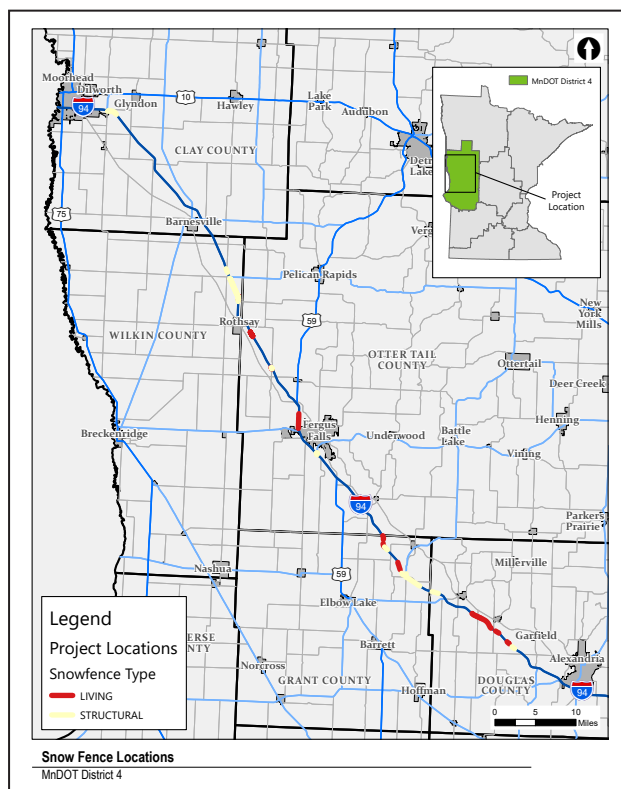


# West Central Minnesota I-94 Blowing and Drifting Snow Control Project

FY 2022/FY 2023 Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-Saving Transportation (PROTECT) Program

This is a corridor-wide snow fence project, submitted for consideration for PROTECT funding by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT), that will address nearly 120 miles of Interstate 94, between the cities of Moorhead and Alexandria. It will install **24 total miles of snow fence across 38 sites**, consisting of both structural and living snow fences. Snow fence sites are all along I-94 in Clay, Wilkin, Otter Tail, Grant, and Douglas Counties. Of the 38 sites, **21 will be constructed using structural snow fences (11 miles) and 17 will be constructed using living snow fences (13 miles).**

This project will improve the system wide resiliency of Minnesota's transportation network by taking a comprehensive approach to snow fence installation and addressing blowing and drifting snow at the corridor level. It will mitigate the worst snow traps along the I-94 corridor, **improving highway safety, reducing the need for wintertime maintenance, and enhancing operation of the interstate for local, statewide, and regional users.**



## STRUCTURAL SNOW FENCES

Typically constructed of wood, metal, a combination of plastics, or composite polymer/fiber. As can be seen in the picture (above), fences are constructed with slanted spacings so that snow is able to move "through" the fence and be deposited between the structure and the roadway. The snow fence pictured is an example of structural snow fencing located along I-94 outside Moorhead.

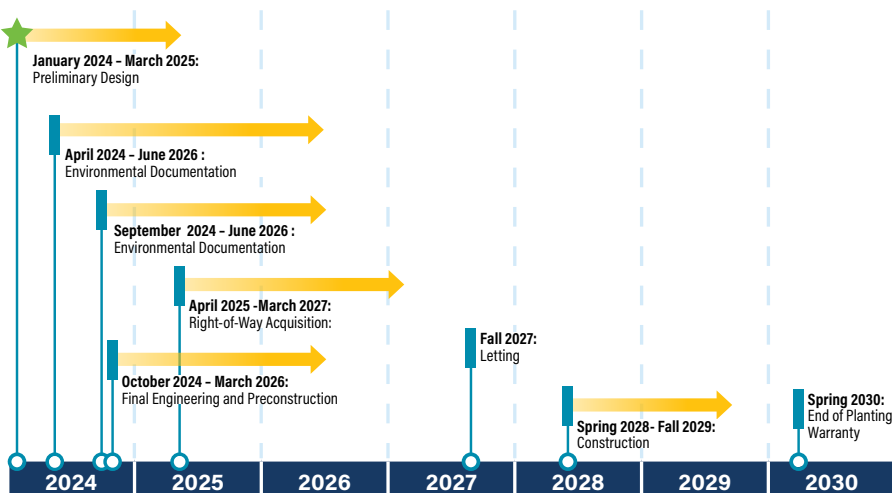


## LIVING SNOW FENCES

Made up of groups/rows of trees, shrubs, native grasses, and wildflowers, located along farmland. They are typically located about 100-200 feet away from the highway, which provides adequate room for drift formation and snow storage. The snow fence pictured is an example of living snow fencing located along I-94 east of Rothsay.



## PROJECT SCHEDULE



## BASIC PROTECT INFORMATION

**Project Name:** West Central Minnesota I-94 Blowing and Drifting Snow Control Project  
**Project Type:** Resilience Improvements  
**Future Eligible Project Costs:** \$17.170 million  
**PROTECT Funds Requested:** \$13.736 million

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## BENEFIT COST ANALYSIS (BCA):

MnDOT expects that this project will result in quantified benefits that significantly exceed costs. The projected benefit/cost ratio for this project is:

**3.13**