

2011 Project Abstract

For the Period Ending June 30, 2014

PROJECT TITLE: *Critical Lands Protection Program, The Trust for Public Land Minnesota's Habitat Conservation Partnership Phase VI I***PROJECT MANAGER:** Robert McGillivray**AFFILIATION:** The Trust for Public Land**MAILING ADDRESS:** 2610 University Ave, #300**CITY/STATE/ZIP:** Saint Paul, MN 55114**PHONE:** 651-999-5307**E-MAIL:** Bob.McGillivray@tpl.org**WEBSITE:** www.tpl.org**FUNDING SOURCE:** Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund**LEGAL CITATION:** M.L. 2011, First Special Session, Chp. 2, Art.3, Sec. 2, Subd. 04j4c**APPROPRIATION AMOUNT: \$490,000****Overall Project Outcome and Results**

On June 16, 2013 The Trust for Public Land (TPL) acquired 120 acres of high quality habitat on Upper Cullen Lake in Crow Wing County, containing over 2,700 feet of lakeshore and 1,000 feet of a designated trout stream. TPL immediately conveyed the land to Crow Wing County, who added the land to its' adjacent Memorial Forest and will manage the land for public hunting, fishing, and hiking.

Funding for the acquisition of this property was as follows:

Source of Funds	Allocated Acreage	Amount
Non-state		
Land value donations	24	\$120,000
State		
Environmental and Natural Resources Trust Fund	96	\$490,000
Appraised Value and TOTAL:	120	\$610,000

The land protected has high biodiversity significance according to Minnesota County Biological Survey. It provides critical habitat for a variety of species, including many of those in greatest conservation need including Bald Eagles and Blandings Turtles. It also is less than a mile from critical habitat for the Least Darter, the Red Shouldered Hawk, and Colonial Waterbird nesting areas. Protection of this land has been a priority of DNR for many years, as well as a priority to the Brainerd Lakes Area Conservation Collaborative Framework for Conservation and Recreation Planning.

Conservation of the Upper Cullen property not only protected high quality habitat that was threatened with development, but it has also enabled connections with existing public land, provided public lake access and recreation opportunities, and prevented forest fragmentation.

Project Results Use and Dissemination

Several local papers covered the acquisition of the Upper Cullen Lake land:
<http://pineandlakes.com/echo-news/2013-08-06/natural-area-on-upper-cullen-lake-protected>;
<http://www.cullenlakes.org/ccfall13.html>. Information about this acquisition is posted on TPL's website: www.tpl.org. Information about the Upper Cullen protection effort has also been disseminated through its network of supporters which include: Cullen Lakes Association, Leech Lake Area Watershed Foundation, Crow Wing Lakes and River Association, Anglers for Habitat, Trout Unlimited, Crow Wing County, Pelican Township, and the MN Department of Natural Resources.



**Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)
M.L. 2011 Work Plan**

Date of Status Update: 7/23/2014
Date of Next Status Update: Final Report
Date of Work Plan Approval: 8/11/2011
Project Completion Date: 6/30/2014

Is this an amendment request? No

Project Title: HCP VII - TPLs Critical Lands Protection Program (4c)

Project Manager: Robert McGillivray
Affiliation: The Trust for Public Land
Address: 2610 University Ave W, Ste 300
City: St Paul **State:** MN **Zipcode:** 55114

Telephone Number: (651) 999-5307
Email Address: rjm@tpl.org
Web Address: http://www.tpl.org

Location:

Counties Impacted: Statewide

Ecological Section Impacted: Lake Agassiz Aspen Parklands (223N), Minnesota and Northeast Iowa Morainal (222M), North Central Glaciated Plains (251B), Northern Minnesota and Ontario Peatlands (212M), Northern Minnesota Drift and lake Plains (212N), Northern Superior Uplands (212L), Paleozoic Plateau (222L), Red River Valley (251A), Southern Superior Uplands (212J), Western Superior Uplands (212K)

Total ENRTF Project Budget:	ENRTF Appropriation \$:	490,000
	Amount Spent \$:	490,000
	Balance \$:	0

Legal Citation: M.L. 2011, First Special Session, Chp. 2, Art.3, Sec. 2, Subd. 04j4c

Appropriation Language:

