LVP Mineland Reclamation Grant History
FY 2006-2020

The Iron Range Resources Innovation Grant Program is designed to implement Laurentian Vision Partnership’s mission of “transforming pits and piles into living lakes and landscapes…our legacy for the future.”

**FY06 - Mountain Iron Economic Development Authority: Mesabi Mountain Wind Coalition**
The grant was to identify and develop renewable wind generation across the Iron Range at various mining sites.

- **Grant Amount:** $139,000
- **Total Project:** $389,467
- **Project Contributors:** Minnesota Power, Mountain Iron Economic Development Authority, MNSCU, Cerkvenik, Carrol.

**FY07 - MN Extension Service: Biomass Fiber Production for Energy/Fuel on Mine Land Reclamation at United Taconite**
The project grew switch grass on a tailings basin to provide an alternative source of biomass for the green energy industry.

- **Grant Amount:** $53,531
- **Total Project:** $158,099
- **Project Contributors:** MN Extension Service, United Taconite

**FY08 – MN Department of Natural Resources: Underground Mine Mapping**
The Underground Mine Mapping Project graphically documented the extensive network of subsurface mines across the Iron Range.

- **Grant Amount:** $150,000
- **Total Project:** $300,000
- **Project Contributors:** ArcelorMittal, USS Mintac, Cliffs Natural Resources, MNDOT, St. Louis County

**FY09 - University of Minnesota School of Landscape Architecture: United Taconite Stockpile #1406**
The United Taconite project innovatively shaped and vegetated a surface overburden stockpile adjacent to the heavily traveled Highway 53 corridor.

- **Grant Amount:** $72,150
- **Total Project:** $98,870
- **Project Contributors:** U or M School of Landscape Architecture, Cliffs Natural Resources, MNDNR Lands and Minerals.

March 2020
FY 09 - University of Minnesota School of Landscape Architecture: Keetac Stockpile #43
The project will shape and vegetate a rock stockpile. Rock stockpiles are significantly more challenging to contour and vegetate than overburden stockpiles.

Grant Amount: $51,490
Total Project: $82,440
Project Contributors: U of M School of Landscape Architecture, Cliffs Natural Resources, MNDNR Lands and Minerals.

FY10 - City of Hibbing: Hibbing Taconite: In-Pit Shoreland Development Project
The project will design and build new mine pit lake shoreline, shallow pit lake areas suitable for aquatic life, fish spawning areas, islands and usable upland areas.

Grant Amount: $100,000
Total Project: $107,920

FY 10 - University of Minnesota School of Landscape Architecture: Hibbing Taconite - Stockpiles 4090 and 5012
The project will build, reshape, and vegetate two stockpiles adjacent to Kleffman Road, a busy county road three miles east of Hibbing and one mile north of Kelly Lake.

Grant Amount: $100,000
Total Project: $341,210 (Project totals includes FY 10 and FY 11)
Project Contributors: U of M School of Landscape Architecture, Cliffs Natural Resources, MNDNR Lands and Minerals.

FY 11 – City of Hibbing: Hibbing Taconite – In-Pit Shoreland Development Project Phase II – Redevelopment through Reclamation Site Selection Project
The grant is for two separate projects. One involves the implementation of the vegetation plan through the installation of vegetation materials on the In-Pit Shoreland site. The second involves identifying in-pit and stockpile mining sites for reclamation and near-term development across the Iron Range.

Grant Amount: $99,200
Total Project: $164,200

March 2020
**FY 11 - University of Minnesota School of Landscape Architecture: Hibbing Taconite Stockpiles 4090 and 5012 Phase II**
The project involves monitoring, evaluating and recording Phase I of the project. It also includes developing land-shaping templates for use by mining engineers.

Grant Amount: $50,400  
Total Project: $341,210 (Project totals includes FY 10 and FY 11)  
Project Contributors: U of M School of Landscape Architecture, Cliffs Natural Resources, MNDNR Lands and Minerals.

