

# LCCMR WORK PROGRAM UPDATE REPORT

## Restoring Minnesota's Fish and Wildlife Habitat Corridors Phase III Habitat Corridors Partnership

Sheet 1 of 3

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**Fund:** Environment Natural Resources Trust Fund  
**Legal Citation:** ML 2005 First special section, Chapter 1, Art. 2, Sec.11 Subd. 5(a) - Phase III

### Total Biennial Project Budget

| Result               | Env. Trust Fund Allocation | Env. Trust Funds Spent | Env. Trust Balance    | Other Funds Spent     |
|----------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Mapping/Coordination | \$225,000.00               | \$101,756.77           | \$123,243.23          | \$50,000.00           |
| Restoration          | \$1,069,950.00             | \$552,072.28           | \$517,877.72          | \$296,703.53          |
| Easement             | \$1,160,000.00             | \$765,078.50           | \$394,921.50          | \$3,680,181.99        |
| Acquisition          | \$1,607,050.00             | \$1,166,575.41         | \$440,474.59          | \$2,348,628.54        |
| <b>Grand Total:</b>  | <b>\$4,062,000.00</b>      | <b>\$2,585,482.96</b>  | <b>\$1,476,517.04</b> | <b>\$6,375,514.06</b> |

\*The above table reflects Habitat Corridors Partnership expenditures by result. Please note that the expenditures for restoration, easement acquisition and fee-title acquisition reflected here will not exactly match the subtotals for those categories reflected in Table 2. Also note that the total expenditures are identical. The reason for this is that some work programs expend dollars on both acquisition and restoration. For example, a partner working under the 4a work program to acquire a state wildlife management area (acquisition) is also responsible to ensure that the initial habitat is developed (restoration) on that acquired parcel.

### Overall Work Program Summary

**Description:** The mission of the Habitat Corridors Partnership (Partnership) is to restore, enhance and conserve habitat corridors for the purpose of sustaining fish, wildlife and native plant communities for all generations.

The Partnership (see the 17 NGO and agency partners in Phase III listed on the cover page of this report) was originally funded by the 2001 Minnesota Legislature. The intent of the partnership is to build upon existing habitat to enhance fish, wildlife and plant populations, strengthen migration pathways, improve genetic stocks, and restore the integrity of natural communities. Eleven project areas have been identified where partners will work (see attached Phase III project area map and attached project area history document). The Partnership will use three primary methods to achieve partnership goals within the project areas: habitat restoration, habitat easements, and fee-title acquisition. All projects will be completed on public lands or with the cooperation of willing private landowner partners.

Attachment #3

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Sheet 2 of 3

This Partnership has been recognized by national leaders as unique, and contributions from private and public partners underscore the value Minnesota's place on clean rivers, healthy fish & wildlife populations, intact natural communities, and the opportunity to recreate.

Three tables are attached to this report to assist you in understanding the scope and progress of the Phase III Partnership. Please refer to Table 1 to find approved ETF funds by work plan, other funds committed and acre goals for the Partnership. Table 2 provides an overall work plan summary by partner (1a-4j) by result (Coordination/Mapping, Restoration, Easement, Acquisition). Table 3 shows expenditures and accomplishments by Project Area (1-11 – see attached project area map). Also attached to this report are individual work plan updates (1a thru 4j), individual project ledger sheets, and individual attachment A's.

### **RESTORATION:**

Partners are committed to restoring 11,030 (Grant) acres of wetland, upland, forest, lakeshore, wild rice, shallow lakes, and public land facilities. Partners have committed \$421,750 in other funds to complete 655 acres.

### **EASEMENT:**

Partners are committed to acquiring easements on 1,070 acres (Grant) of wetland, upland, native prairie, forest, and shoreline habitats. Partners have committed \$7,456,000 in other funds to complete 6,200 acres.

### **ACQUISITION:**

Partners are committed to acquiring 602 acres (grant) of land and restore it to native habitat. Partners have committed \$906,400 in other funds to acquire 382 acres.

### **Summary of Progress: May 25, 2007**

Please refer to the attached Phase III Tables 1, 2, 3 & 4 which are updated for specific information on overall partnership activities and refer to the updated individual reports (1a-4j) following the summary tables for individual work program detail. Also, please see the updated maps (2) that show point coverages of projects completed in Phase III and for the Partnership since inception.

To date, partners have reported expenditures of \$2,585,483 of Phase III ETF and \$6,375,514 in partner funds to restore/enhance 3,045 acres (2,769 ETF, 275 Other Funds), acquire conservation easements on 4,213 acres (145 ETF, 4,068 Other Funds) and acquire 754 acres (211 ETF, 543 Other Funds) in fee title.

The Partnership has expended roughly 64% of its Phase III allocation and 70% of the other funds committed to Phase III. Most partners are expected to complete Phase III by June 30, 2007 with exceptions being those partners with trained term staff who have budgeted for FY 2007 (e.g. Wetlands Reserve Program) or those partners who are dependent on Partnership acquisition work (e.g. Wildlife Areas Management) to occur before their work can commence.