\$1,737,000 the first year and \$1,738,000 the second year are from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for the acceleration of agency programs and cooperative agreements. Of this appropriation, \$125,000 the first year and \$125,000 the second year are to the commissioner of natural resources for agency programs and \$3,225,000 is for agreements as follows: \$637,000 the first year and \$638,000 the second year with Ducks Unlimited, Inc.; \$38,000 the first year and \$37,000 the second year with Friends of Detroit Lakes Wetland Management District; \$25,000 the first year and \$25,000 the second year with Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe; \$225,000 the first year and \$225,000 the second year with Minnesota Land Trust; \$200,000 the first year and \$200,000 the second year with Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Trust, Inc.; \$242,000 the first year and \$243,000 the second year with Pheasants Forever, Inc.; and \$245,000 the first year and \$245,000 the second year with The Trust for Public Land to plan, restore, and acquire fragmented landscape corridors that connect areas of quality habitat to sustain fish, wildlife, and plants. The United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, is an authorized cooperating partner in the appropriation. Expenditures are limited to the project corridor areas as defined in the work program. Land acquired with this appropriation must be sufficiently improved to meet at least minimum habitat and facility management standards, as determined by the commissioner of natural resources. This appropriation may not be used for the purchase of habitable residential structures, unless expressly approved in the work program. All conservation easements must be perpetual and have a natural resource management plan. Any land acquired in fee title by the commissioner of natural resources with money from this appropriation must be designated as an outdoor recreation unit under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.07. The commissioner may similarly designate any lands acquired in less than fee title. A list of proposed restorations and fee title and easement acquisitions must be provided as part of the required work program. An entity who acquires a conservation easement with appropriations from the trust fund must have a long-term stewardship plan for the easement and a fund established for monitoring and enforcing the agreement. Money appropriated from the trust fund for easement acquisition may be used to establish a monitoring, management, and enforcement fund as approved in the work program. An annual financial report is required for any monitoring, management, and enforcement fund established, including expenditures from the fund. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2014, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

I. PROJECT TITLE: HCP7-4c, TPL’s Critical Lands Protection Program

II. FINAL PROJECT STATEMENT:

On June 16, 2013 The Trust for Public Land (TPL) acquired 120 acres of high quality habitat on Upper Cullen Lake in Crow Wing County, containing over 2,700 feet of lakeshore and 1,000 feet of a designated trout stream. TPL immediately conveyed the land to Crow Wing County, who added the land to its’ adjacent Memorial Forest and will manage the land for public hunting, fishing, and hiking.

Funding for the acquisition of this property was as follows:

Source of Funds	Allocated Acreage	Amount
Non-state		
Land value donations	24	\$120,000
State		
Environmental and Natural Resources Trust Fund	96	\$490,000
Appraised Value and TOTAL:	120	\$610,000

The land protected has high biodiversity significance according to Minnesota County Biological Survey. It provides critical habitat for a variety of species, including many of those in greatest conservation need including Bald Eagles and Blandings Turtles. It also is less than a mile from critical habitat for the Least Darter, the Red Shouldered Hawk, and Colonial Waterbird nesting areas. Protection of this land has been a priority of DNR for many years, as well as a priority to the Brainerd Lakes Area Conservation Collaborative Framework for Conservation and Recreation Planning.

Conservation of the Upper Cullen property not only protected high quality habitat that was threatened with development, but it has also enabled connections with existing public land, provided public lake access and recreation opportunities, and prevented forest fragmentation.

III. PROJECT STATUS UPDATES:

Project Status as of November 1, 2011: The grant agreement was not completed by this time.

Project Status as of May 1, 2012: The Cannon River I parcel was acquired using other funding on September 30, 2011 and is now owned and managed by the DNR as the Dora Lake WMA. The Trust for Public Land does not have any additional completed acquisitions to report at this time.

Project Status as of November 1, 2012: The Trust for Public Land does not have any additional completed acquisitions to report at this time. Negotiations continue on the projects described on the acquisition list.

Project Status as of May 1, 2013: The Trust for Public Land does not have any additional completed acquisitions to report at this time. Negotiations continue on the projects described on the acquisition list.

