



# Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

2027 Request for Proposal

## General Information

**Proposal ID:** 2027-443

**Proposal Title:** Deepen Understanding of Environmental Impacts of Wetland Restoration

## Project Manager Information

**Name:** Haley Smith

**Organization:** National Park Service - Voyageurs National Park

**Office Telephone:** (218) 283-6692

**Email:** Haley\_Smith@nps.gov

## Project Basic Information

**Project Summary:** By studying wild rice and bird community data, downed woody debris, and soil nutrients, we will improve wetland restoration best practices while continuing restoration work in the northern lakes ecosystem.

**ENRTF Funds Requested:** \$637,000

**Proposed Project Completion:** October 31, 2030

**LCCMR Funding Category:** Resiliency (A)

## Project Location

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

Region(s): NW, NE,

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

Region(s): NW, NE,

**When will the work impact occur?**

During the Project and In the Future

## Narrative

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

Voyageurs Wetland Restoration Project has worked to improve our wetlands by aggressively removing non-native plants and restoring native plants using a wide variety of methodologies. Within these restored and improved wetlands, there is an increase in plant diversity and decrease in invasive plant cover. However, a deeper look into ecosystem functionality is necessary to improve the quality of restored wetlands and their ability to perform important ecosystem services, such as hosting underwater structural habitat for young fish habitat and healthy bird communities and preventing algal blooms. Restoration may have short term impacts on soil nutrient quality in wetlands, but the scope of that concern is unknown. Another unknown regards wild rice, a vital species with several sub-species throughout the state responsible for large portions of diets of many wildlife species. We have little to no knowledge of what subspecies exist within the park, making purchasing and sharing of seed in restoration projects potentially less successful, resulting in less resilient populations able to withstand the rise in early season storms. Knowledge on these topics is crucial for many stake holders who can use information to develop best practices in restoration and seed sourcing.

### **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.**

Soil and water nutrient levels—including sulfur, methane, Total Phosphorus, and Total Nitrogen—will be tracked within currently and previously restored sites post-restoration to evaluate short-term impacts on water quality and to identify risks such as algal blooms or nutrient overload. Bird population surveys will be developed using Automated Recording Units (ARUs) that will assess species diversity, rare species presence, and overall richness to gauge habitat quality improvements. Downed woody debris will be quantified in both intact and restored wetlands, examining its role in enhancing habitat structure, supporting macroinvertebrate communities, and providing cover for young fish. Surveys will record debris presence, size, and integrity, potentially paired with bioblitz assessments of species richness. Woody debris will be returned to restored sites if deemed necessary. Finally, wild rice populations in Voyageurs National Park will be mapped and phenology tracked, with a phenotype assessment tool developed to distinguish subspecies. This will guide future seed sourcing and support workshops focused on First Nations' involvement in rice conservation and seed procurement within the region.

### **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?**

Healthy wetlands perform a majority of ecosystem services in Minnesota, including fish, wildlife, & bird habitat, Maintaining water health, and attenuating flooding. With increased knowledge is restoration techniques, we can keep wetlands doing what they do best: making every lake in The Land of 10,000 Lakes the best they can be.

## Activities and Milestones

### Activity 1: 1) Soil and Water Nutrient changes in Wetland Restoration Sites

**Activity Budget:** \$184,130

**Activity Description:**

To understand the short-term impacts restoration may have on soil and water quality, we will monitor soil nutrients in wetlands that may impact water health, such as Total P, and Total N Carbon:Nitrogen ratios, and Total Organic Material in wetland systems in sites that were restored 0, 1, 3, or eight years ago. This work will inform of potential risks of algal bloom development or nutrient loading in recently restored wetland systems, therefore allowing us to make informed restoration choices. We will assess how these nutrient impacts change over time following treatment, as well as the impact various treatments have on the resulting nutrient flux. This study may allow us to make better decisions for short term benefits on ecosystems. Outcomes: We expect to develop a peer reviewed publication from this study. Additionally, results will be shared in numerous restoration workshops. A Best practices and cost benefit analysis information sheet will be developed by our interns to share with groups across the region. This work will also be presented at Minnesota conferences, including The Rainy Lake of The Woods Watershed Forum.

