

2018 Project Abstract

For the Period Ending June 30, 2022

PROJECT TITLE: Grants for Local Parks, Trails, and Natural Areas

PROJECT MANAGER: Audrey Mularie

AFFILIATION: MNDNR

MAILING ADDRESS: 500 Lafayette Road

CITY/STATE/ZIP: St. Paul, MN 55155

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FUNDING SOURCE: Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

LEGAL CITATION: M.L. 2018, Chp. 214, Art. 4, Sec. 02, Subd. 09a as extended by M.L. 2021, First Special Session, Chp. 6, Art. 6, Sec. 2, Subd. 18

APPROPRIATION AMOUNT: \$ 2,000,000

AMOUNT SPENT: \$ 2,000,000

AMOUNT REMAINING: \$ 0

Sound bite of Project Outcomes and Results

Provide approximately 14 matching grants to local units of government for local parks, acquisition of locally significant natural areas and trails to connect people safely to desirable community locations and regional or state facilities. Park development includes nature-based recreation facilities and does not include playgrounds, sports courts or sport fields.

Overall Project Outcome and Results

The primary project results include,

- Six Outdoor Recreation grants to provide nature based outdoor recreation opportunities including park trails, natural resource interpretive opportunities, boating and fishing facilities in Andover, Brooklyn Park, Princeton, St. Peter, Wright County and Zumbrota.
- Four Natural and Scenic Area grants to help protect 139.5 acres of significant natural and scenic areas in Bayport, Wright and Washington Counties through fee title and permanent conservation easement.
- Four Local Trail Connection grants to provide safe, accessible trails to parks, schools, and other significant locations within the communities of Austin, Canby, Luverne and Moose Lake.
- Project administration for the grants was completed for \$50,000. Two application cycles were completed, applications reviewed and selected for grants. Active projects were monitored, financial review completed, grantees reimbursed, final site visits completed as needed, projects close, land acquisition report filed.

The Outdoor Recreation (Local Parks), Natural and Scenic Area and Local Trail Connections Grant Programs provide competitive matching grants for local parks, natural areas and trails to local governments for land acquisition and improvements related to parks and trails. Many projects include renovation of existing facilities to improve safety and accessibility, acquisition of locally significant natural and scenic areas, completion of trail linkages to safely connect where people live to desirable locations within the community and/or connecting local trails to regional or state facilities.

Project Results Use and Dissemination

A Request for Proposal is announced for the programs in December of each year through our park and trail contacts e-mail list and regional and statewide organization. Regional and statewide organizations are

encouraged to forward to their members. Program information and applications are available to download on the [DNR Recreation Grants webpage](#) under each specific program. A list of the awarded projects is posted on the program webpages under recent grants.



Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) M.L. 2018 ENRTF Work Plan Final Report (Main Document)

Today's Date: August 11, 2022

Final Report

Date of Work Plan Approval: June 5, 2018

Project Completion Date: June 30, 2022

PROJECT TITLE: Grants for Local Parks, Trails, and Natural Areas

Project Manager: Audrey Mularie

Organization: Department of Natural Resources

College/Department/Division: Division of Parks and Trails

Mailing Address: 500 Lafayette Road

City/State/Zip Code: St. Paul

Telephone Number: 651-259-5549

Email Address: audrey.mularie@state.mn.us

Web Address: mndnr.gov

Location: Statewide

Total Project Budget: \$2,000,000

Amount Spent: \$2,000,000

Balance: \$0

Legal Citation: M.L. 2018, Chp. 214, Art. 4, Sec. 02, Subd. 09a as extended by M.L. 2021, First Special Session, Chp. 6, Art. 6, Sec. 2, Subd. 18

Appropriation Language: \$2,000,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to solicit, rank, and fund competitive matching grants for local parks, trail connections, and natural and scenic areas under Minnesota Statutes, section 85.019. The appropriation is for local nature-based recreation and connections to regional and state natural areas and recreation facilities and does not include athletic facilities such as sport fields, courts, and playgrounds. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2021, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

M.L. 2021, First Special Session, Chp. 6, Art. 6, Sec. 2, Subd. 18. ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND; EXTENSIONS. [to June 30, 2022]

I. PROJECT STATEMENT:

Provide approximately 14 matching grants to local units of government for local parks, acquisition of locally significant natural areas and trails to connect people safely to desirable community locations and regional or state facilities. Local park development will not include playgrounds, sports courts or sport fields.

The Outdoor Recreation (Local Parks), Natural and Scenic Area and Local Trail Connections Grant Programs provide competitive matching grants for local parks, natural areas and trails to local governments for land acquisition and improvements related to parks and trails statewide as authorized under MN Statutes 85.019. Many projects include renovation of existing facilities to improve safety and accessibility, acquisition of locally significant natural and scenic areas, completion of trail linkages to safely connect where people live to desirable locations within the community and/or connecting local trails to regional or state facilities.

Outdoor Recreation (Local Park) Grants: Local governments are struggling to acquire, develop and redevelop their local and community parks. The goal of this program is increase and enhance close to home recreation facilities to provide safe and accessible recreation facilities. This aim is achieved through competitive, matching grants that provide financial incentive and ensure the parks acquired and developed under this program are retained for public use in perpetuity. The Outdoor Recreation Grant Program requires a 50% match and the local government recipients are responsible for the ongoing operations and maintenance costs.

