary to access the new location only yards from the former location to ensure that the site is environmentally appropriate and allows safe access for users.

Activity Milestones:

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Move bridge parts to location when ground is frozen	April 30, 2024
Complete installation	August 31, 2024
final trail adjustments to align new bridge to the entrance and exit points on trail	November 30, 2024

Project Partners and Collaborators

Name	Organization	Role	Receiving Funds
MN DNR	Minnesota Department of Natural Resources	advisory	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?

Lutsen Trailbreakers have applied for grants to support this project. Cook County is our fiscal agent and will pay for and get reimbursed. Grants allow 75% and we are asking for donations and funding support from the township as well as other sources.

Project Manager and Organization Qualifications

Project Manager Name: Sharon Hexum-Platzer

Job Title: President

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

I have written two grants for our township and have completed one and in process on one with expected completion September 2023. In addition I have written and processed 5 grants for the Lutsen Trailbreakers in the past 13 years. Regional trails IRRRB grant administrator, Jim Plummer has read several of these grants and complimented the application and the completed work. A review of the Lutsen Township StreetScape grant can be found in The Ranger updates with a picture:<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/1/#search/Irrrb+streetscape/FMfcgzGmtXJDPwtPmVmcbGpHkkPMGMXz> With my community connections as well as contacts with the State personnel for questions and direction, I believe I am qualified to see the project through to completion. In addition our LTB board members are valuable assets to this project.

Organization: Lutsen TrailBreakers Snowmobile Club

Organization Description:

Lutsen Trailbreakers Snowmobile Club [incorporated February 24, 1983 is a registered nonprofit charitable organization who mission is to provide safe trails for the public to enjoy the rich natural resource of the great outdoors.

Budget Summary

Category / Name	Subcategory or Type	Description	Purpose	Gen. Ineligible	% Benefits	# FTE	Classified Staff?	\$ Amount
Personnel								
County sponsor personnel/club trail administrator		To monitor progress of hired contracting firm			0%	1		\$1,000
							Sub Total	\$1,000
Contracts and Services								
Northland Contractors	Professional or Technical Service Contract	NC has experience in engineering, building, & installation of bridges of this magnitude. County Sponsor personnel for completion of any required financial information				2		\$20,000
							Sub Total	\$20,000
Equipment, Tools, and Supplies								
	Tools and Supplies	Bridge Superstructure - \$175,000 ☐ Labor/Equipment - \$50,000 ☐ Materials - \$125,000	See previous bullets	X				\$175,000
	Tools and Supplies	Contingencies	Because these are 2023 estimates we know that costs may increase before actual construction and installation are complete					\$40,000
							Sub Total	\$215,000
Capital Expenditures								
		• Engineering/Design Fee - \$40,000 o This number would include all design, engineering, site visits and possible geotechnical explorations at the site.	To replace this bridge it must follow required engineered design. See statements above.	X				\$40,000
		• Construction preliminaries o Mobilization - \$30,000 o Surveying - \$15,000 o Earthwork/Erosion Control - \$50,000 o Bridge Foundations - \$50,000 o	See bulleted details. Because of the remote location and trail to site, the bridge must be constructed off site and delivered when ground is frozen for later installion.	X				\$145,000

							Sub Total	\$185,000
Acquisitions and Stewardship								
							Sub Total	-
Travel In Minnesota								
	Miles/ Meals/ Lodging	1 Site visit to gather information for design specs. 200 mi 2 people; 4 Site visits to monitor work 200 mi ea 3 people	Site visit to gather information for design specs. Site visits to monitor work					\$15,000
							Sub Total	\$15,000
Travel Outside Minnesota								
							Sub Total	-
Printing and Publication								
							Sub Total	-
Other Expenses								
							Sub Total	-
							Grand Total	\$436,000

