



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

5600 American Boulevard West, Suite 990
Bloomington, Minnesota 55437-1458

IN REPLY REFER TO:

FWS/R3/NWRS/

Mr. Eran Sandquist
State Coordinator
Pheasants Forever, Inc.
410 Lincoln Avenue, Box 91
South Haven, Minnesota 55382

Dear Mr. Sandquist:

The purpose of this letter is to confirm our continued support and cooperation on our joint partnership involving Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council (LSOHC) funding for “Accelerating the Waterfowl Production Area Program”.

For your FY2023 grant application, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), commits \$3.1 Million of our Migratory Bird Conservation Funds for the acquisition of both fee and easement lands here in Minnesota. These dollars can be used by Pheasants Forever, Inc. (PF) as “leveraged” federal dollars for this grant application. Service field staff (i.e., Realty and land management staff), will work to identify private landowners willing to sell their lands, or interests in their land, to a conservation organization. Once acquired by PF, grasslands and wetlands on these properties will be restored or enhanced using an array of funding sources and then donated to the Service for inclusion into the National Wildlife Refuge System. Subsequent operation and management of these properties will be the responsibility of the Service.

We appreciate this partnership with Pheasants Forever, Inc. and the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council and look forward to our continued efforts to conserve, restore, and enhance native grassland and wetland habitats in Minnesota for the benefit of wildlife and the enjoyment of the American public. Thank you again for your continued support!

Sincerely,

Suzanne C. Baird
Regional Chief
National Wildlife Refuge System