**Activity Milestones:**

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Collect soil samples in wetlands of "Time zero" sites prior to restoration for testing.	August 31, 2027
Collect soil samples from several age classes of wetland restoration sites across several treatment types	August 31, 2027
Restore "Time zero" sites sampled in milestone 1.	July 31, 2028
Collect soil samples from newly restored sites sampled in milestone 1 for testing.	August 31, 2028
Analyze data to assess impacts of restoration over time	July 31, 2029
Develop publication on findings, best practices information sharing, and restoration workshops	October 31, 2029

### Activity 2: Survey bird populations procedures to assess habitat quality of restored sites

**Activity Budget:** \$149,160

**Activity Description:**

We will develop the use of audio recording units in wetlands to inform the impact restoration has on various bird populations metrics, such as: diversity of species within restored wetlands, rare species presence, and richness. These data can inform how our successes within our restoration efforts will influence species across multiple trophic groups. This will be a novel protocol for the park, and therefore we will simultaneously perform our traditional marsh bird survey comprised of biological technicians calling and listening for bird responses in wetlands. These survey data will be compared for relationships. We expect the use of audio recording units will increase the accuracy and species richness assessed in the field. Outcomes: Deliver expanded knowledge of ranges of several species in Northern Minnesota to Great Lakes Inventory and Monitoring Network for publication and sharing. Potential publication on bird community data as a bioindicator of restoration success.

**Activity Milestones:**

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Develop Monitoring protocol and study design with Great Lakes Inventory and Monitoring Network	September 30, 2027
Complete Year 1 of audio recording unit data collection	October 31, 2027
Complete Year 1 of older protocol for marsh bird data collection	October 31, 2027
Analyze audio data for year 1	March 31, 2028

Complete Year 2 of Audio unit data collection	October 31, 2028
Complete Year 2 of older protocol for marsh bird data collection	October 31, 2028
Analyze audio data for year 2	March 31, 2029
Complete Year 3 of audio unit data collection	October 31, 2029
Develop report on bird community data as a bioindicator of restoration success	March 31, 2030

### Activity 3: Continued wetland restoration; Assessment and establishment of downed woody debris in wetlands

**Activity Budget:** \$151,000

**Activity Description:**

We will continue our highly successful wetland restoration program using numerous novel methods we have developed for restoration and wetland improvement while we study understudied impacts, such as the decreased woody debris inputs in wetlands due to cattail invasion. Woody debris serves numerous ecological functions, from decreasing fetch, allowing establishment of underwater plants, young fish habitat, and habitat for macroinvertebrates, an important element of the food chain and bioindicator trophic group. We would survey restored wetland sites and intact wetland sites for down woody debris. Site assessments would be performed by our employees during year one of this grant. Statistical analysis would determine expected threshold of down woody debris in healthy wetlands. If sites are seen to lack reasonable down woody debris, we would bring in those materials from within the area for addition to wetlands. Materials would include removed hazard trees from nearby sites, or root wads from downed trees. Materials would be from the lake or terrestrial area surrounding their respective wetlands. Outcomes: Novel data on downed woody debris in wetlands in Northern Minnesota. Potential to publish finding in peer reviewed journal. Roots wads and logs established in improved wetlands.

**Activity Milestones:**

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Site selection and study design developed with Great Lakes Inventory and Monitoring Network	March 31, 2027
Perform of treated wetland and intact wetlands for downed woody debris	August 31, 2029
Restore invaded wetlands using tested techniques such as underwater cutting, fire, herbicide and piling.	August 31, 2029
Analyze down woody debris distribution in wetlands	March 31, 2030
Add down woody debris to wetlands based on statistical analysis	July 31, 2030
Develop peer reviewed publication is distribution of downed woody debris in wetlands.	October 31, 2030

### Activity 4: Study Wild Rice Populations in Voyageurs National Park

**Activity Budget:** \$152,710

**Activity Description:**

Wild rice is a vital species to many trophic groups in Voyageurs National Park. Wild rice subspecies have different responses to environmental disturbance, so understanding rice communities is important for understanding potential climate change impacts. This study will seek to map populations and phenology of rice populations in the park. Additionally, we will develop a phenotype assessment tool to discover and map the different subspecies of wild rice in the park. This will assist us in informing where appropriate seed sourcing may occur in the future to ensure wild rice collections from outside of the park are the correct subspecies. We will work closely with tribal liaisons in this work. This work will also inform our First Nations Wild Rice Workshop wherein we look at the role of rice within the park and collaborate on rice seed procurement solutions within the region. Outcomes: Subspecies distribution maps from within the National Park. Survey materials and training for interested groups and at our First Nations Wild Rice Forum.