**FY 11 - University of Minnesota School of Landscape Architecture: Northshore Mining: Peter Mitchell pit Master Landscape Concept Plan. Phase I**
The master plan for Northshore Mining's Peter Mitchell Mine for future uses and multiple landscape opportunities for the mine once closed, including vegetation enhancement, littoral zones, islands, wetlands, and shoreland.

Grant Amount: $100,400  
Total Project: $178,560  
Project Contributors: U of M School of Landscape Architecture, City of Babbitt, Cliffs Natural Resources, MNDNR Lands and Minerals.

**FY12 - City of Hibbing: Redevelop a Rock Stockpile into an International Mountain Bike Association Designed Mountain Bike Park. (WITHDRAWN)**
The project will transform a 116 acre parcel of mining disturbed land into a city mountain bike park that will both serve community residents and act as a tourist destination.

Grant Amount: $250,000  
Total Project: $275,000  
Project Contributors: City of Hibbing, Cliffs Natural Resources, International Mountain Bike Association (IMBA), Barr Engineering, Architectural Resources, Inc.,

**FY 13 - University of Minnesota School of Landscape Architecture: Northshore Mining: Peter Mitchell pit Master Landscape Concept Plan Phase II**
The project will use the concepts from Phase I and produce the preferred working schematic plans for implementation by mine engineers.

Grant Amount: $75,000  
Total Project: $254,100  
Project Contributors: U of M School of Landscape Architecture, City of Babbitt, Cliffs Natural Resources, MNDNR Lands and Minerals.
**FY 13 – East Range Joint Powers Board – Sulfate Reducing Bioreactor**
The project is to conduct an on-site field test to evaluate whether a biological sulfate reduction system could be designed and deployed to address the volume of sulfate reduction deeded at an economically viable cost.

Grant Amount: $125,000  
Total Project: $369,500  
Project Contributors: East Joint Powers Board, Clearwater Layline LLC, Cliffs Natural Resources, PolyMet Mining, NRRI, Lemna Technologies, Premier Plastics, Apex Engineering

**FY 14 – East Range Joint Powers Board – Sulfate Reducing Bioreactor Phase II**
The project is to conduct continued field testing of the floating sulfate reducing bioreactor to prove the performance and scalability of this concept for large scale sulfate reduction in mining impaired waters.

Grant Amount: $70,000  
Total Project: $390,000  
Project Contributors: East Joint Powers Board, NRRI, PolyMet Mining, Cliffs Natural Resources, Clearwater Layline LLC.

**FY 14 – City of Eveleth – United Taconite Spruce Stockpile and Truck Shop Embankment**
This is for two separate mineland reclamation projects at the Cliffs Natural Resources Taconite Mine in Eveleth, MN. The Spruce Surface Stockpile project would entail preparing a grading plan that naturally contours the stockpile as well as preparation of a planting plan that enhances the appearance of the stockpile. The Truck Shop Embankment project is for a planting design that will create a more natural, pleasing landscape that will screen some of the mining operations from the nearby neighborhood.

Grant Amount: $83,280  
Total Project: $158,285  
Project Contributors: City of Eveleth, United Taconite, MnDNR Mineland Reclamation, LVP, Prairie Restorations, LLC, Architectural Resources

**FY 15 – City of Silver Bay – Black Beach Public Beach Area**
The project is to prepare 31.6 acres of beach and park area for public use and to delineate boundary limits. The funding is used to install fencing, signage, picnic site areas, public lavatory vaults, campground planning, parking and pathway areas.

Grant Amount: $125,000  
Total Project: $1,143,100  
Project Contributors: City of Silver Bay, Northshore Mining Company, MN Department of Natural Resources

March 2020
FY 15 – City of Hibbing – Scram Tailings Mineland Reclamation Study
This project is a collaboration between SEH and Mining Resources, LLC to develop an innovative research program to investigate and determine successful reclamation strategies to reclaim scram mining tailings.

Grant Amount: $60,000
Total Project: $76,200
Project Contributors: Mining Resources, LLC, City of Hibbing, Prairie Restorations Inc., SEH

FY 17 – City of Buhl – Judson Mine Recreation Project
The project will transform mine lands into living recreational landscapes. The project entails development of low maintenance, all-season, multi-use recreational facilities. Plans include a championship caliber 18-hole disc golf course, hiking trails, cross country and snowshoeing trails, and mountain biking opportunities adjacent to the Mesabi Trail.