Natural and Scenic Area Grants: Opportunities for local governments and school districts to acquire and protect natural and scenic areas statewide are diminishing due to development, especially in high growth areas, shore lands, bluff tops and areas where land use changes may limit future opportunities. The goal of this program is to ensure protection of natural and scenic resources by helping and encouraging local governments to acquire and protect such land for appropriate public use, protection of natural communities, species protection, appreciation of scenic vistas, and scientific and environmental education purposes. The immediate goal is to acquire threatened land, conduct any necessary measures to stabilize its ecological resources, and make it available for public use. Therefore, the majority of funds will be used for acquisition costs with minor amounts available for ecological stabilization, as necessary. This aim is achieved through competitive, matching grants that provide financial incentive and ensure that the land acquired and natural resources are retained for public use in perpetuity. These areas complement state protected areas and provide close-to-home natural resource-based benefits. The Natural and Scenic Area grants require a 50% local match and the local government recipients are responsible for the ongoing operations and maintenance costs.

Local Trail Connections Grants: Local Trail Connections grants fund projects to acquire, develop and re-develop local trail connections across Minnesota. The projects are primarily for shorter distance connections between residential areas, schools, businesses, parks, and regional and/or state facilities. These projects help to expand the connections between individuals and the outdoors by providing funding for local outdoor recreation infrastructure that also provides for alternative transportation options and decrease greenhouse gas emissions. The Local Trail Connections grants require a 25% local match and the local government recipients are responsible for the ongoing operations and maintenance costs for trail development projects a minimum of 20 years. Land acquisition is permanent.

II. OVERALL PROJECT STATUS UPDATES:

First Update June 30, 2019

FY2019 Application round deadline was March 30, 2018. 81 applications were received for the Outdoor Recreation, Natural and Scenic Area and Local Trail Connections Grant programs requesting \$7.9 million in grant assistance. 30 projects were awarded grants with \$4 million in available federal and state funding. 37 percent of the applications received were awarded grants. For this application round \$1.29 million in LCCMR funding was awarded to 11 projects, 4 Outdoor Recreation, 3 Natural and Scenic and 4 Local Trail Connections projects. FY2020 Application round deadline was March 29, 2019. 105 applications were received for the Outdoor Recreation and Local Trail Connections Grant programs requesting \$ 14.5 million in grant assistance. 36 projects

were awarded grants with \$5.9 million in available federal and state funding. 35 percent of the applications received were awarded grants. For this application round \$658,425 in LCCMR funding under this work program, was awarded to 5 projects, 2 Outdoor Recreation and 3 Local Trail Connections projects.

All funding for projects under this work plan has been committed and is under contract or pending a contract.

Second Update June 30, 2020

16 projects were awarded funding under this work plan in during our 2018 and 2019 application round. One Local Trail Connections (LTC) project has withdrawn, City of Andover, Andover Station North Trail for \$11,200. Three project have been completed, City of St. Peter, City of Bayport and Wright County, Stanley Eddy Regional Park. All remaining projects are underway. We plan to encumber the withdrawn \$11,200 from Andover to a project from our 2020 application round that is also receiving ENRTF funding under our 2019 work plan. This should be completed in July.

Project extended to June 30, 2022 by LCCMR 6/30/21 as a result of M.L. 2021, First Special Session, Chp. 6, Art. 6, Sec. 2, Subd. 18, legislative extension criteria being met.

Third Update June 30, 2021:

Currently 13 projects are funded with this appropriation, 4 LTC, 3 NS and 6 OR projects. 9 projects are closed and 4 remain active. There is an unencumbered appropriation balance of \$228,776 that we plan to award to an additional NS project in our 2021 application round that is expected to close this year.

The City of Cannon Falls, Cannon Valley Trail, 109,500 LTC project withdrew due to project changes. In July 2020, we awarded a grant to Washington County Afton Conservation Area from our 2020 application round and encumbered the \$120,700 cancelled from both Andover and Cannon Falls.

Sherburne County, Island View Park, \$102,000 NS withdrew in April 2021. Sherburne County encountered difficulties negotiating with extended family members and were unable to reach an agreement on acquisition cost. The City of Minneapolis, Mall Gap, \$123,800 project withdrew in June 2021 due to project difficulties.

Final Update June 30, 2022

Amendment Request as of 8/11/2022: The final acquisition and development budget has changed. As indicated in the previous update an additional acquisition project was awarded (Washington County, Valley Creek Ecological Area), after a couple development projects withdrew. This changed the final budget numbers. The change in projects awarded also impacted the number of projects funded by each program.

The amended budget shows an increase in the construction costs and a decrease in acquisition costs. There was an error in the budget in 2020/2021 that swapped the original construction and acquisition costs. The final budget proposed shows the accurate costs expended in each category. An overall reduction in the original approved construction budget and increase in the original approved acquisition costs.

Note from LCCMR: there were several budget errors made over the years. A final amendment was needed to adjust the construction amount from the originally approved \$1,300,000 to \$906,519 and Acquisition/Fee Title from \$650,000 to \$1,043,481. This amendment was approved 10/3/2022.

The primary project results include,

- 6 Outdoor Recreation grants to provide nature based outdoor recreation opportunities including park trails, natural resource interpretive opportunities, boating and fishing facilities in Andover, Brooklyn Park, Princeton, St. Peter, Wright County and Zumbrota.