Amendment Request 5/14/2013: The Trust for Public Land seeks permission to add the Upper Cullen Lake parcel to its acquisition list. The property is approximately 146 acres of high biodiversity significance land with over 2700 feet of lakeshore and over 1000 feet of a designated trout stream. The land provides key habitat for a number of species in greatest conservation need and connects with existing public land. The acquisition would protect sensitive shoreline that provides important spawning

areas for fish. The property is currently threatened with development and is listed for sale. The land would be owned and managed by Crow Wing County and added to the adjacent Crow Wing County Memorial Forest. (Originally it was envisioned that the land would be owned by the DNR. However, because several DNR personnel live on this lake, there was concern about a perceived potential conflict of interest.) TPL also requests that it be allowed to use for this acquisition the \$50,000 previously allocated to “funds to be provided to DNR if needed for restoration.” The DNR will not be the owner of this land, the property does not have great restoration needs and the County will take care of any such needs that do exist out of existing County funding. TPL further requests that it’s Project Completion Date be changed to June 30, 2014 to align with the appropriation and grant contract language and as a result of projects taking longer to complete than originally contemplated.

The HCP ENRTF grant would provide the funding to acquire approximately 120 acres with over 1000 feet of trout stream and over 1500 feet of lakeshore. (A planned second acquisition of the remaining 26 acres would occur next winter with other funding sources if this first ENRTF-funded acquisition is completed). The purchase price for the 120-acre property is \$490,000. The property was appraised for \$610,000, which appraisal has been reviewed and certified. The landowner has granted TPL an option to purchase the property at this discounted price through June 30, 2013. The County has entered into a formal agreement to accept the property from TPL. A letter from the County reflecting this and its commitment to managing the land to protect its natural resource values has been separately submitted. A letter from the DNR and a map of the property have been submitted as well. With respect to the other four projects on the acquisition list that TPL has been working on, one has closed with other funding, another is on track to close with other funding, one the landowner refuses to sell if the land will go to the DNR, and the fourth the landowners are not ready to sell at this time. **Amendment Approved: 6/25/2013.**

Project Status as of November 1, 2013: On 7/16/2013, The Trust for Public Land acquired the 120 acre Upper Cullen Lake parcel and immediately conveyed it to Crow Wing County. The Cannon River II acquisition was also completed on 12/20/2013 with other funding and is now the Koester Prairie tract of the new Prairie Creek WMA in Rice County.

IV. PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES:

ACTIVITY 1: Acquisition

Description: Projects are currently underway in Cass, Crow Wing, Hubbard, Kandyiohi, Le Sueur, and Rice Counties involving protection of shoreline, wetlands, grasslands and woodlands. TPL will focus on habitat linkage projects that have the following characteristics: large, difficult and/or complex; multiple owners; a need for multiple funding sources; proximity to regional growth centers; and/or, high risk of development. Priority will be given to lands with high quality natural resources, especially shoreland and other lands that provide natural buffers to water resources. The Statewide Conservation and Preservation Plan, the Aquatic Management Area Acquisition Plan, the Wildlife Strategic Plan, the SNA Program Long Range Plan, and other natural resource plans will be used to help identify such lands. Final acreage protection will ultimately be affected by landowner willingness to sell key parcels. Because TPL is focusing on lands buffering water resources, the per acre cost is higher than that of non-riparian land. A list of projects TPL is working on is attached.

Summary Budget Information for Activity 1:

ENRTF Budget:	\$ 490,000
Amount Spent:	\$ 490,000
Balance:	\$ 0

Activity Completion Date:

Outcome	Completion Date	Budget
1. Acquire/protect 44 acres of high quality habitat	6-30-2014	\$ 490,000

Activity Status as of November 1, 2011: The grant agreement was not completed by this time.

Activity Status as of May 1, 2012: The Cannon River I parcel was acquired using other funding on September 30, 2011 and is now owned and managed by the DNR as the Dora Lake WMA. Although The Trust for Public Land does not have any additional completed acquisitions to report at this time, work continues on the projects on the attached acquisition list. Also, permission is sought to add a project to the list.

Activity Status as of November 1, 2012: Although The Trust for Public Land does not have any additional completed acquisitions to report at this time, work continues on the projects on the attached acquisition list. Also, permission is sought to add a project to the list.

Activity Status as of May 1, 2013: Although The Trust for Public Land does not have any additional completed acquisitions to report at this time, work continues on the projects on the attached acquisition list. Also, permission is sought to add a project to the list.

Activity Status as of November 1, 2013: On 7/16/2013, The Trust for Public Land acquired the 120 acre Upper Cullen Lake parcel and immediately conveyed it to Crow Wing County. The land was purchased for \$490,000 using ENRTF funds. The property was appraised at \$610,000. The landowner made a \$120,000 land value donation. The Trust for Public Land is currently working on protecting the remaining 26 acres of this land using other funding. A final report will be submitted after work is completed on this project and costs have been determined.