**Activity Milestones:**

<b>Description</b>	<b>Approximate Completion Date</b>
Begin development of floristic survey of rice subspecies for with tribal consultation.	August 31, 2027
Begin Annual first nations wild rice summit & workshop at Voyageurs National Park.	September 30, 2027
Perform floristic surveys; collect plant specimens for future genetic testing after tribal consultation.	September 30, 2028
Refine floristic survey following genetic testing	May 31, 2029
Present data and share survey methods with other resource managers at workshops and conferences	May 31, 2030
Expand studies to other communities to develop larger understanding of rice populations.	August 31, 2030

## Project Partners and Collaborators

Name	Organization	Role	Receiving Funds
Ted Gostomski	Great Lakes Inventory and Monitoring Network	Biologist- Ted Gostomski will assist in experimental design development for several portions of the study which include bird monitoring and audio data processing.	No
Jessica Joganic	Great Lakes Inventory and Monitoring Network	Biologist - Jessica Joganic is a biologist and is working on several components of this study, including design of multi-modal assessment on restoration impacts in wetlands. She will work on experimental design, assisting with sampling, as well as marsh bird survey design.	No

## Dissemination

**Describe your plans for dissemination, presentation, documentation, or sharing of data, results, samples, physical collections, and other products and how they will follow ENRTF Acknowledgement Requirements and Guidelines.**

We take a multifaceted approach to scientific outreach with 1: Outreach to interest groups in the form of on-site and remote meetings. Thus far, Voyageurs Wetland Restoration Project has held meetings for First Nations Groups interested in wild rice restoration, regional land managers to discuss wetland restoration, and homeowners with interest in their own restoration projects. We hope to continue and expand these meetings as we gain knowledge within this project. 2. Data sharing: We expect at least two publications to arise from this work on the topic of soil chemistry in wetlands as it is impacted by restoration, and bird populations within wetland as a bioindicator. We also plan to upload data to share with other researchers through the Great Lakes Inventory and Monitoring Network. 3. Wetland restoration best practices information sheet for statewide distribution and treatment comparison decision matrix sheet. 4. Attendance and presentation on all on the topics of our data at local and regional scientific conferences.

In all of these endeavors, we will highlight the critical role ENTRF has had in our work.

## 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?**

Voyageurs National Park perform regular maintenance on these sites. We have been successful in developing funding to maintain sites and our restoration techniques have shown long term improvement following treatment. We have maintained sites on a regular basis from previous projects. Revisitation of sites annually is performed, and crews, including AmeriCorp crews, can be deployed to treat areas. Early detection leads to smaller needs for re-treatment. Additionally, the goal of resilience development in ecosystem ecology is to reduce the number of treatments necessary in the future.

## Other ENRTF Appropriations Awarded in the Last Six Years

Name	Appropriation	Amount Awarded
Do Beavers Buffer Against Droughts And Floods?	M.L. 2021, First Special Session, Chp. 6, Art. 5, Sec. 2, Subd. 03I	\$168,000

## Project Manager and Organization Qualifications

**Project Manager Name:** Haley Smith

**Job Title:** Wetland Ecologist

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

Haley Smith has worked as Voyageur National Park's Wetland Restoration Ecologist since May of 2024. She has worked on numerous areas of multi-faceted ecosystem management, employing numerous techniques, such as prescribed fire, native plant development, Integrated Plant Management, and various mechanical techniques. In her time at Voyageurs National Park, prioritized developing strong connections with numerous agencies and land managers. She has produced multiple workshops and restoration education products, informing local land managers on various aspects of restoration. Her background: Two Year at Wetland Restoration Specialist for Voyageurs National Park. Ten Years as a Restoration Specialist and Assistant Nursery Manager for the US Forest Service. Three Years as a Soils Lab Manager at University of Tennessee B.S. degree in Forestry. M.S. Degree in Entomology and Plant Pathology.

**Organization:** National Park Service - Voyageurs National Park

**Organization Description:**

Voyageurs National Park, located in Northern Minnesota, is a celebrated, ecologically and historically significant park where people can learn, explore, volunteer, and enjoy sustainable recreation, leaving its wild character unimpaired for future generations. Voyageurs features several rare ecosystems, including boreal forest ecosystem and the interconnected lakes, wetlands, and forests that define the Rainy Lake watershed. Located at the southern edge of the North American boreal biome, Voyageurs National Park contains globally significant freshwater and wetland habitats that support species such as common loons, moose, wolves, beaver, migratory birds, amphibians, and diverse aquatic life.