- 4 Natural and Scenic Area grants to help protect 139.5 acres of significant natural and scenic areas in Bayport, Wright and Washington Counties through fee title and permanent conservation easement.
- 4 Local Trail Connection grants to provide safe, accessible trails to parks, schools, and other significant locations within the communities of Austin, Canby, Luverne and Moose Lake.
- Project administration for the grants was completed for \$50,000. Two application cycles were completed, applications reviewed and selected for grants. Active projects were monitored, financial review completed, grantees reimbursed, final site visits completed as needed, projects close, land acquisition report filed.

The Outdoor Recreation (Local Parks), Natural and Scenic Area and Local Trail Connections Grant Programs provide competitive matching grants for local parks, natural areas and trails to local governments for land acquisition and improvements related to parks and trails. Many projects include renovation of existing facilities to improve safety and accessibility, acquisition of locally significant natural and scenic areas, completion of trail linkages to safely connect where people live to desirable locations within the community and/or connecting local trails to regional or state facilities.

III. PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES:

ACTIVITY 1: Grants for the Local Parks, Natural and Scenic Areas and Trail Connections

Description: This funding will provide approximately 14 matching grants to cities and counties for acquisition, development and/or redevelopment of local parks, natural and scenic areas and trail connections. Two grant rounds are proposed. The local match for each project will meet or exceed the match required under the specific program that the project was funded. The required match for each program is listed above and in [MN Statutes 85.018](#). It is expected that the match level would exceed \$1.4 million.

ENRTF BUDGET: \$1,950,000

ENRTF Spent: \$1,950,000

ENRTF Balance: \$0

Outcome	Completion Date
1. Provide approximately 6 matching grants through two funding rounds for local parks.	Fall 2018, 2019
2. Provide approximately 4 matching grants through one funding round for Natural and Scenic Areas. A second round will be held, if needed.	Fall 2018, 2019 if needed
3. Provide approximately 4 matching grants through two funding rounds for Trail Connections.	Fall 2018, 2019

First Update June 30, 2019

FY2019 application round \$1,291,575 million in LCCMR funding was awarded to 11 projects, 4 Outdoor Recreation (OR), 3 Natural and Scenic (NS) and 4 Local Trail Connections (LTC) projects. FY2020 application round \$658,425 million in LCCMR funding was awarded to 5 projects, 2 Outdoor Recreation and 3 Local Trail Connections. All funding is under contract or committed with a contract pending.

FY2019 Application Round Projects						
Prog	Recipient	Title	Scope	Total Cost	LCCMR 19 Portion	Local Match
OR	City of Andover	Kelsey Round Lake Park	Expand trail system.	\$152,000.00	\$76,000.00	\$76,000.00

OR	City of Zumbrota	Zumbrota Covered Bridge Park	Develop trails, informational signs, benches and landscaping.	\$40,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00
OR	City of St. Peter	Hallett's Pond Nature Area	Develop trail and fishing pier.	\$55,400.00	\$27,700.00	\$27,700.00
OR	Wright County	Montissippi Park	Redevelop trails and install wayfinding and directional signs.	\$175,000.00	\$51,300.00 (Plus \$36,200 General Fund)	\$87,500.00
NS	City of Bayport	Natural Park	Acquisition of 11 acres including 665 feet of the St. Croix River, near downtown Bayport. The property will create open space, scenic views and trail access that better connects people to the river and surrounding natural resources. Washington County holds a conservation easement over the property, property restrictions in place.	\$1,000,000.00	\$500,000.00	\$1,285,000
NS	Wright County	Stanley Eddy Regional Park	Acquisition of approximately 79 acres to expand Stanley Eddy Park Reserve, restoration of approximately 11 acres and interpretive and boundary signs.	\$379,150.00	\$189,575.00	\$189,575.00
NS	Sherburne County	Island View Park	Acquisition of 171-acre addition to existing 71-acre Island View Park including over 1 mile of Mississippi River frontage and a 22-acre island accessible by a foot bridge to be used for non-consumptive nature-based outdoor recreation including hiking, nature observation, and scenic overlooks.	\$1,000,000.00	\$102,000.00 (Plus \$398,000 Federal)	\$500,000.00
LTC	City of Andover	Andover Station North Trail	Develop a critical connection to City parks, Bunker Hills Regional Park and a host of businesses.	\$235,100.00	\$11,200.00 (Plus \$106,350 General Fund)	\$117,550.00
LTC	City of Austin	Turtle Creek Trail	Develop new 10' wide asphalt bike trail from 4th Street SW to Bustad Park.	\$250,000.00	\$100,000.00	\$150,000.00
LTC	City of Canby	Canby Trail	Renovate by milling 1 1/2 inches of existing asphalt and relaying 2 inches of new asphalt.	\$90,000.00	\$90,000.00	\$30,000.00
LTC	Mpls Park and Rec Board	Mall Trail Gap	Construct a .11 mile 12 foot wide shared-use trail with trailside facilities and signage	\$178,000.00	\$123,800.00	\$55,000.00

			that will connect the Midtown Greenway to cultural and commercial destinations and transit on Hennepin Avenue through the Mall park.				
			Totals:	11 projects	\$3,554,650.00	\$1,291,575.00	2,538,325.00

