**For Immediate Release**

**For more information contact:**

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# [Friends Group] Receives $5,000 Grant to Complete Habitat Restoration Project in [State Park]

**[City], MN** – Volunteer-led [Friends Group] will implement a [project] at [State Park] with support from the Minnesota DNR and funds issued by Parks & Trails Council of Minnesota. The project will include volunteer opportunities for community members at events throughout [months].

[Friends Group] was one of five groups selected to receive $5,000 from Parks & Trails Council of Minnesota under a statewide grant program that seeks to restore habitat in state parks. This grant program was made possible by the Henry S. Crosby Foundation, which issued grant money to Parks & Trails Council to advance protection of state parks through land acquisition and habitat restoration projects.

All awardees of this grant include: Friends of Itasca State Park, Friends of Maplewood State Park, Friends of Nerstrand Big Woods State Park, Friends of Wild River State Park, and Frontenac State Park Association.

Parks & Trails Council worked with Minnesota Department of Natural Resources to identify potential projects and overlap them with active Friends Groups. These projects compliment long-term, natural resource management goals of the parks and fit into the wide variety of activities of Friends Groups. Friends Groups support state parks in various ways, from raising money and promotion, to advocacy and programming.