Classified Staff or Generally Ineligible Expenses

Category/Name	Subcategory or Type	Description	Justification Ineligible Expense or Classified Staff Request
Capital Expenditures		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engineering/Design Fee - \$40,000 o This number would include all design, engineering, site visits and possible geotechnical explorations at the site. 	<p>Safety and bridge life are compatible.</p> <p>Additional Explanation : Design features weight load and installation for MN DNR useful life requirements</p>
Capital Expenditures		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction preliminaries o Mobilization - \$30,000 o Surveying - \$15,000 o Earthwork/Erosion Control - \$50,000 o Bridge Foundations - \$50,000 	<p>There should be no ineligible expenses. Surveying may not be necessary since it will be on MN State parcel.</p> <p>Additional Explanation : Required engineered bridge specifications and access to site for replacing bridge will allow this to be a bridge used for use as a snowmobile/other recreational trail access for full life use.</p>
Equipment, Tools, and Supplies		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bridge Superstructure - \$175,000 ☐ Labor/Equipment - \$50,000 ☐ Materials - \$125,000 	<p>This is a 2023 estimate...we could see a 10-15% increase for these items.</p>

Non ENRTF Funds

Category	Specific Source	Use	Status	Amount
State				
In-Kind	Club volunteers to complete any permits & monitor work	Site visit guide, land use permits, monitor work or answer contractor questions	Secured	\$1,000
			State Sub Total	\$1,000
Non-State				
			Non State Sub Total	-
			Funds Total	\$1,000

Acquisition and Restoration

Parcel List

Name	County	Site Significance	Activity	Acres	Miles	Estimated Cost	Type of Landowner	Easement or Title Holder	Status of Work
PID # 27-116-1100	Cook	Please see the letters of support for need	Restoration	0.25	0.5	-	Public	State of Minnesota	Has Not Begun
Totals				0.25	0.5	-			

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.

In the attachments there is a document with longitude and latitude -- bridge will be on MN State parcel in Cook County PID # 27-116-1100

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.

By replacing the bridge using appropriate tethering the bridge will have a useful life of decades. The DNR monitors bridges and trails each year to see that all are safe for users. The club maintains all trails and bridges as part of the grant-in-aid funding.

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.

The grants to which we are applying and any bridge work is reviewed/approved by the area Soil and Water Conservation District through a joint use permit application.

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.

Once in place, the bridge and trail leading to and from are maintained with MN grant in aid funds by the Lutsen Trailbreakers.

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

We have used the CC for trail maintenance work if their schedule allows. We will ask for them to help with trail maintenance leading to and from the bridge. If the bridge ever needs redecking, they can also be asked to help with that work.

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.

This can be done with monitoring and any reviews by our region 2 MN DNR personnel and with our trail administrator/board members. Once completed, we check every year the work and any necessary updates. After three years we will ask for DNR review so any updates can be done. In addition we can also have survey of users to ascertain evaluative comments.

Attachments

Required Attachments

Map

File: [6a32e9a3-9f7.pdf](#)

Alternate Text for Map

Location of bridge Map document will not load Latitude 47.68041 Longitude -90.702 701 DMS Latitude 47* 40' 51.03"
Longitude -90* 41'9.72"

link <https://www.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=d69adc21a42f49b5a206d1531ca03e35&extent=-10097417.9464%2C6053764.3301%2C-10096718.0698%2C6054101.7279%2C102100...>

Financial Capacity

File: [6b2805a9-c4a.pdf](#)

Optional Attachments

Support Letter, Photos, Media, Other

Title	File
Picture of former bridge -winter 2022	50d3bf28-627.pdf
MN DNR letter of support	fd72aa99-2e4.pdf
USFS letter of support for grant application	bd0fb273-37d.pdf
map of area affected by bridge	d4920931-5a5.pdf
Map and legend of work & proposed bridge replacement	32d46382-70b.pdf
Cook County location in MN	82ead02e-550.jpe
Bridge location	62f5c31c-9c3.pdf
Former location of washed out bridge	682037ce-2c5.jpe
Approximate Site location -	16dff01-840.png
Letter of support for grant application	23d6ee31-b50.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?

Yes, Cook County

Does your project include the design, construction, or renovation of a building, trail, campground, or other capital asset costing \$10,000 or more?

Yes

Do you propose using an appropriation from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund to conduct a project that provides children's services, as defined in Minnesota Statutes section 299C.61 Subd.7?

No