



Lake Superior Zoo - American Eagle Exhibit

Grant #164997 PO#300-8901

Project supported by the Legacy Amendment's
Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund FY 2021

**Report to the Minnesota Governor and
the Minnesota State Legislature**
Fiscal Year 2021

Submitted by
Haley Cope, Chief Executive Officer
Lake Superior Zoological Society

January 15, 2022



Our mission is to provide
close-up animal experiences that
inspire connections to wildlife and
action towards conservation in
our region and around the world.

Introduction

In 2008, the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment to the Minnesota Constitution, called the “Legacy Amendment,” was approved by Minnesota voters to: protect drinking water sources; to protect, enhance, and restore wetlands, prairies, forests, and fish, game, and wildlife habitat; to preserve arts and cultural heritage; to support parks and trails; and to protect, enhance, and restore lakes, rivers, streams, and groundwater. The Legacy Amendment increased the state sales tax by three-eighths of one percent from July 1, 2009, through 2034. This sales tax revenue is distributed into the Legacy Amendment’s four funds as follows: 19.75 percent to the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund, 33 percent to the Clean Water Fund, 33 percent to the Outdoor Heritage Fund, and 14.25 percent to the Parks and Trails Fund. The Lake Superior Zoological Society (Society) has received funding for several programs and projects from the Legacy Amendment’s Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund (ACHF). The ACHF supports arts, arts education and arts access, and preserves Minnesota’s history and cultural heritage.¹

Appropriations, FY 2020 and FY 2021

For the State of Minnesota’s Fiscal Year (FY)² 2020-2021 biennium³ a total of \$150,000 was appropriated to the Society from the Legacy Amendment’s ACHF. Pursuant to 2017 Minnesota Session Laws, 2019 Special Session, Chapter 2, Article 4, Section 2, Subd. 6, “\$75,000 each year is to develop educational exhibits and programs.” According to the “Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund Grant Agreement for the Lake Superior Zoological Society Project” (Contract #164997 PO #300-8907) between the Society and the Minnesota Department of Administration, effective July 1, 2019:

Under the provisions contained in the aforementioned 2019 Minnesota Session Laws, the State of Minnesota has allocated \$75,000 in fiscal year 2020 and \$75,000 in fiscal year 2021, less 2% and 3% respectively, for the State Entity’s administrative costs, for a total of \$146,250, which is given to the Grant Recipient as a grant for use of this project.

Payments. Payments shall terminate as of June 30, 2021, even if all of the Grant has not been disbursed by such date (p.3).

¹ More information about the Legacy Amendment is available on the Internet at <http://www.legacy.leg.mn/>.

² The Minnesota state budget fiscal year (FY) begins on July 1 and ends on June 30 of the following year and is designated by the year in which it ends. Thus, FY 2021 begins July 1, 2020, and ends June 30, 2021.

³ The Minnesota state budget operates on a biennium, which is a budget cycle covering two fiscal years. A biennium begins on July 1 of odd-numbered years. Thus, the FY 2020-2021 biennium begins July 1, 2020, and ends June 30, 2021.

Reporting

As a recipient of funds from the ACHF, the Society must abide by certain reporting requirements as stated in Minnesota Statutes § 3.303, Subd. 10, and § 129D.17 Subd. 2 (d).⁴ According to Minnesota Statute 129D.17, Subdivision 2(d):

A state agency or other recipient of a direct appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund must compile and submit all information for funded projects or programs, including the proposed measurable outcomes and all other items required under section 3.303, subdivision 10, to the Legislative Coordinating Commission as soon as practicable or by January 15 of the applicable fiscal year, whichever comes first. The Legislative Coordinating Commission must post submitted information on the Web site required under section 3.303, subdivision 10, as soon as it becomes available.

The report of projects funded with ACHF appropriations must contain the following information:

1. The name of the project and project description;
2. The name, telephone number, members of the board or equivalent governing body, and e-mail address of the funding recipient and, when applicable, the Web site address where the public can directly access detailed information on the recipient's receipt and use of money for the project;
3. The amount and source of funding, including the fiscal year of the appropriation;
4. The amount and source of any additional funding or leverage;
5. The duration of the projects;
6. The number of full-time equivalents funded under the project;
7. The direct expenses and administration costs of the project;
8. Actual measured outcomes and evaluation of projects as required by statute; and
9. Specific information for each program produced and broadcast, including the cost of production, the number of stations broadcasting the program, estimated number of listeners, and other related measures. If the programs produced include educational material, the noncommercial radio station must report on these efforts.