The Cannon River II acquisition was also completed on 12/20/2013 with other funding and is now the Koester Prairie tract of the new Prairie Creek WMA in Rice County.

Final Report Summary: On 7/16/2013, The Trust for Public Land acquired the 120 acre Upper Cullen Lake parcel and immediately conveyed it to Crow Wing County. The land was purchased for \$490,000 using ENRTF funds. The property was appraised at \$610,000. The landowner made a \$120,000 land value donation. The Trust for Public Land protected the remaining 26 acres of this land using Conservation Partners Legacy grant funding and conveyed this remaining land to Crow Wing County on February 20, 2014.

V. DISSEMINATION:

Description: As conservation transactions are completed, The Trust for Public Land will disseminate information on the TPL website, www.tpl.org, broadcast emails to TPL list serve members, distribute press releases, and include information in TPL's newsletters and publications as appropriate. TPL will also work with the DNR to ensure information is distributed to its listserves and on its website as well.

Status as of November 1, 2011: The grant agreement was not completed by this time.

Status as of May 1, 2012: There are no dissemination activities to report for this time period.

Status as of November 1, 2012: There are no dissemination activities to report for this time period.

Status as of May 1, 2013: There are no dissemination activities to report for this time period.

Status as of November 1, 2013: Several local papers covered the acquisition of the Upper Cullen Lake land: <http://pineandlakes.com/echo-news/2013-08-06/natural-area-on-upper-cullen-lake-protected>; <http://www.cullenlakes.org/ccfall13.html>.

Final Report Summary: Several local papers covered the acquisition of the Upper Cullen Lake land: <http://pineandlakes.com/echo-news/2013-08-06/natural-area-on-upper-cullen-lake-protected>; <http://www.cullenlakes.org/ccfall13.html>. Information about this acquisition is posted on TPL’s website: www.tpl.org. Information about the Upper Cullen protection effort has also been disseminated through its network of supporters which include: Cullen Lakes Association, Leech Lake Area Watershed Foundation, Crow Wing Lakes and River Association, Anglers for Habitat, Trout Unlimited, Crow Wing County, Pelican Township, and the MN Department of Natural Resources.

VI. PROJECT BUDGET SUMMARY:

A. ENRTF Budget:

Budget Category	\$ Amount	Explanation
Fee Title Acquisition:	\$ 490,000	Acquisition capital for land
TOTAL ENRTF BUDGET:	\$ 490,000	

Explanation of Use of Classified Staff: N/A

Explanation of Capital Expenditures Greater Than \$3,500: N/A

Number of Full-time Equivalent (FTE) funded with this ENRTF appropriation: N/A

B. Other Funds:

Source of Funds	\$ Amount Proposed	\$ Amount Spent*	Use of Other Funds
Non-state			
Land value donations, private contributions, federal funds.	\$150,000	\$215,000	Land Value Donation as part of fee acquisition.
State			
Bonding, Outdoor Heritage Fund, RIM.	\$410,000	\$400,000	Fee acquisition capital.
TOTAL OTHER FUNDS:	\$560,000	\$120,000	

*Includes funds from the second phase of acquisition, funded through a Conservation Partners Legacy Grant.

VII. PROJECT STRATEGY:

A. Project Partners: We are part of the Habitat Conservation Partnership proposal. Please see main proposal for complete partner list. The Trust for Public Land will transfer land to the DNR for long-term stewardship.

B. Project Impact and Long-term Strategy: Much of our prairie, wetlands, shorelines, and watersheds have been developed or degraded over a roughly 150-year period, and we cannot restore the “remarkable place known as Minnesota,” without a long-term view, ongoing funding, and focus from conservationists towards that goal. As noted in the Statewide Conservation and Preservation Plan, “habitat issues are arguably the most important issues facing the conservation and preservation of natural resources throughout Minnesota.” Minnesota’s Habitat Conservation Partnership is a sustained effort to protect and restore these landscapes through a long-term effort. TPL believes that the success

of conservation in Minnesota will depend on effective partnerships amongst nonprofit organizations and with public agencies like HCP. Through these public/private partnerships, greater conservation can be achieved with each partner bringing their own particular strengths to bear on the critical issues of protection, restoration, and long term stewardship and management. We believe that working within the Habitat Conservation Partnership allows us to better conserve, restore, enhance and manage habitat for the purpose of sustaining fish, wildlife and native plant communities for all generations. We seek to do this with an emphasis on high quality natural resource lands buffering water resources that will provide outstanding access to nature for the public.