FY2020 Application Round Projects						
Prog	Recipient	Title	Scope	Total Cost	LCCMR 19 Portion	Match
OR	City of Princeton	Riverside-Riebe Park	Develop trails, ADA pier, natural fishing area, canoe/kayak launch, furnishings, vault restroom.	\$440,000.00	\$83,425.00 (plus \$129,000 in 20 LCCMR and \$7,575 in other state funds)	\$220,000.00
OR	City of Brooklyn Center	River Park	Restore river shoreline, redevelop trails, and develop boat launch, shore fishing, overlooks, trail connections, parking, interpretive and directional signs.	\$500,000.00	\$250,000.00	\$250,000.00
LTC	City of Moose Lake	City Loop Trail	Develop 1.1 miles of trail to close the gap on connecting all existing trails surrounding the City and providing a trail to the new Moose Lake schools.	\$1,200,000.00	\$65,500.00 (plus \$84,500.00 in 20 LCCMR funds)	\$1,050,000.00
LTC	City of Luverne	Luverne Loop Trail, Phase 3A	Develop a multi-use trail segment of the Luverne Loop (Phase 3A) that is .75 miles in length, 10 feet wide, and connects to the Blue Mounds Trail.	\$584,000.00	\$150,000.00	\$434,000.00
LTC	City of Cannon Falls	Cannon Valley and Mill Town State Trail Connection	Develop a trail connection between the Mill Towns State Trail and the Cannon Valley Trail through city owned parks and trails.	\$146,000.00	\$109,500.00	\$36,500.00
			Totals: 5 Projects	\$2,870,000.00	\$658,425.00	\$1,990,500.00
			Work Plan Total: 16 projects	\$6,424,650.00	\$1,950,000.00	\$4,528,825.00

Second Update June 30, 2020

FY2019 application round \$1,291,575 million in LCCMR funding was awarded to 11 projects, 4 Outdoor Recreation (OR), 3 Natural and Scenic (NS) and 3(4) Local Trail Connections (LTC) projects. One Local Trail Connections (LTC) project has withdrawn, City of Andover, Andover Station North Trail for \$11,200. Three projects have been completed, City of St. Peter, City of Bayport and Wright County, Stanley Eddy Regional Park. All remaining projects are under contract.

FY2020 application round \$658,425 million in LCCMR funding was awarded to 5 projects, 2 Outdoor Recreation and 3 Local Trail Connections. All projects are under contract.

We plan to encumber the withdrawn \$11,200 from Andover to a project from our 2020 application round that is also receiving ENRTF funding under our 2019 work plan. This should be completed in July.

Third Update June 30, 2021:

The City of Cannon Falls, Cannon Valley Trail, 109,500 LTC project withdrew due to project changes. In July 2020, we awarded a grant to Washington County Afton Conservation Area from our 2020 application round and encumbered the \$120,700 cancelled from both Andover and Cannon Falls.

Sherburne County, Island View Park, \$102,000 NS withdrew in April 2021. Sherburne County encountered difficulties negotiating with extended family members and were unable to reach an agreement on acquisition cost. The City of Minneapolis, Mall Gap, \$123,800 project withdrew in June 2021 due to project difficulties.

Currently 13 projects are funded with this appropriation, 4 LTC, 3 NS and 6 OR projects. 9 projects are closed and 4 remain active. There is an unencumbered appropriation balance of \$228,776 that we plan to award to an additional NS project in our 2021 application round that is expected to close this year.

Prog	Recipient	Title	Grant	Match	Status
OR	Brooklyn Park	River Park	250,000	250,000	Active
LTC	Moose Lake	City Loop Trail	65,500	1,058,500	Active
OR	Princeton	Riverside-Riebe Park	83,425	220,000	Active
OR	Zumbrota	Zumbrota Covered Bridge Park	20,000	20,000	Active
OR	Andover	Kelsey Round Lake Park	73,024	73,024	Closed
LTC	Austin	Turtle Creek Trail	100,000	150,000	Closed
NS	Bayport	City Park	500,000	500,000	Closed
LTC	Canby	Canby Trail	90,000	30,000	Closed
LTC	Luverne	Luverne Loop Trail, Phase 3A	150,000	434,000	Closed
OR	St. Peter	Hallett's Pond Nature Area	27,700	27,700	Closed
NS	Washington	Afton Conservation Area	120,700	290,000	Closed
OR	Wright	Montissippi Park	51,300	87,500	Closed
NS	Wright	Stanley Eddy Regional Park	189,575	189,575	Closed
Total 13 projects			1,721,224	3,330,299	

Final Update June 30, 2022

14 Grants were awarded, and projects closed. A excel document is provided as an attachment with specific project information.

- 6 Outdoor Recreation grants to provide nature based outdoor recreation opportunities including park trails, natural resource interpretive opportunities, boating and fishing facilities in Andover, Brooklyn Park, Princeton, St. Peter, Wright County and Zumbrota.
- 4 Natural and Scenic Area grants to help protect 139.5 acres of significant natural and scenic areas in Bayport, Wright and Washington Counties through fee title and permanent conservation easement.
- 4 Local Trail Connection grants to provide safe, accessible trails to parks, schools, and other significant locations within the communities of Austin, Canby, Luverne and Moose Lake.

ACTIVITY 2: Grant Program Administration

Description: The funding will be used to support Parks and Trails, Grant Specialist, personnel costs for administering the grant programs and DNR direct and necessary costs associated with this funding. Grant staff persons are involved in grant solicitation, evaluation and ranking, grant agreement management, project billings, project inspections, compliance monitoring and project close out.

As shown in the Detailed Project Budget, work program approval is requested for personnel expenses to be incurred by DNR classified staff involved in administering these grant programs. The requested amount represents approximately 2.5% of the proposed Activity 1 budget equivalent to approximately 0.15 FTE per year over the three year period including the direct and necessary costs that are detailed in the project budget.