The report must be submitted by January 15 to the Minnesota Department of Administration, the Legislative Coordinating Commission, and the chairs and ranking minority members of the Senate and House of Representatives committees and divisions having jurisdiction over Arts and Cultural Heritage policy and finance.

Reporting Period

This document covers the Fiscal Year 2021 reporting period of July 1, 2020, to June 30, 2021.

⁴ Full text of these statutes is available on the Internet: 3.303, Subd. 10 <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=3.303>, and 129D.17 Subd. 2 (d) <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=129D.17>.

Project Oversight and Contact Information

Oversight for these projects is the responsibility of the Lake Superior Zoological Society's Board of Directors, Chief Executive Officer, and key senior staff. Questions about these projects may be directed to:

Haley Cope
Chief Executive Officer
Lake Superior Zoo
7210 Fremont Street
Duluth, MN 55807
P: (218) 730-4500, ext. 203

F: (218) 723-3750
Email: hcope@lszoo.org
Website: www.LSZooDuluth.org

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Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund Program Officer

Following is the name and contact information of the State of Minnesota's program officer for the Society's Legacy Amendment's ACHF funds.

Lul Osman
Grants Specialist Intermediate
Office of Grants Management
MN Department of Administration
P: 651-201-2503
F: 651-282-5333
Email: lul.osman@state.mn.us

PROJECT REPORT

The Lake Superior Zoo was legislatively named to receive an appropriation from the Fiscal Year (FY) 2020/21 Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund (ACHF). Per 2019 Minnesota Laws, Regular Session, Chapter 91, Article 4, Section 2, Subd. 6(j) Lake Superior Zoo “\$75,000 each year to develop educational exhibits and programs.”⁵

Zoo Education Exhibits project \$75,000 FY21 Bald Eagle Exhibit

Project Description

The construction of a new educational habitat for two Bald Eagles.

Amount and Fiscal Year of Legacy ACHF Funding

<u>Source</u>	<u>Amount</u>
FY 2021	\$75,000
Total	\$75,000
Appropriation less Admin Fees	\$72,750*

Project Duration: July 1, 2020, to June 30, 2022. (The project was extended due to COVID to June 30, 2022.)

Full-time Equivalent Positions Funded: 0.00

Direct Expenses: \$73,376.77 (No administration costs incurred)

⁵ <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/laws/2019/1/Session+Law/Chapter/2/>

Measured Outcomes and Evaluation

Goal: To include an engaging display/native habitat focused on the American (Bald) Eagle and its natural challenges and opportunities in the wild. We want to increase awareness of conservation issues relative to Minnesota native animals through a new exhibit, as well as provide an opportunity to understand how they fit within our various regions.

Progress: The Bald Eagle exhibit has been constructed with the remaining media advertising and educational signage work ongoing through the extended project timeline to June 30, 2022, due to COVID (as per legislation). Therefore, the Lake Superior Zoo has achieved the outcome of constructing a new and engaging display focused on the Bald Eagle. Continued work of bringing awareness to the exhibit, conservation issue relative to Minnesota native wildlife, and educational opportunities will be completed in the coming months prior to June 30, 2022.

The Lake Superior Zoo completed the construction of the habitat through contracting with Gardner Builders with guest walkways being repaired by Asphalt of Duluth. Zoo staff then completed the interior exhibit work by purchasing necessary supplies to ensure the habitat meets AZA standards for Bald Eagle exhibits and animal care. One of the highlights of the habitat is a solar powered pool which in the summer allows the resident Bald Eagles, Buddy and Liberty, to engage in natural behaviors such as fishing, which guests can see up close. In accordance with legislation passed extending the grant deadline for FY21, the Zoo has a remaining balance to spend on media and supplies and will do so by June 30, 2022.

The FY21 grant appropriation encompassed the continued education, interpretation of, and housing for two rescued Bald Eagles. Buddy and Liberty were injured in the wild and could no longer survive on their own. The FY21 grant appropriation has given us the ability to continue to provide a forever home to these birds, as well as connect guests with conservation topics and foster empathy for wildlife and nature.

Overall, the FY21 project has been a success by meeting goals and continuing to achieve desired outcomes. We look forward to continuing to bring awareness to the Bald Eagle species and conservation topics in the future. The Lake Superior Zoo wishes to express their gratitude to the Legislative Coordinating Commission, the Senate Environment and Natural Resources Policy and Legacy Finance Committee, the House Legacy Funding Finance Committee, and the Department of Administration for their support in this project.

