**NRE FUNDING APPLICATION**

**Red River Basin Flood Damage Reduction Work Group**

***Project Sponsors:*** *Projects developed per the Red River Basin Mediation Agreement that include natural resource enhancements (NREs) may be eligible for additional funding from the State’s Flood Hazard Mitigation program. If you believe your project may be eligible, please submit this form to the FDRWG for review. Also submit an updated* ***Project Information Form*** *(Part 1 and/or Part 2, as applicable).*

***NRE Definition:*** *“An activity that improves habitat conditions on the landscape so that appropriate natural resource features of sufficient quality are present to sustain plant and animal communities for the long-term.” See FDRWG Technical Paper 14 for further explanation and tools for developing NREs.*

***Documentation****: Effective documentation will improve the ability of the NRE Evaluation Panel to accurately rate the project’s outcomes for natural resources. Therefore,* ***information provided in this application should be supported with technical references and/or field data.*** *If providing supplemental information as an attachment,* ***please indicate the exact pages of interest****, in your responses to the questions on this form.*

*The order of questions on this form does not imply priorities among the questions asked or the information submitted.*

*Note: Boxes on this form can be expanded by pulling down the lower borders. Please limit responses to a maximum of 250 words. Supplemental information can be attached if needed.*

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| **Project Name:** |  | | |
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| **Sponsor/Applicant:** |  | | |
|  |  | | |
| **Contact Person:** |  | **Date:** |  |

**Which habitat categories will be enhanced by this project?** *(Source: TP 14. Check all boxes that apply)*

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| Wetlands and shallow lakes  Grassland  Brushland  Woodland  Streams/watercourses |

*If the project will enhance* ***more than one type of habitat*** *from the list above, the responses throughout this form should itemize the expected outcomes for* ***each*** *habitat type.*

**What specific features of the project will produce or support the planned natural resource enhancements? How exactly will they produce NRE outcomes?** *Information may be copied from the Project Information Form or expanded with further detail. The applicant may also list studies, reports or other information.*

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**What operational actions will produce or support the planned natural resource outcomes? How exactly will they produce NRE outcomes?****Is there an adaptive component that provides for adjusting the operations if the expected outcomes are not achieved?**

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**Is there a monitoring plan or agreement that will enable NRE outcomes to be measured over time?** *If so, explain.*

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**Are there any plant or animal species that are listed as Species in Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN), whose habitat will be enhanced? (** See Appendix C of *Minnesota’s Wildlife Action Plan 2015 – 2025*.)*If so, list them here. Otherwise enter NA or Unknown.*

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**CRITERIA QUESTIONS:**

**Functional Lift** **– What is the expected magnitude of improvement provided by the project?** *Provide appropriate metrics depending on the types of habitats and effects involved.*

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**Extent of Benefits** – **How extensive is the geographic area that will receive measurable improvements in natural resource outcomes?** *On-site only? Within a particular watershed? Red River Basin or larger area?*

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**Timing of Benefits (1)** – **How frequently will the intended benefits be produced?** *Every year or only in some years? Throughout the year, or only in select seasons?*

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**Timing of Benefits (2) – How long will the improved natural resource outcomes last?** *10 years? 50 years? Will recurring actions and funding be needed to continue producing the outcomes?*

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**Probability of Achieving Predicted Outcomes** – **Given the proposed project features and O&M commitments, how probable is it that the predicted natural resource outcomes will materialize? What other factors influence the probability of achieving the outcomes?**

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**Consistency with applicable local, regional, or State-wide plans and goals** – **How well does the project and its objectives align with plans and goals identified in other planning documents such as state agency plans for specific resources, the watershed district’s plan, etc.?**

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**Significance in this location** – **How important are the natural resource outcomes at this location?** *If they occurred at a different location in the Red River Basin or State, would they be more valuable or less valuable?*

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**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

***Technical documentation*** *that supports the NRE information submitted in this application (E.g. bibliographic citations; meeting notes summarizing input from natural resources specialists; special studies undertaken while planning this project; web site links; etc.)*

***Project-specific data on NREs****, if applicable, and if not already summarized in the technical documentation listed above. For example, this could include field data collected while the project was being planned.*

*Updated* ***Project Information Form*** *(Part 1 or Parts 1 and 2, as appropriate) and related attachments as follows:*

***Location map(s)*** *displaying the project’s location within the county(ies) where it’s located, and the nearest town, townships or other prominent landmarks.*

***Site plan*** *(figure) showing primary project features and relation to nearby roads and water bodies.*

***Benefitted areas map(s)*** *displaying the specific areas/features where this project will enhance natural resources.*

***Environmental review documentation*** *if applicable (e.g. EAW, EA, EIS, ROD or the applicable documentation indicating that these are not needed)*

***Operating plan*** *or agreement if applicable.*

***Monitoring plan*** *or agreement if applicable.*