C. Spending History:

Funding Source	M.L. 2005 or FY 2006-07	M.L. 2007 or FY 2008	M.L. 2008 or FY 2009	M.L. 2009 or FY 2010	M.L. 2010 or FY 2011
STATUS	Spent	Spent	Spent	Spent	Spent
ENRTF	\$425,000 Subd. 5(a)	\$480,000 Subd. 4(b)	\$350,000 Subd. 3(c)	\$350,000 Subd. 4(e)	\$200,000 Subd. 4(c)
Other Partner's ENRTF	100,000	190,000	100,000		
Outdoor Heritage Fund			533,800		
Bonding	746,607	180,000	390,000		
RIM	100,000	175,000	16,200		
Clean Water Legacy Act	100,000				
DNR WMA Surplus Sale Proceeds	236,000				
NAWCA	177,320				
ACUB	260,000				
LAWCON	260,123				
City	240,000				
Private/Land Value Donation	55,000	175,000	60,000		

VIII. ACQUISITION/RESTORATION LIST: See attached list.

IX. MAP(S): A statewide map with all of the projects on our acquisition list is attached.

X. RESEARCH ADDENDUM: N/A.

XI. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:

Periodic work plan status update reports will be submitted not later than December 2011, June 2012, December 2012, June 2013, December 2013, and June 2014. A final report and associated products will be submitted between June 30 and August 1, 2014 as requested by the LCCMR.

Final Attachment A: Budget Detail for M.L. 2011 (FY 2012-13) Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund Projects					
Project Title: HCP7-4c, TPL's Critical Lands Protection Program					
Legal Citation: M.L. 2011, First Special Session, Chp. 2, Art.3, Sec. 2, Subd. 04j4c					
Project Manager: Robert McGillivray					
M.L. 2011 (FY 2012-13) ENRTF Appropriation: \$ 490,000					
Project Length and Completion Date: 6-30-2014					
Date of Update: Final					
ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND BUDGET	Activity 1 Budget	Amount Spent	Balance	TOTAL BUDGET	TOTAL BALANCE
BUDGET ITEM					
Fee Title Acquisition	490,000	490,000	0	490,000	0
COLUMN TOTAL	\$490,000	\$490,000	\$0	\$490,000	\$0

2011-2012 Acquisition List for Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund Proposal

Project Title: HCP7-4c, TPL's Critical Lands Protection Program, The Trust for Public Land

