

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2307

March 20, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
House Committee on Appropriations
H-307 The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Committee on Appropriations
H-307 The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Wild Rice Corridor Habitat Restoration Program in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Wild Rice Watershed District, located at 11 5th Avenue East, Ada, MN 56510.

The funding would be used to implement improvements to the Lower Wild Rice Corridor Habitat Restoration Program, which has a long-term purpose to restore a natural corridor area along the Lower Reach of the Wild Rice River. Funding would assist in the restoration of degraded ecosystems through the modification of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' (USACE) project area.

The project is a sound use of taxpayer funds because investing taxpayer dollars in water infrastructure is essential for wildlife health, environmental protection, and water quality. The Lower Wild Rice Corridor Habitat Restoration Program has a long-term purpose to restore a natural corridor area along the Lower Reach of the Wild Rice River. This area was previously straightened by the USACE. This project will reduce bank erosion and sedimentation by stabilizing the river channel which will substantially help meet water quality standards.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding is provided for purposes authorized by Section 1135 of the USACE Program.

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,



Michelle Fischbach
Member of Congress