ENRTF BUDGET: \$50,000.00

ENRTF Spent: 50,000.00

ENRTF Balance: 0

Outcome	Completion Date
1. Administer RFP, application process and grant contracts.	June 30, 2021
2. DNR Direct and necessary costs.	June 30, 2021

First Update June 30, 2019:

The FY19 and FY20 application process is complete, contracts are executed and/or underway.

Second Update June 30, 2020

The FY19 and FY20 application process is complete, contracts are executed and/or underway. Reimbursement requests and project closeouts are being processed.

Third Update June 30, 2021: FY21 application process is complete, one additional contract will be processed. Reimbursement requests and project closeouts are being processed.

Final Update June 30, 2022: Project administration for the grants was completed for \$50,000. Two application cycles were completed, applications reviewed and selected for grants. Active projects were monitored, financial review completed, grantees reimbursed, final site visits completed as needed, projects close, land acquisition report filed.

IV. DISSEMINATION:

Description: A Request for Proposal is announced for the programs in December of each year through our park and trail contacts e-mail list and regional and statewide organization. Regional and Statewide organizations are encouraged to forward to their members. Program information and applications are available to download on the [DNR Recreation Grants webpage](#) under each specific program. A list of the awarded projects will be posted on the program webpages.

First Update June 30, 2019: FY19 Grant awards are posted on the above website for public view. FY20 Grant awards will be posted by July 2019 on the above website for public view.

Second Update June 30, 2020

FY19 Grant awards are posted on the above website for public view. FY20 Grant awards will be posted by July 2019 on the above website for public view.

Third Update June 30, 2021: FY20 and FY21 Grant awards are posted on the website for public view.

Final Update June 30, 2022: Program information and applications are available to download on the [DNR Recreation Grants webpage](#) under each specific program. A list of the awarded projects is posted on the program webpages under recent grants.

V. PROJECT BUDGET SUMMARY:

A. Preliminary ENRTF Budget Overview: See attached budget spreadsheet

Explanation of Capital Expenditures Greater Than \$5,000: Capital expenditures related to the development of park and trail facilities. All trails will be maintained for a minimum of 20 years. All park facilities must be maintained for their useful life and the park area retained and maintained solely for outdoor recreation use into perpetuity.

Explanation of Use of Classified Staff: Classified positions paid for with LCCMR funds will either be 1) backfilled with a new position or 2) the work previously done by this position will be delayed, eliminated, or completed by the start of the project.

Total Number of Full-time Equivalent (FTE) Directly Funded with this ENRTF Appropriation:

Enter Total Estimated Personnel Hours: 939	Divide by 2,080 = TOTAL FTE: .45
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Total Number of Full-time Equivalent (FTE) Estimated to Be Funded through Contracts with this ENRTF Appropriation:

Enter Total Estimated Personnel Hours: N/A	Divide by 2,080 = TOTAL FTE: N/A
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B. Other Funds:

SOURCE OF AND USE OF OTHER FUNDS	Amount Proposed	Amount Spent	Status and Timeframe
Other Non-State \$ To Be Applied To Project During Project Period:			
Local Match	\$ 1,400,000	\$3,586,369	Secured with state contract.
Past and Current ENRTF Appropriation:			
ML 2011 Natural and Scenic Areas	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,000,000	Complete
ML 2011 Regional Parks, Regional Trails and Local Trail Connections	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 1,777,808	Complete
Other Funding History: Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund dollars are available each year for local parks, funding varies by year. Lottery in Lieu funding is available for local parks and trails, approximately \$800,000 per year. General Fund dollars are available this year for the Local trail connections and local parks \$250,000 each.			

VI. PROJECT PARTNERS:

- A. **Partners receiving ENRTF funding: Partners are successful grant recipients.** They will acquire, develop, own, and manage the park and trail facilities. They will provide match dollars as well as covering costs of appraisals, any required archeological/historical surveys, permits, etc. They will also assume all operations and maintenance costs.

B. Partners NOT receiving ENRTF funding: N/A

VII. LONG-TERM- IMPLEMENTATION AND FUNDING: These programs are at the front line of the DNR's effort to partner with local communities in providing access to outdoor recreation opportunities. It is especially important given that most funding sources have greatly diminished for these local programs. Connecting citizens with the outdoors through park and trail facilities enhances Minnesota's stewardship ethic and further the goals of the Department's Strategic Conservation Agenda.

VIII. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:

- **The project is for 4 years, will begin on July 1, 2018, and end on June 30, 2022.**
- **Periodic project status update reports will be submitted June 30 of each year.**
- **A final report and associated products will be submitted between June 30 and August 15, 2022.**

IX. SEE ADDITIONAL WORK PLAN COMPONENTS:

A. Budget Spreadsheet

B. Visual/Maps – Statewide maps will be provided after each application round showing all funded project locations by program and a map showing only those programmed for ENRTF money. Locations for ENRTF park sites based on Natural Resource based projects.