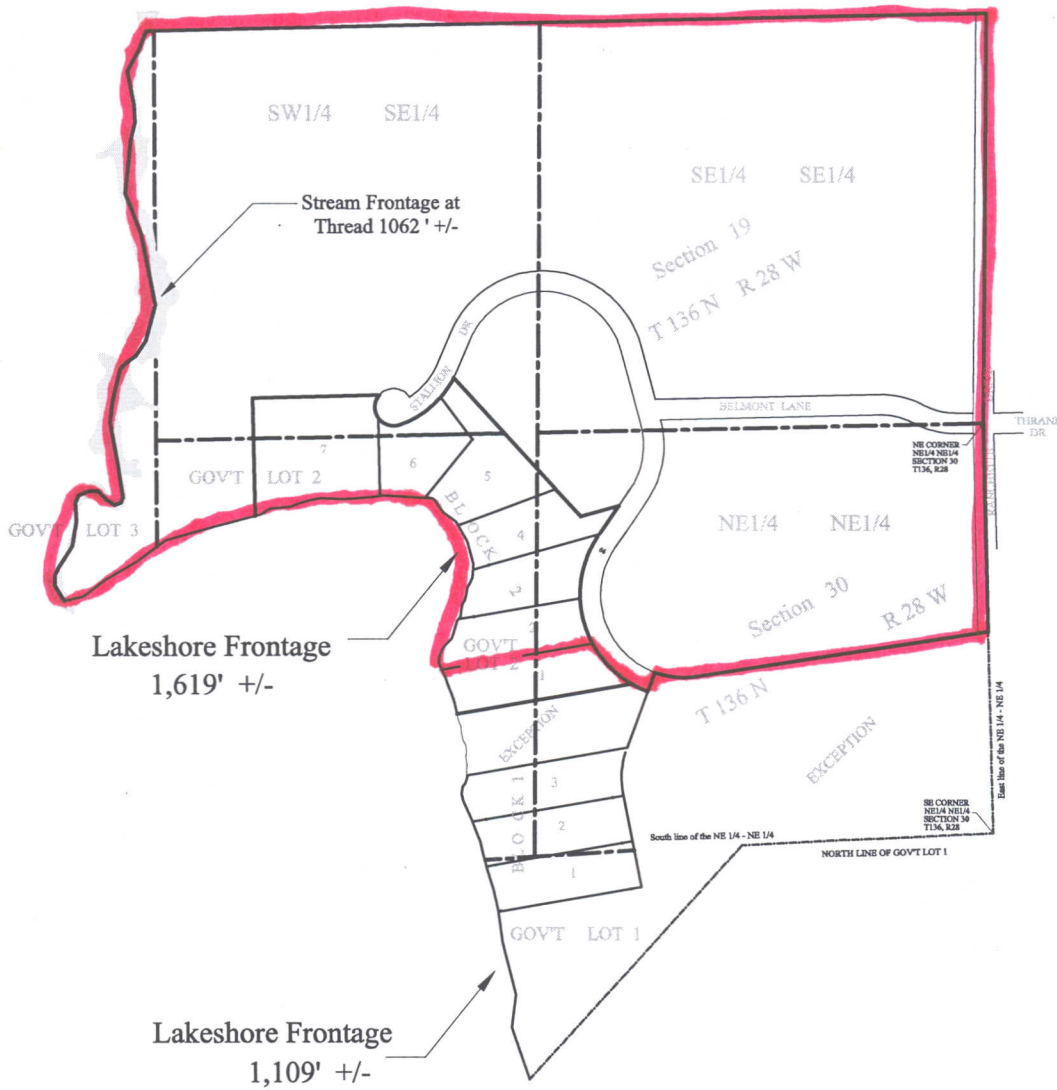
Project Manager Name: Robert McGillivray

Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund \$ Request: \$490,000

Final Title Holder(s): DNR or County.

#	Parcel Name	(Fee-Title OR Conservation Easement)	County	Estimated # of Acres	Geographical Coordinates		Summary Description	Proposed Final Fee Title Holder	Status
					Latitude	Longitude			
1	Cannon River I WMA/AMA	Fee Title	LeSueur	510	44°20'49N	93°33'31"W	Approximately 510 acres of prairie and wetlands on the headwaters of the Cannon River in Le Sueur County with MCBS mapped areas.	DNR	ACQUIRED with other funding.
2	Upper Cullen Lake AMA	Fee Title	Crow Wing	146	46°34'25"N	94°15'2.8"W	Approximately 146 acres of high biodiversity significance land with over 2700 feet of lakeshore and over 1000 feet of a designated trout stream.	Crow Wing County	Under option to purchase .
3	Cannon River II WMA/AMA	Fee Title	Rice	100-785	44°17'23"N	93°28'53"W	Between 100 and 785 acres of prairie and wetlands on the headwaters of the Cannon River in Rice County with MCBS mapped areas.	DNR	<u>Under option to purchase with funding from another source.</u>
4	Reid Woods SNA	Fee Title	Kandiyohi	650	45°4'19"N	94°54'42"W	Approximately 650 acres of wetlands, prairie and forest on the shores of a chain of shallow lakes in Kandiyohi County containing many SNA quality features.	DNR	Negotiations with landowner underway.
5	Plantagenet Lake AMA	Fee Title	Hubbard	100	47°22'9"N	94°55'25"W	Approximately 100 acres of forest and wetlands on a deep lake in Hubbard County with a designated trout stream and connecting existing public land to the lake.	DNR	Negotiations with landowner underway.

NOTES: Projects are listed in priority order. It is anticipated that this funding will be used on the first two projects.