## Budget Summary

Category / Name	Subcategory or Type	Description	Purpose	Gen. Ineligible	% Benefits	# FTE	Classified Staff?	\$ Amount
<b>Personnel</b>								
Wetland Ecologist		Project Lead Wetland Ecologist			40%	2.25		\$267,129
Wild rice technician - seasonal		Wild Rice Technician			7.95%	2.25		\$68,521
Botany Field Technician		Biological Science Technician GS 5			7.95%	3		\$72,521
Ecologist-Compliance		Perform tasks associated with getting legal environmental and archaeological compliance prior to work			40%	0.1		\$17,774
							<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$425,945</b>
<b>Contracts and Services</b>								
Americorp or YCC crew	Service Contract	Performing restoration tasks, such as herbicide and brushcutting				0.1		\$34,000
TBD	Service Contract	Contract removal of floating cattail mats, with disposal on land above high water line. Typical costs per acre have ranged between \$8,000-\$14,000				0		\$60,000
TBD	Service Contract	Soil sampling for Total N, Total P, C:N , Total Organic Matter, and potentially sulfur & methane. Samples will be taken as such: 5 Treatments X 4 Age classes X 3 replicates each x 5 subsamples. Intact wetlands will be sampled as well.				-		\$37,800
							<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$131,800</b>
<b>Equipment, Tools, and Supplies</b>								
	Tools and Supplies	5 x buckets 5 x totes 2 x trashcans	Collecting and transporting gear in the field, storage of gear					\$215
	Tools and Supplies	Collection supplies: bags, trays, coin envelopes, ziplocs, paperbags, burlap bags, labels, clippers, Field going PPE such as waders, gloves, write in the rain paper,	collecting materials for wild rice samples and identification					\$1,200

	Tools and Supplies	2 liter dessicant with indicator, desiccator unit for samples	indicates appropriate seed moisture for plant sample					\$250
	Equipment	Items for repairing restoration equipment, such as brush cutter blades, timing belts for Truxor, Replacement batteries, oil, hydraulic fluid, etc.	We often break equipment in our restoration work- this equipment is typical for a season of work in this project.					\$1,780
	Tools and Supplies	marine fuel	boat fuel to access sites, 1 gallon per day, 60 days per season, 3 years.					\$540
	Equipment	4x folding tables, 16x folding chairs	field workshops for first nations group					\$1,200
	Tools and Supplies	Locally sourced native seed. Price varies widely annually. 400 lbs	Climate appropriate seed will be purchased and deployed into restoration sites					\$800
	Tools and Supplies	Coolers and ice packs	Collection materials for soil sampling					\$500
	Tools and Supplies	shipping boxes, labels, postage	overnight shipping of soil samples					\$1,000
	Equipment	Audio Recording Units- Wildlife Acoustics Song Meter Mini 2 AA (6 units)	Marshbird monitoring equipment					\$2,994
	Tools and Supplies	zip ties, flagging, batteries, tags, markers	general field needs for marking audio equipment					\$200
	Tools and Supplies	3 year subscription to Kaleidoscope Pro Analysis Software	Used for analysis and library of bird calls					\$1,198
	Tools and Supplies	photoequipment, hand lenses, sample bags,	Rice survey equipment					\$840
							<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$12,717</b>
<b>Capital Equipment</b>								
							<b>Sub Total</b>	-
<b>Acquisitions and Stewardship</b>								
							<b>Sub Total</b>	-
<b>Travel In Minnesota</b>								
	Conference Registration Miles/ Meals/ Lodging	1 annual trip for trip for 3 people, registration is typically \$135 per person. Gov't per diem is approximately \$94.	Rainy Lake of The Woods Watershed Forum- this project will be presented.					\$1,260

	Other	3 trips for 1-3 people (total of ~9)	Network development: purpose of presenting mission critical workshops and field days.					\$3,140
							<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$4,400</b>
<b>Travel Outside Minnesota</b>								
							<b>Sub Total</b>	-
<b>Printing and Publication</b>								
	Printing	Posters, banners for field days	Posters for field site visits with first nations groups, workshops.					\$600
	Printing	Citizen science informational sheets	We will have citizen scientists submit rice presence/absence using write-in-the rain sheets they can take with them and return					\$60
	Publication	Peer reviewed journal publication fees in open access journals	In order to have this information easily accessible, we prefer to publish in open access journals.					\$1,000
							<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$1,660</b>
<b>Other Expenses</b>								
		Federally required 10.5% overhead	We are legally required to ask for this to fund overhead services, but have ensured our match greatly exceeds this amount. we are happy to discuss why this requirement exists if the board needs further clarification.	X				\$60,478
							<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$60,478</b>
							<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$637,000</b>

Classified Staff or Generally Ineligible Expenses

Category/Name	Subcategory or Type	Description	Justification Ineligible Expense or Classified Staff Request
<b>Other Expenses</b>		Federally required 10.5% overhead	We are required by law to ask for a 10.5% match to pay for overhead services to manage our grants. This includes our budget staff who oversee these grants time. We have ensured our matching dollars for this project greatly exceeds this amount. Please note this amount is significantly lower than University based researchers, whose overhead may reach upwards of 50%.

