Appendix L: Cross-Cutting Goals

As a result of the Issue Identification Panels, there were **five goals** that cut across multiple areas, and didn't fit neatly into one area or another.

During the LCCMR Site Visits, invitation-only group discussions were held with local subject matter experts. These conversations included participants reviewing the following five goals and working together to decide which one was most important for Minnesota to achieve:

1. Water is stored on the land for the mutual benefits to water quality, habitat, and flood mitigation.
2. Models, projections, and management strategies that take into consideration changes in weather patterns and land uses are available at a localized level.
3. Our natural and built communities are resilient to withstand changes in weather patterns, including extreme changes in precipitation.
4. Minnesotans have the information needed to make sound personal decisions that affect our environment and natural resources.
5. Working lands, including forestry, grasslands, and agricultural lands, provide long term benefits to fish, wildlife and people.

Group conversations were recorded by LCCMR members or participants. Over the course of all the small group discussions, Goal 5 emerged as the highest priority across discussions.

Table 1. Number of times each cross-cutting goal was identified as most important during Site Visit subject matter expert discussions

Cross-Cutting Goal Options	Number of times identified as most important
5. Working lands, including forestry, grasslands, and agricultural lands, provide long term benefits to fish, wildlife, and people.	**7**
1. Water is stored on the land for the mutual benefits to water quality, habitat, and flood mitigation.	**4**
3. Our natural and built communities are resilient to withstand changes in weather patterns, including extreme changes in precipitation.	**2**
4. Minnesotans have the information needed to make sound personal decisions that affect our environment and natural resources.	**2**
2. Models, projections, and management strategies that take into consideration changes in weather patterns and land uses are available at a localized level.	**0**

This goal is identified in the stakeholder summary report in the section on **Working Lands**.

Subject matter experts who participated in the Prioritization Panel were asked to review all of the strategies recommended during the Site Visit discussions, regardless of which goal was preferred.

All of the strategies they considered are included in the next section below. Prioritization Panel participants were invited to revise strategy ideas or come up with their own. Unlike with the other goals, they were not asked to identify five strategies total, but five per area (water; outdoor recreation; habitat, fish and wildlife; air and energy). Therefore, there is a longer list of recommended strategies for the Working Lands goal than the other goal areas. These are listed below:

- Through demonstration, educate people on the benefits of working lands to slow and store water for multiple benefits (water quality, habitat, flood mitigation, carbon sequestration, etc.).
- Develop innovative, market-based policies to make substantive conservation efforts financially feasible.
- Preserve and protect the watersheds that are already in good shape.
- Support and provide technical assistance to private landowners on cost-effective ways to develop and restore diverse, native habitat.
- Conservation actions that prioritize the needs of vulnerable, declining, poorly-understood, and sensitive species.
- Improve and demonstrate how working lands can be economically productive and good habitat.
- Increase understanding and assessment of tradeoffs among different environmental and societal goals to improve decisions on working lands.
- Evaluate, prioritize, and demonstrate how working lands and renewable energy can be mutually beneficial.
- Use public open space to demonstrate climate change adaptation, mitigation, and prevention.
- Create or use existing open spaces, or use them to demonstrate, CO2 storage, heat sinks, flood prevention.
- Promote, research, and evaluate Best Management Practices (BMPs) on working lands, in order to provide long-term benefits to fish and wildlife.
- Encourage landscape-level and eco-type planning, instead of parcel-level.
- Identify high-quality habitat, recreation open-spaces, and other high-priority areas for action.
- Outreach, education, and engagement through citizen science for landowners, operators, and others on how to economically manage for water resiliency.
- Create market mechanisms for carbon sequestration on working lands.
- Demonstrate how to add diverse cropping systems and incentivize continuous living crops.
- Research and demonstration that show the practical value of regenerative agriculture.
- Development and implementation of agricultural cropping systems with diverse crops that provide multiple benefits, including exploring markets and supply chain.
- Education and public outreach to change landscape and ecosystem norms.

- Research and evaluation of approaches that achieve goals.
- Projects that enlist the support of multiple agencies and organizations.

Cross-Cutting Goals – All strategies recommended during Site Visit discussions

- Demonstrate and educate on the benefits of working lands for storing and slowing water for multiple benefits (water quality, habitat, flood mitigation).
- Incentivize practices that use working lands for storing and slowing water.
- Outreach and education on how to economically manage and enhance wildlife.
- Outreach to land owners to highlight research findings on what works.
- Education and public outreach.
- Projects that enlist the support of multiple agencies/organizations.
- Incentivize best practices.
- Research and evaluation on what works.
- Education to change landscape and pesticide norms.
- Improve the cost-effectiveness of habitat restoration.
- Support the development and implementation of ag cropping systems with diverse crops that provide multiple benefits.
- Support and provide technical assistance to private landowners for developing/restoring diverse, native habitat.
- Collaborate with agriculture and horticultural industry to develop standards of native seed and live plants.
- Demonstration of how lands can be economically productive and good habitat.
- Research on vulnerable, declining, or poorly understood invertebrate groups.
- Conservation actions that prioritize needs for declining and sensitive wildlife SPP.
- Identify high-quality habitat and high-priority areas for action.
- Engage Minnesotans in education and citizen science.
- Encourage landscape-level planning, instead of parcel level.
- Reduce nitrogen use.
- Development and incentives for continuous living crops.