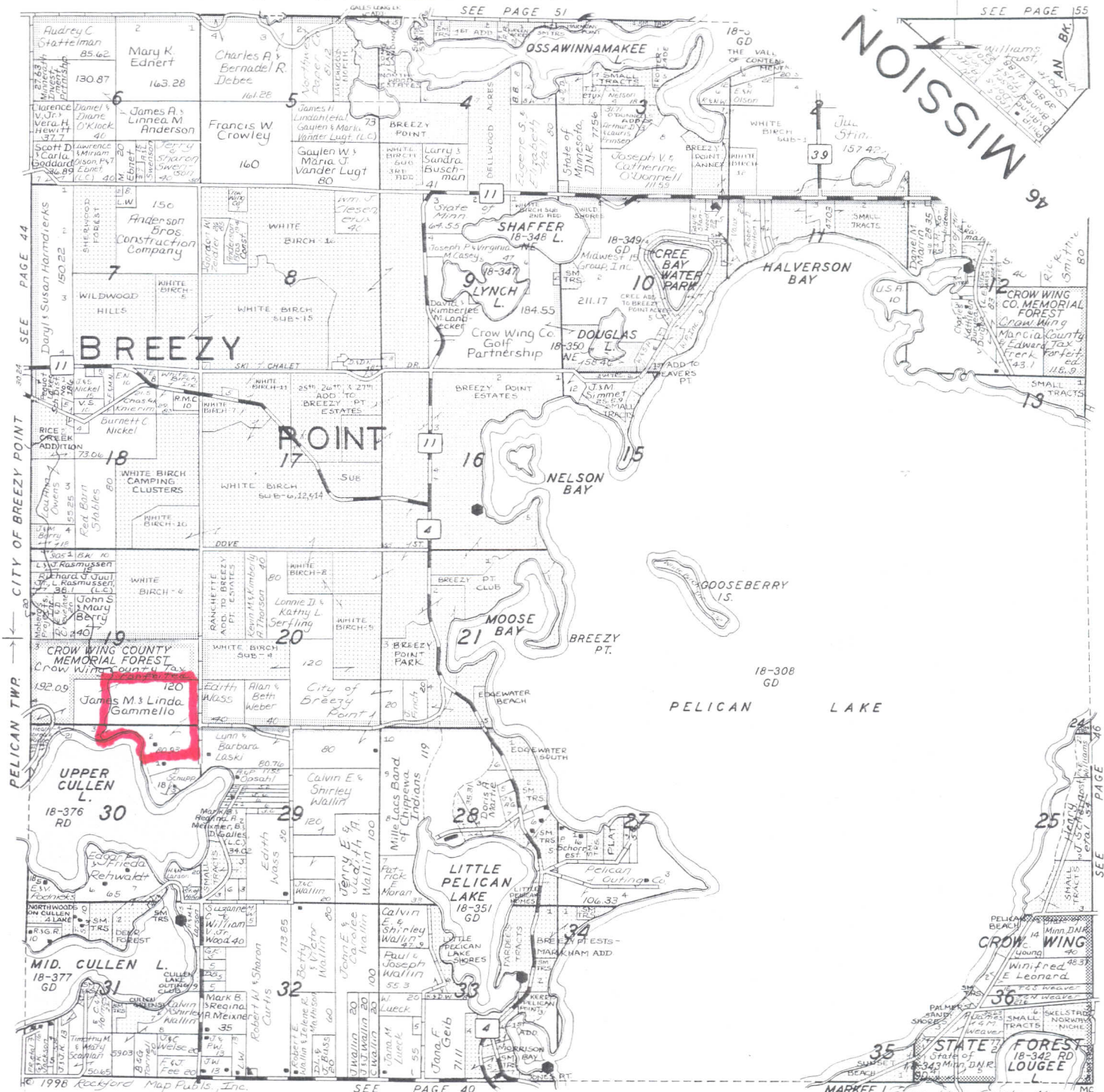


**Total Acreage
North & South Tracts**

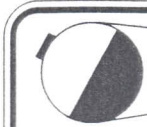
146.4 Acres +/-

North Tract
5247165.3 Sq. Feet
120.5 Acres

South Tract
1129894.2 Sq. Feet
25.9 Acres



© 1998 Rockford Map Publs., Inc. SEE PAGE 40 SEE PAGE 44 SEE PAGE 46



FOR SALE

LAKES & LEISURE

REALTY INC.

- Lakeshore
- Residential
- Commercial
- Farm



Specialists In Lake Homes & Condo's (218) 562-4700

Breezy Point Professional Block HC 2, Box 74, Breezy Point, Minnesota 56472 Internet Address: http://uslink.net/property



For a FREE Market Analysis, Call: (218) 963-4847

Offices in Brainerd & Nisswa