Grant Amount: $38,250
Total Project: $76,500
Project Contributors: City of Buhl, MN Department of Corrections, Sentence to Service Program, Local Logger/Woodworker, Hibbing Disc Golf Association, Construction/Concrete Contractors, Mining Company, Airborn Disc Golf

FY 17 – City of Virginia – UTAC Barrier Berm
The project is for the design and installation of two barrier berms, approximately 16 acres total, along the abandoned TH Hwy 53 corridor. United Taconite is planning to construct the berms to serve as a barrier between the mine and community to provide noise relief and create a visually appealing landscape along the new TH Hwy 53. The berms will be near the community of Midway and also at the intersection of Virginia’s 2nd Avenue entrance.

Grant Amount: $112,250
Total Project: $353,725
Project Contributors: United Taconite LLC, City of Virginia, RGGS, Short Elliott Hendrickson Inc. (SEH), Prairie Restorations, Inc. (PRI), Minnesota Department of Natural Resources – Division of Lands & Minerals

FY 18 – Iron Range Tourism Bureau – Bridge View Park
This project will result in a “Bridge View” pocket park along the Mesabi Trail in Virginia overlooking Rouchleau mine pit. It will be one of the few places to view the new Highway 53 bridge in its entirety.

Grant Amount: $14,500
Total Project: $46,000
Project Contributors: Iron Range Tourism Bureau, ReVive Virginia, Lake and St. Louis County Regional Railroad Authority (Mesabi Trail), City of Virginia

March 2020
**FY 18 – City of Chisholm – Planning and Design for the Redhead Mountain Bike Park**
The Redhead Mountain Bike Park project will transform an inactive iron mine pit and surrounding property covering approximately 650 or more acres near Chisholm into a municipally sanctioned mountain bike park that will both serve community residents and act as tourist destination.

Grant Amount: $28,900  
Total Project: $376,765  
Project Contributors: City of Chisholm, St. Louis County Land Department, Mesabi Trail/St. Louis and Lake County Regional Rail Authority, Minnesota Discovery Center, Barr Engineering Company, Department of Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation, Professional Trail Design-Build Contractor, Schoenbauer Consulting, LLC, Chisholm Community Foundation, Independent Contractor, Iron Range Off-Road Cyclists (IROC), Hibbing Community College

**FY 18 – City of Cohasset – Tioga Mountain Bike Park and Recreational Area**
This grant will leverage other funding to construct Mt. biking trails, improvements to parking, a swimming beach, fishing pier, signage, development of a trailhead, a day use area, and bike repair station.

Grant Amount: $25,000  
Total Project: $1,250,000  

**FY 18 – City of Hibbing – Tails Reclamation Study, Phase II – Year 3 Extension**
This grant gives the opportunity to complete a final year of data collection for monitoring of native vegetation. This third year of data collection and monitoring would model the state’s minimum vegetation establishment standards for achieving 90 percent vegetative cover within three (3) years of a site’s facility, infrastructure, surface areas, or other mine site elements that are no longer scheduled to be disturbed or used in a way that would disrupt vegetation establishment.

Grant Amount: $10,375.00  
Total Project: $12,375.00  
Project Contributors: Mining Resources

March 2020
**FY 18 – City of Nashwauk – Nashwauk Disc Golf**
This grant will pay for the design and installation of an 18-hole disc golf course in the City of Nashwauk, located on City land overlooking the Larue Mine Pit.

Grant Amount: $13,475.00  
Total Project: $23,950.00  
Project Contributors: Nashwauk, various sponsorships

**FY 18 – Chisholm Beautification Association – Bruce Mine Park**
This grant will pay for the design and first phase of development the “Bruce Mine Park” in Chisholm. It is a memorial park to recognize the sacrifice, dedication and loyalty to the United States by the thousands of immigrant miners.

