



Lake Superior Zoo - Gray Wolf Exhibit Enhancements

Grant #164997 PO#300-8901

Project supported by the Legacy Amendment's
Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund FY 2020

Report to the Minnesota Governor and the Minnesota State Legislature Fiscal Year 2020

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

January 15, 2021



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 2019 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 #300-8901) 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 3% each FY for the State Entity’s administration costs, for a total of \$145,500, which is given to the Grant Recipient as a grant for use of this project.

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 2020 begins July 1, 2019 and ends June 30, 2020.

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 2019-2020 biennium begins July 1, 2019 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 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 2020 reporting period of July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020.

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, Special Session, Chapter 2, Article 4, Section 2, Subd. 6 Lake Superior Zoo “\$75,000 each year to develop educational exhibits and programs.”⁵

Zoo Education Exhibits project \$75,000 FY20 – Lake Superior Zoo Gray Wolf Exhibit Enhancements

Project Description

To repair and improve the existing North American gray wolf exhibit at the Lake Superior Zoo, accompanied by the development of educational and interpretive components and materials.

Amount and Fiscal Year of Legacy ACHF Funding

Source	Amount
FY 2020	\$75,000
Total	\$75,000
Appropriation less Administrative Fees	\$72,500

Project Duration: July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2021.⁶

Full-time Equivalent Positions Funded: None

Direct Expenses to Date: \$70,956.16

⁵ Full text of this legislation is available at https://www.revisor.mn.gov/laws/2019/1/Session+Law/Chapter/2/?keyword_type=exact&keyword=Lake+Superior+Zoo

⁶ Grant extension legislation Section 2, First Special Session, Chapter 2, Article 4, Section 2, subd 2 is available at <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/laws/2019/1/Session+Law/Chapter/2/>

Measured Outcomes and Evaluation

Goal: To create an engaging and renovated exhibit featuring North American gray wolf within its native habitat related to its natural challenges and opportunities. The exhibit will increase awareness of conservation issues the gray wolf faces, as well as provide an opportunity to understand how the wolf fits within our various regions. This exhibit will meet the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) standards and random visitor evaluations will continue.

Progress: The Lake Superior Zoo has achieved the proposed and stated measurable outcomes of the FY20 appropriation of this grant, which was to develop an engaging exhibit through working with vendor(s) to improve habitat enclosures, repairing damaged sections of fencing and guest walkways, and monitoring and completing internal habitat features.

The Lake Superior Zoo contracted with Keller Fencing to repair the damaged fencing around the existing exhibit located on the hillside directly across from Kingsbury Creek within the zoo's perimeter. Zoo staff then completed the interior exhibit work by purchasing the necessary supplies to ensure the habitat met AZA standards for North American gray wolf exhibits. In accordance with legislation passed extending the grant deadline for FY20, the Zoo has a remaining balance to spend on supplies and will do so by June 30, 2021.

The FY20 grant appropriation encompassed revitalization of an existing gray wolf exhibit to provide engaging interpretation relative to the species and its conservation.

The exhibit is now home to three gray wolves, Sierra, Tehama, and Shasta, that arrived at the Lake Superior Zoo in November. Current feedback from visitors has been overwhelmingly positive and the Zoo will continue to monitor random guests for responses to the improved habitat as it relates to education and engagement.

Overall, the North American gray wolf exhibit has been a wonderful addition and achieved success through meeting goals and realizing our proposed outcomes. 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.



Lake Superior Zoological Society