## Non ENRTF Funds

Category	Specific Source	Use	Status	Amount
<b>State</b>				
In-Kind	OHF ML 2023, Ch. 40, Article 1, Section 2, Subd. 4(g), Voyageurs National Park Wetland Restoration Project,	Large scale removal of cattails leading to wetland preparation for this project	Secured	\$1,200,000
Cash	MNAISRC	Applied for grant with similar funding to Activity 1 in this proposal: 1) Soil and Water Nutrient changes in Wetland Restoration Sites. Will assess how to proceed with both boards if granted.	Potential	\$200,000
			<b>State Sub Total</b>	<b>\$1,400,000</b>
<b>Non-State</b>				
In-Kind	Voyageurs National Park	Boat usage Vehicle usage Intern housing Equipment Capitol equipment	Secured	\$395,000
In-Kind	Voyageurs Conservancy	Interns are funded through Voyageurs Conservancy and will perform numerous field tasks. Stipend is based on one intern working three seasons with five months per season.	Pending	\$18,000
			<b>Non State Sub Total</b>	<b>\$413,000</b>
			<b>Funds Total</b>	<b>\$1,813,000</b>

**Total Project Cost: \$2,450,000**

**This amount accurately reflects total project cost?**

Yes

## Acquisition and Restoration

### Parcel List

Name	County	Site Significance	Activity	Acres	Miles	Estimated Cost	Type of Landowner	Easement or Title Holder	Status of Work
CR-34	St. Louis	Emergent wetland and Wet prairie.	Restoration	3	3.02	\$1,300	Public		Has Not Begun
CR-35	St. Louis	Emergent wetland to wet prairie - treatment expanded from 2023 OHF area	Restoration	31	0.62	\$16,000	Public		In Progress
CR-52	Koochiching	Untreated emergent wetland- publicly visible sites- soil sampling location.	Restoration	1	0.13	\$3,800	Public		Has Not Begun
CR-53	Koochiching	Untreated- publicly visible sites - will assess for soils sampling	Restoration	1	0.5	\$6,500	Public		Has Not Begun
CR-54	Koochiching	Typha x. wetland restoration site to be used for soil samples	Restoration	2	0.5	\$8,400	Public		Has Not Begun
CR-58	St. Louis	Emergent wetland and wet prairie	Restoration	3	0.23	\$6,400	Public		Has Not Begun
CR-59	Koochiching	Typha x. wetland Untreated site to be used for soil sampling	Restoration	3	0.25	\$6,400	Public		Has Not Begun
CR-60	St. Louis	Emergent wetland- neighboring OHF 2023 site	Restoration	10	1.18	\$16,000	Public		Has Not Begun
DWD-0	St. Louis	Emergent wetland- Site treated for invasives in 2018	Restoration	2	0.3	\$1,600	Public		Has Not Begun
DWD-12	St. Louis	Emergent wetland- Typha mat removed in 2025	Restoration	17	1.6	\$3,800	Public		Has Not Begun
DWD-25	St. Louis, Koochiching,	Emergent wetland with some wild rice. Very public facing.	Restoration	3	0.25	\$1,600	Public		Has Not Begun
DWD-26	Koochiching	Emergent wetland- previously treated with native plant populations. Public facing sites.	Restoration	2	0.3	\$1,600	Public		Has Not Begun
DWD-27	Koochiching	Emergent wetland- Typha mat removed in 2023	Restoration	4	0	\$1,600	Public		Has Not Begun
DWD-28	Koochiching	Emergent wetland- some rice present. Previously treated.	Restoration	2	0.2	\$1,600	Public		Has Not Begun
DWD-29	Koochiching	Emergent wetland- some rice present. Previously treated.	Restoration	1	1.15	\$1,600	Public		Has Not Begun
DWD-30	Koochiching	Emergent wetland- Typha mat removed in 2024	Restoration	3	0	\$2,400	Public		In Progress
DWD-31	St. Louis	Emergent wetland - Typha mat treated in 2024. Wild rice present.	Restoration	3	1.1	\$2,400	Public		In Progress

DWD-33	St. Louis	Emergent wetland- treated for Typha mat removal in 2025, Assess for DWD,	Restoration	13	0.15	\$13,200	Public		In Progress
<b>Totals</b>				<b>104</b>	<b>11.48</b>	<b>\$96,200</b>			

## Restoration

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

All restoration work will be performed on Voyageurs National Park Lands and State Wildlife Management Area Lands.