Grant Amount: $99,700.00  
Total Project: $108,325.00  
Project Contributors: Chisholm Community Foundation, Gornick Family Fund, Bruce Quick

**FY 18 – City of Chisholm – Chisholm Red Head Mountain Bike Trail**
This project will transform an inactive iron mine pit and surrounding property covering approximately 650 or more acres near Chisholm into a municipally sanctioned mountain bike park that will both serve community residents and act as a tourist destination. The project will be conducted in several independent phases. Each phase of the project will result in a complete, usable park asset for the community and region.

Grant Amount: $1,777,000.00  
Total Project: $1,777,000.00

**FY 18 – City of Cohasset – Tioga Recreation Area Trail Infrastructure**
This grant is for the construction of a 30-mile mountain bike trail system. It consists of purpose-built, natural surface singletrack mountain bike trails, a trailhead, and interactive signage for multiple human powered uses.

Grant Amount: $625,000.00  
Total Project: $2,300,000.00  
Project Contributors: Multiple contributors

**FY 19 – City of Hibbing – Hibbing Mine View Phase II**
This grant will pay for phase II of the relocation of the Hibbing Mine View. This will consist of foundation and infrastructure costs, electrical and solar power along with a ramp to the buildings.

Grant Amount: $150,000.00  
Total Project: $1,190,197.00  
Project Contributors: Cleveland Cliffs, The City of Hibbing, Komatsu Mining Corporation
**FY 19 – City of Mountain Iron – Northern Sun Solar Project Phase I**
This grant will utilize a mine tailings basin in the City of Mountain Iron. A renewable energy solar development will be constructed along with a walking trail for education purposes. This grant will pay for the site design, engineering and planning for the project.

Grant Amount: $50,000.00  
Total Project: $495,255.00  
Project Contributors: City of Mountain Iron

**FY 20 – City of Hibbing – 5001 Stockpile Tree Enhancement**
This grant will pay for long term restoration of vegetation at Hibbing Taconite Company’s 501 stockpile. This project is located with visibility from Country Road 5 and Trunk Highway 169. This project creates an opportunity to provide an aesthetically pleasing restoration to the community, while protecting Hibbing Taconite’s mining operation.

Grant Amount: $32,000.00  
Total Project: $732,695.00  
Project Contributors: Cleveland Cliffs

**FY 20 – City of Virginia – Tree Planting Barrier Berm Project**
This grant will enhance the native vegetation restoration for the barrier berms by incorporating a mixture of long-lived, conifer seedings native to the region.

Grant Amount: $85,000.00  
Total Project: $446,505.00  
Project Contributors: Cleveland Cliffs, City of Virginia

**FY 20 – City of Eveleth – Leonidas Overlook**
This grant will redevelop the Overlook. This will include a picnic area and trail improvements, solar lighting, panoramic and interpretive signage, parking area, ADA and way-finding improvements.

Grant Amount: $50,000.00  
Total Project: $100,000.00  
Project Contributors: City of Eveleth

**FY 20 – City of Ely – Ely Pioneer Mine Retaining Wall Construction Design**
This grant will fund the detailed construction design work to repair a critical retaining wall at Ely’s Historic Pioneer Mine site.

Grant Amount: $12,000.00  
Total Project: $24,000.00  
Project Contributors: Minnesota Historical Society Arts and Heritage Fund

March 2020
**FY 20 – City of Hibbing – North Hibbing Disc Golf Relocation**
This grant will fund construction to rebuild the disc golf course due to the expansion of Hibbing Taconite. The project will consist of re-establishing 13 additional holes to compliment the remaining original 5.

Grant Amount: $65,000.00  
Total Project: $130,000.00  
Project Contributors: City of Hibbing

**FY 20 – Great Scott Township – Kinney Pit Recreation Area Improvements**
This grant will provide funds to improve the Kinney Pit Recreation Area. The project will include purchasing and installing a dock at the boat landing, clearing some brush and filling in a former drainage ditch, and adding a gravel walkway.

Grant Amount: $43,250.00  
Total Project: $85,510.00  
Project Contributors: Great Scott Township