

St. Croix County Criteria for Evaluating Riverway Bluffline Mitigation – Proposed Acquisition/Easement Sites

Sites in Proximity to the St. Croix River Bluffline:	Points
• Riverway Overlay Zoning District	5
• Bluffland Corridor (Sphere of Influence from St. Croix River Channel)	1 – 3
• New St. Croix River Crossing Bridge Proximity (Sphere of Influence)	1 – 3
• Feasibility and adequate size of the site for open space or outdoor recreational use: swimming, fishing, boat access, multi-season activities, hiking/biking, hunting	1 – 3
• Water access/frontage St. Croix River	5
• Scenic viewshed St. Croix River	1
• Water access/frontage Apple, Willow rivers, Perch, Bass, Squaw lakes	1
• Scenic viewshed Apple, Willow rivers, Perch, Bass, Squaw lakes	1
• Unique natural scenic, geological, archaeological, historical or endangered features/resources on the site	1 – 5
• Proximity to existing local, county state or federal parks or land	1 – 5
• Additional ways in which the proposed site meets MOU objectives specific to mitigation of damages to St. Croix River bluffline.	1 – 3
• Donation or partial donation of value	1 – 5
• Feasibility the site would be eligible to obtain additional public/private outside grant funding based on percent match	1 – 5
• Joint project/partnership/operation coordinated with towns, other local units of government or state or federal agencies	1 – 5
• Support or partnership from Nonprofit or Non-Government Organizations	1
Goals/objectives/policies identified in County-Adopted documents:	
○ Comprehensive Plan	1
○ Land and Water Management Plan	1
○ Land Information Plan	1
○ Outdoor Recreation Plan	1
○ All Hazards Mitigation Plan	1
○ Strategic Plan	1
• Designation as a Primary Environmental Corridor	1
• Identified in Local Community Outdoor Recreation Plan/Comprehensive Plan	1
Easement Criteria	
• Environmental benefits of acquiring site or acquiring easement	1
• Existing resource problems/concerns/threats that could be addressed and environmental benefits	1
• Improves or preserves water quality	1
Total Possible Points	62

As additional information regarding shorelands and water quality becomes available these criteria may be revised.

Project Review and Approval

The identified criteria will be utilized to evaluate proposed projects and develop recommendations which will be submitted to the St. Croix County Community Development Committee (CDC) for review. The CDC will also receive input from the Growth Management Advisory Team and the WI Department of Natural Resources (WDNR). The CDC will make recommendations on which projects to pursue for grant funding. Once grant funding is determined, the CDC will recommend projects for implementation and funding to the St. Croix County Board of Supervisors. All final decisions regarding which projects will pursue grant funds and be implemented and funded will be made by the St. Croix County Board of Supervisors. The WDNR will approve funding.

Possible Acquisition or Easement Projects:

Acquisition or Easement projects must be with a willing seller and must be kept confidential until negotiations with the property owner/agent have reached a point where the property owner/agent agrees the information can become public. When this point has been reached additional information will be shared regarding possible projects.