C. Parcel List Spreadsheet

D. Acquisition, Easements, and Restoration Requirements

Attachment A:
Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund
M.L. 2018 Budget Spreadsheet - FINAL



Project Title: Grants for Local Parks, Trails, and Natural Areas
Legal Citation: M.L. 2018, Chp. 214, Art. 4, Sec. 02, Subd. 09a
Project Manager: Audrey Mularie
Organization: Department of Natural Resources
College/Department/Division: Parks and Trails
M.L. 2018 ENRTF Appropriation: Final
Project Length and Completion Date: 4 years, June 30, 2022
Date of Report: August 11, 2022

ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND BUDGET	Revised Budget 8/11/2022	Amount Spent	Balance
BUDGET ITEM			
Personnel (Wages and Benefits) .15 FTE Grant Specialist position each year for the three year project period. Includes salary and benefits.	\$44,866	\$44,866	\$0
Grants - Construction Costs	\$906,519	\$906,519	\$0
Grants - Acquisition Fee Title and/or Permanent Easement	\$1,043,481	\$1,043,481	\$0
Direct and Necessary Costs: To support the costs related to the program administration *Direct and Necessary expenses: HR Support (~\$668), Safety Support (~\$153), Financial Support (~\$586), Communication Support (~\$1,271), IT Support (~\$1383), and Planning Support (~\$1,072) necessary to accomplish funded programs/projects.	\$5,134	\$5,134	\$0
COLUMN TOTAL	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$0

Attachment C:
 Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund
 M.L. 2018 Acquisition/Restoration Parcel List Spreadsheet
 Project Title: Local Parks, Trails and Natural Areas Grant Programs
 Legal Citation: M.L. 2018, Chp. 214, Art. 4, Sec. 02, Subd. 09a as extended by M.L. 2021, First Special Session, Chp. 6, Art. 6, Sec. 2, Subd. 18
 Project Manager: Audrey Mularie
 Organization: Department of Natural Resources
 College/Department/Division: Division of Parks and Trails
 M.L. 2018 ENRTF Appropriation:
 Project Length and Completion Date: 4 Years, June 30, 2022
 Today's Date: August 11, 2022



#	Acquisition or Restoration Parcel Name	Geographic Coordinates (preferably from the center of the parcel) Format: [Deg.]° [Min.]' [Sec.]" [Hemis.]		Estimated Cost	Estimated Annual PILT Liabilities	County	Site Significance (please include what ecosystem (e.g., prairie, forest, wetland, savanna) is represented as well as the ecological significance, site importance, conservation value, and public benefits)	Activity Description (e.g. fee title acquisition, conservation easement acquisition, site preparation, restoration)	# of Acres	# of Shoreline Miles	Type of Landowner (private individual or trust, non-profit organization, for-profit entity)	Proposed Fee Title or Easement Holder (if applicable)	Status of work (e.g. engaged in landowner negotiations, no longer in consideration, restoration activities underway)
		Latitude	Longitude										
1	City Park	45 1 8.0 N	92 46 31.1 E	\$1,745,000		Washington	Acquisition of 11 acres including 665 feet of the St. Croix River, near downtown Bayport. The property will create open space, scenic views and trail access that better connects people to the river and surrounding natural resources. Washington County holds a conservation easement over the property, property restrictions in place.	Fee Title Acquisition - City of Bayport Conservation Easement - Washington County	11	665 feet	Local Government	City of Bayport	Purchased, project closed Acquisition report submitted.
2	Stanley Eddy Park Reserve	45 12 48.8 N	94 13 43.3 E	\$363,000		Wright	Acquisition of a 20 acre inholding within Stanley Eddy Park Reserve and 59 acres adjacent to the Park. The property is identified as an area of high biodiversity on the County Biological Survey including Red Oak, Sugar Maple and Basswood Forests with remnants of Butternut Hickory.	Fee Title Acquisition	79	0	Local Government	Wright County	Purchased, project closed Acquisition report submitted.
2	Afton Conservation Area	44° 55' 4.44"	-92° 46' 39.9174"	\$ 580,000		Washington	Acquire a permanent conservation easement on a 31-acre adjacent to 1,500 acres protected by Belwin Conservancy that will provide public space, scenic views and low impact activities including a trail.	Permanent Conservation Easement	31.47	750 Feet	Local Government	Washington County/ City of Afton	Purchased, project closed Acquisition report submitted.
	<u>Valley Creek Ecological Area</u>	<u>44 54' 47.916"</u>	<u>92 49' 20.208"</u>	<u>\$ 782,500</u>		<u>Washington</u>	<u>Acquire a permanent conservation easement that will protect approximately 18 acres of steep forested bluffs, lowlands and open water, including two ponds fed by a spring and Valley Creek, on five parcels in a Washington County high priority Regionally Significant Ecological Area encompassing Valley Creek, a tributary to the St. Croix River.</u>	<u>Permanent Conservation Easement</u>	<u>18</u>		<u>Local Government</u>	<u>Washington County</u>	<u>Purchased, project closed Acquisition report submitted.</u>
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Attachment D. Additional Work Plan Information for Acquisition, Easements, and Restoration

Acquisition/Restoration Information:

Fee Title and/or Permanent Easement Acquisition

1. Describe the selection process for identifying and including proposed parcels on the parcel list, including explanation of the criteria and decision-making process used to rank and prioritize parcels.