**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.**

Expected outcomes: Increased ecosystem services from wetlands, including: increased food source for waterfowl, and fish. Increased soil stabilization and establishment of aquatic plants. Increased pollinator and other plant diversity. Increased water quality impacts due to lessening of water quality impacts. Outcomes and knowledge sharing will be developed in the forms of 1) Reports for best practices for restoration 2. Professional Presentations at Scientific Meeting 3. Peer reviewed publications 4. Restoration workshops hosted at Voyageurs National Park for restoration specialists. 5. Outreach and education days for first nations and volunteer events. Maps of restored sites, digital data, and physical copies of data are preserved at Voyageur's National Park Head Quarters in perpetuity as defined by federal reporting laws.

**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.**

We will follow these guidelines in the following ways: Invasive species removal and site preparation will occur prior to outplanting. We will outplant species as appropriate to the niche site (e.g. wet meadows, shallow marshes, emergent areas, etc.) Selecting the correct plant materials will be prioritized, examining both species as well as seed source. Climate selected seed sources will be establish in advance of collection, and seed from those areas will be collected to plant with a target location in mind. We will outplant at specific times based on water levels.

**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.**

We have long term commitments to maintain these sites and all previous sites. We see this as in-kind management by the park, and will continue this maintenance as a part of our long-term commitment to the mission of the National Park Service: preserve unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the national park system for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations.

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

We expect to contract this group for management activities such as brush cutting and herbicide application.

**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.**

We plan to continue monitoring for bird species plant cover, and species richness on a regular basis following the end of this project. We have a strong history of monitoring plants in this project since its inception in 2018.

## Attachments

### Required Attachments

#### Map

File: [1f65c7fe-dcb.pdf](#)

#### Alternate Text for Map

Area Maps: Voyageurs National Park, featuring areas initially selected for soil sampling, bird surveys, downed woody debris surveys, wild rice surveys, and continued restoration....

### Supplemental Attachments

*Capital Project Questionnaire, Budget Supplements, Support Letter, Photos, Media, Other*

Title	File
Capital Construction Project Questionnaire	<a href="#">31f51e5e-3cf.pdf</a>
10.5% Overhead Costs Requirement	<a href="#">66981d02-bee.pdf</a>
Voyageurs_Conservancy_LOS	<a href="#">78d1e024-8af.pdf</a>
Superintendent_LOS	<a href="#">c7fef4de-aa3.pdf</a>
Superintendent_Authorization_Letter	<a href="#">bc7a0187-66d.pdf</a>

## Administrative Use

**Does your project include restoration or acquisition of land rights?**

Yes: Restoration,

**Do you understand that travel expenses are only approved if they follow the "Commissioner's Plan" promulgated by the Commissioner of Management of Budget or, for University of Minnesota projects, the University of Minnesota plan?**

Yes, I understand the Commissioner's Plan applies.

**Does your project have potential for royalties, copyrights, patents, sale of products and assets, or revenue generation?**

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?**

Yes

**Does the organization have a fiscal agent for this project?**

No

**Does your project include the pre-design, design, construction, or renovation of a building, trail, campground, or other fixed capital asset costing \$10,000 or more or large-scale stream or wetland restoration?**

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 as "the provision of care, treatment, education, training, instruction, or recreation to children")?**

No

**Provide the name(s) and organization(s) of additional individuals assisting in the completion of this proposal:**

Ted Gostomski and Jessica Joganic, GLKN; Brian Harmon, Voyageurs National Park

**Do you understand that a named service contract does not constitute a funder-designated subrecipient or approval of a sole-source contract? In other words, a service contract entity is only approved if it has been selected according to the contracting rules identified in state law and policy for organizations that receive ENRTF funds through direct appropriations, or in the DNR's reimbursement manual for non-state organizations. These rules may include competitive bidding and prevailing wage requirements**

Yes, I understand