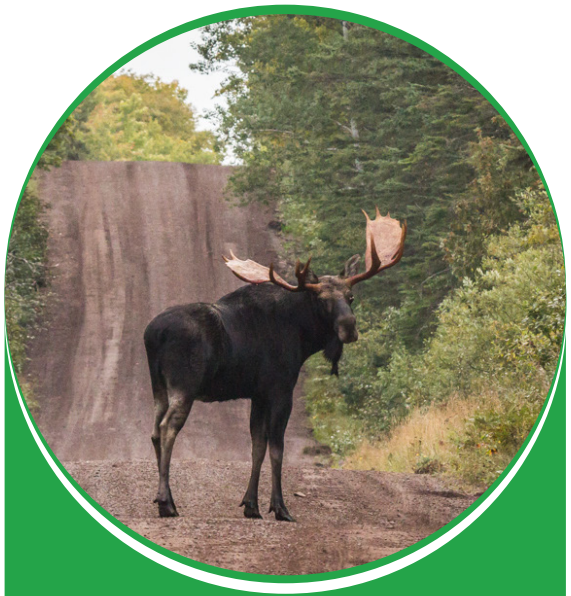
At Pine Bend Bluffs SNA in Dakota County, OHF partners have restored or enhanced over 400 acres.

Photo courtesy of Steve Cronin for Friends of the Mississippi River



Moose have returned in greater numbers after habitat restoration completed at the Moose Habitat Collaborative, Cook County.

Photo courtesy of Thomas Spence

Visitors explore Cannon River Turtle Preserve SNA, protected through Cannon River Watershed programs.
Photo courtesy of Trust for Public Land; Andy Richter

Monarch at protected habitat added to Lac Qui Parle WMA through Shallow Lakes & Wetlands Program.
Photo courtesy of Ducks Unlimited

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

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> *...restore, protect, and enhance Minnesota's wetlands, prairies, forests, and habitat for fish, game, and wildlife...*

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

www.lsohc.mn.gov

About the LSOHC

In 2008, Minnesota voters passed the Clean Water, Land, and Legacy Amendment to the state constitution, establishing four funds, including the Outdoor Heritage Fund (OHF). This authorized a 3/8th of one percent sales tax increase. The OHF receives one-third of the total funds to provide grants to agencies, government entities like cities and counties, and non-profits to complete conservation-oriented projects.

Each year, sales tax receipts generate approximately $150 million for projects seeking to permanently protect, restore, and enhance land and aquatic habitats for wildlife in Minnesota.

The Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council (LSOHC) makes recommendations to the legislature each year on how to allocate dollars from the Outdoor Heritage Fund (OHF). All the recommendations must be directly related to: "restoration, protection, and enhancement of wetlands, prairies, forests, and habitat for fish, game, and wildlife, and to prevent forest fragmentation."

Programs seeking greater than $500,000 in funding apply directly to the LSOHC.

The Council-funded Conservation Partners Legacy Grant Program, administered by MN DNR, funds proposals between $5,000 and $500,000.

OHF Accomplishments to Date

Restored, Protected, or Enhanced:

911,162 Acres of Prairie

124,470 Acres of Habitat

262,924 Acres of Wetlands

456,907 Acres of Forest

Scan to visit the LSOHC Website

How Programs Receive Funding

- Organizations submit a proposal while the Call for Funding is open, between April and May of each year.
- The Council hears each proposal in late summer and decides which proposals to recommend for funding.
- Each proposal that has been funded submits an accomplishment plan which describes the work they will do.

Council staff are available to assist organizations in applying for funding.

For help with proposals and projects, visit *lsohc.mn.gov* for staff contacts.

The shoreline at Whiskey Creek has been protected and channels restored as part of a partnership program between BWSR and the Buffalo-Red River Watershed District.

Photo courtesy of MN BWSR