Acquisitions under the Natural and Scenic Area Grant Program are reviewed and ranked by program staff using selection criteria developed with guidance by a group of internal and external people when the program was created. The project review assesses the natural resource qualities of the site such as endangered, threatened, rare or special concern species or communities, high quality native terrestrial or aquatic ecosystems, ecological viability, outstanding geological or physiographic features, protection of water quality and potential vulnerability to exotic species. Scenic qualities such as, blufflands or other elevated terrain that afford an opportunity for viewing scenic vistas, viewing unique natural features, viewing unique historical or cultural features, and shoreland properties that offer scenic vistas across lakes or streams will be assessed. Other review components include adjacent lands, educational and scientific values, open space and historical/cultural values and local government commitment. Any acquisitions under the Outdoor Recreation Grant and/or Local Trail Connections Grant Program are selected based on program criteria. Projects are recommended based on the highest ranking and reviewed and approved by the Commissioner.

2. List all adopted state, regional, or local natural resource plans in which the lands included in the parcel list are identified. Include a link to the plan if one is available.

Land Acquisition projects selected for funding under the Outdoor Recreation and Natural and Scenic Area Grant Program are based on priorities in the [State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan \(SCORP\)](#).

3. For any parcels acquired in fee title, a restoration and management plan must be prepared. Summarize the components and expected outcomes of restoration and management plans for parcels acquired by your organization, how these plans are kept on file by your organization, and overall strategies for long-term plan implementation, including how long-term maintenance and management needs of the parcel will be financed into the future.

These acquisitions provide public natural and scenic area, open space and park areas. Natural resource restoration is not a required component of the programs. In some instances restoration may occur but otherwise most are primarily maintaining the resources on the site which may be natural or scenic qualities. If applicable, a restoration plan will be required and maintained in the project file available upon request.

4. For each parcel to be conveyed to a State of Minnesota entity (e.g., DNR) after purchase, provide a statement confirming that county board approval will be obtained.

N/A

5. If applicable (see M.S. 116P.17), provide a statement confirming that written approval from the DNR Commissioner will be obtained 10 business days prior to any final acquisition transaction.

All grants are approved by the Commissioner prior to contract.

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.

Any restoration activities completed would be on land permanently protected for public parks and/or public natural and scenic areas.

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.

A restoration and management plan will be required for restoration activities and kept in the project file. Grantees must commit to the long term operation and maintenance of all property acquired for the intended purpose under the contract into perpetuity.

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.

All restorations will be required to follow the guidelines. This will be outlined in our program manuals and in our contract for restoration projects.

4. Describe how the long-term maintenance and management needs of the parcel being restored with these funds will be met and financed into the future.

Long term management and maintenance is committed by the local unit of government under the contract.

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

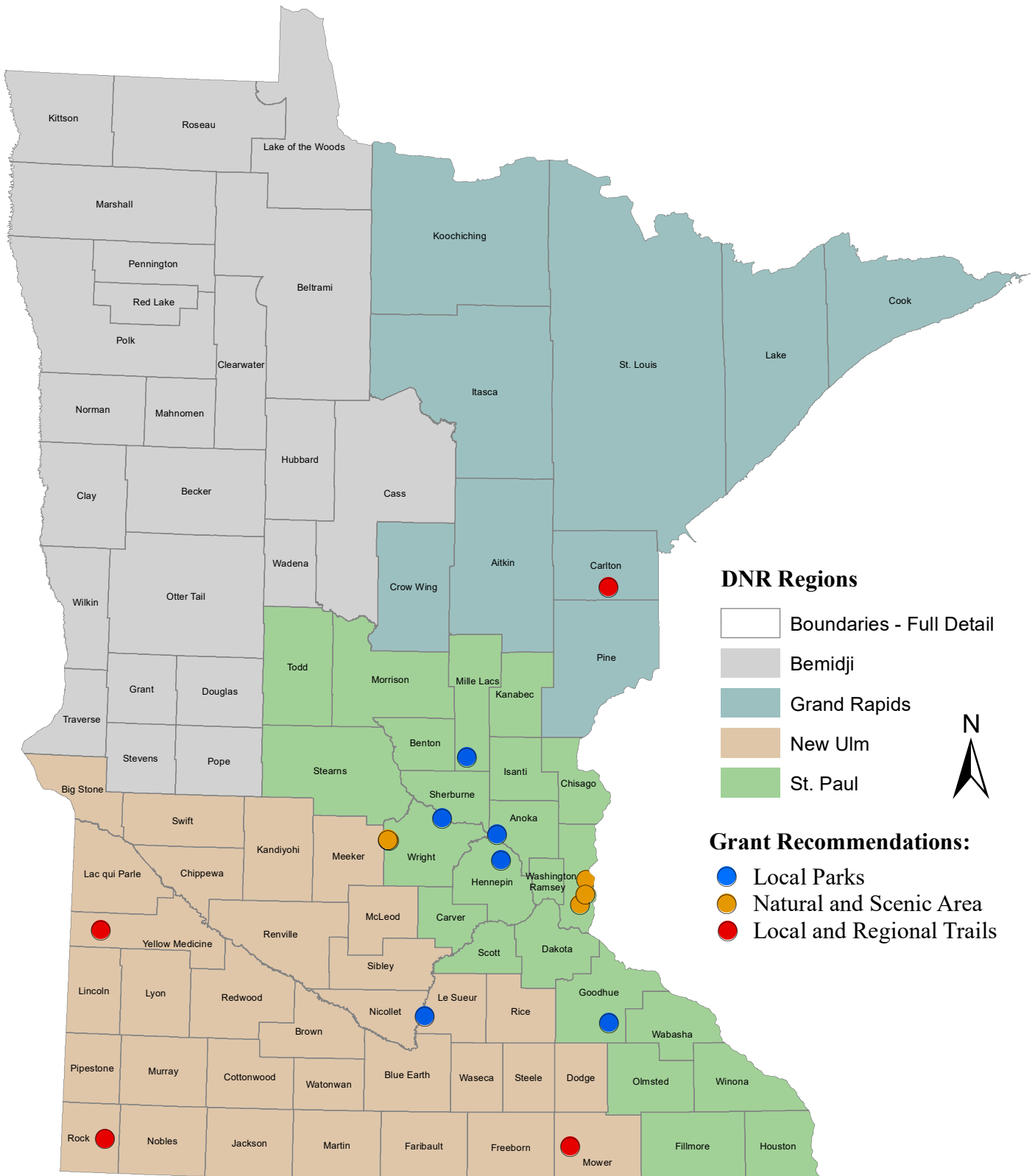
Program manuals and the contract will have language to indicate the grantee should consider contracting with the Conservation Corps of Minnesota for restoration activities.

