

Protecting Sensitive Shoreland Habitats In North Central Minnesota

Project ID: H-06

A collaborative project of:

• Leech Lake Area Watershed Foundation

• Minnesota Land Trust

• Aitkin, Crow Wing, and Cass Counties

• Local lake associations

To protect critical fish and wildlife habitat on key recreational lakes threatened by increasing shoreland development.

What is this proposal to L-SOHC about?

This request for \$2.06 million will help protect sensitive shorelands in the heart of Minnesota's premier lake country to insure continued fishing, hunting, and other recreational opportunities; economic sustainability for a region dependent on tourism; and a legacy for future generations to enjoy. It will leverage \$8 to \$10 million in donated property value from conservation-minded Minnesotans.

What will be accomplished?

- Complete 20-25 conservation easement projects
- Protect 50,000 + feet of critical shoreline habitat
- Preserve 1,200 acres+ of northern forest habitat
- Allow public access where feasible and appropriate
- Ensure perpetual monitoring and enforcement
- Form lasting partnerships for conservation

How will this support the State's goals?

This program reflects goals of L-SOHC, Aquatic Management Area Plan, Duck Plan, Wildlife Conservation Strategy, County Water Plans, and many others. It prioritizes protecting high-quality fish habitat, maintains wooded shoreline key to waterfowl production and other game and non-game species, and helps to protect wildlife species of greatest conservation need.



For more information call: 218-675-5773
or visit leechlakewatershed.org or www.mnland.org