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 will be incorporated as a requirement under the restoration and management plans for any proposed restorations and kept with the project file.

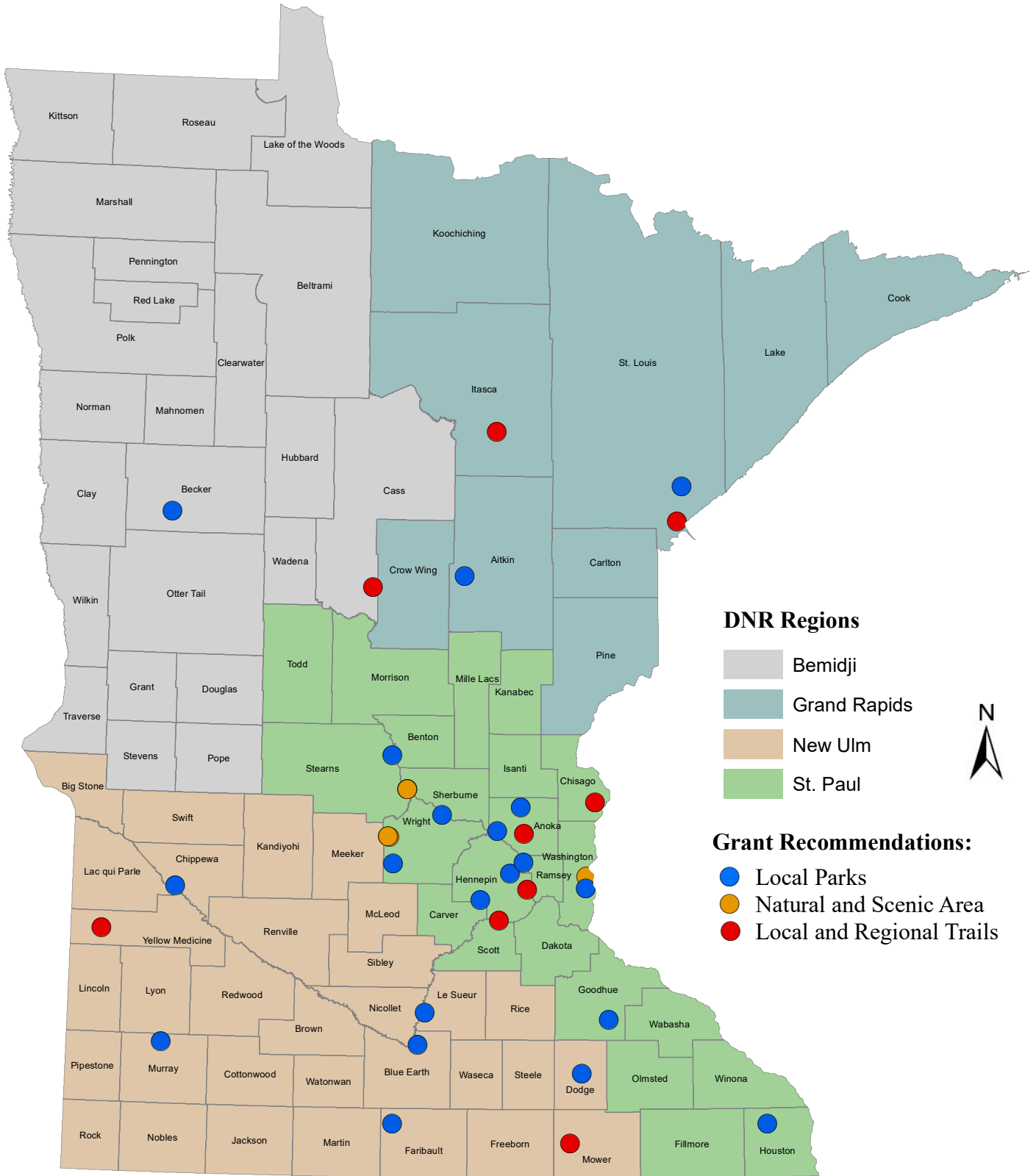
Local Parks, Trails and Natural Areas Project Sites

M.L. 2018 Chapter 214, Art. 4, Sec. 02, Subd. 09a



Note: Projects selected for ENRTF funding were natural resource local parks, trails and natural and scenic areas within a set of funded projects. Additional projects were funded throughout the state with other state and federal grant dollars. See other maps for a complete representation of funded sites for the two application rounds.

Park and Trail Grant Programs 2018 Grant Recommendations



Park and Trail Grant Programs 2019 Grant Recommendations

