

FINAL REPORT

JUL 31 2006

2003 Project Abstract

For the Period Ending June 30, 2006

TITLE: Metropolitan Area Wildlife Corridors, part 2.1
"Restoring Wetlands on Public Land"

PROJECT MANAGER: Jon Schneider

ORGANIZATION: Ducks Unlimited, Inc.

ADDRESS: 311 East Lake Geneva Road, Alexandria, MN 56308

WEB ADDRESS: www.ducks.org

FUND: Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

LEGAL CITATION: Minnesota Laws 2003, Chapter 128, Article 1, Section 9, Subdivision 5(b).

**APPROPRIATION AMOUNT:** \$92,000Overall Project Outcome and Results

In support of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) shallow lakes program and also in DU biological and engineering staff provided technical and financial assistance to Minnesota DNR Wildlife and US Fish & Wildlife Service field staff to restore and enhance wetlands and shallow lakes on public land. DU engineers designed and hired contractors to construct new water control structures for Pools 15 and 17 on Carlos Avery WMA in Anoka County (Project Area #2) that improved water level management of 251 wetland acres in October 2004 at a cost of \$44,265.55 in LCMR grant funds. DU also provided cost-share reimbursement to DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife for contractor charges to chemically remove fish via boat and aerial application of fish toxicant (rotenone) in October 2004 and also subsequently paid for wild rice seed material and seeding that enhanced 785 wetland acres in Mud and Howard Lakes on the Lamprey Pass WMA in Anoka County (Project Area #3) at a cost of \$30,225.75 in LCMR grant funds. Finally, in fall 2005 and spring 2006, DU paid earth moving contractor charges to restore seven wetland basins totaling 37.7 acres on the Bradshaw WMA in Scott County (Project Area 9) at a cost of \$17,508.70. DU's total accomplishment of all three wetland projects amounted to the restoration or enhancement of 1,073.7 wetland acres at a cost of \$92,000 in LCMR grant funds, \$59,774 in other state funds, and \$16,614 in other non-state funds for a total expenditure of \$168,388 by DU and its partners.

Project Results, Use, and Dissemination

The results of these efforts by DU to restore and improve wetlands in the metro Twin Cities area has been helpful in disseminating information about wetland and shallow lake ecology and enhancement techniques, and in promoting conservation program information to private landowners and lake associations. Summaries and pictures of projects completed under this grant will be disseminated through DU news releases, DU's state newsletter Cattails, and on DU website www.ducks.org. Several articles about DU's ETF-funded projects have also already run in Outdoor News.

Date of Report: July 27, 2006
LCMR Final Work Program Report

JUL 31 2006

Project Completion Date: June 30, 2006

I. Project Title: Metropolitan Area Wildlife Corridors, part 2.1 "Restoring Wetlands on Public Land"

Project Manager: Jon Schneider
Affiliation: Ducks Unlimited, Inc.
Mailing Address: 311 East Lake Geneva Road, Alexandria, MN 56308
Telephone Number: (320) 762-9916
E-Mail: jschneider@ducks.org
Fax: (320) 759-1567
Web Address: www.ducks.org



Total Biennial Project Budget:	LCMR Appropriation:	\$92,000
	Spent:	\$92,000
	Equal Balance:	\$ 0

Legal Citation: ML 2003, Chapter 128, Art. 1, Sec. 9, Subd 5(b).

Appropriation Language: (b) Metropolitan Area Wildlife Corridors
\$2,425,000 the first year and \$2,425,000 the second year are from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources. \$3,550,000 of this appropriation is for acceleration of agency programs and cooperative agreements with the Trust for Public Land, Ducks Unlimited, Inc., Friends of the Mississippi River, Great River Greening, Minnesota Land Trust, and Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Trust, Inc., for the purposes of planning, improving, and protecting important natural areas in the metropolitan region, as defined by Minnesota Statutes, section 473.121, subdivision 2, through grants, contracted services, conservation easements, and fee acquisition. \$500,000 of this appropriation is for an agreement with the city of Ramsey for the Trott Brook Corridor acquisition. \$800,000 of this appropriation is for an agreement with the Rice Creek Watershed District for Hardwood Creek acquisition and restoration. Land acquired with this appropriation must be sufficiently improved to meet at least minimum management standards as determined by the commissioner of natural resources. As part of the required work program, criteria and priorities for planned acquisition and restoration activities must be submitted to the legislative commission on Minnesota resources for review and approval before expenditure. Expenditures are limited to the identified project areas as defined in the work program. This appropriation may not be used for the purchase of residential structures unless expressly approved in the work program. Any land acquired in fee title by the commissioner of natural resources with money from this appropriation must be designated: (1) as an outdoor recreation unit under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.07; or (2) as provided in Minnesota Statutes, sections 89.018, subdivision 2, paragraph (a); 97A.101; 97A.125; 97C.001; and 97C.011. The commissioner may so designate any lands acquired in less than fee title. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2006, at which time the project must be completed and final products delivered, unless an earlier date is specified in the work program.

II. and III. FINAL PROJECT SUMMARY:

DU biological and engineering staff provided technical and financial assistance to Minnesota DNR Wildlife and US Fish & Wildlife Service field staff to restore and enhance wetlands and shallow lakes on public land. DU engineers designed and hired contractors to construct new water control structures for Pools 15 and 17 on Carlos Avery WMA in Anoka County (Project Area #2) that improved water level management of 251 wetland acres in October 2004 at a cost of \$44,265.55 in LCMR grant funds. DU also provided cost-share reimbursement to DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife for contractor charges to chemically remove fish via boat and aerial application of fish toxicant (rotenone) in October 2004 and also subsequently paid for wild rice seed material and seeding that enhanced 785 wetland acres in Mud and Howard Lakes on the Lamprey Pass WMA in Anoka County (Project Area #3) at a cost of \$30,225.75 in LCMR grant funds. Finally, in fall 2005 and spring 2006, DU paid earth moving contractor charges to restore seven wetland basins totaling 37.7 acres on the Bradshaw WMA in Scott County (Project Area 9) at a cost of \$17,508.70. DU's total accomplishment of all three wetland projects amounted to the restoration or enhancement of 1,073.7 wetland acres at a cost of \$92,000 in LCMR grant funds, \$59,774 in other state funds, and \$16,614 in other non-state funds for a total expenditure of \$168,388 by DU and its partners.

IV. OUTLINE OF PROJECT RESULTS:

Result 1: Restore Significant Habitat (Wetlands)

Grant Budget \$92,000 - Spent \$92,000 = Balance \$0 Wetland Enhancement Acres = 1,073.7

DU restored and enhanced significant wetlands on three important state Wildlife Management Areas (WMA) in the metro region within Metro Wildlife Corridor "Project Areas." At Carlos Avery WMA, DU engineers were key to designing and managing construction to improve water control structures on significant wetlands totaling 251 acres. At Lamprey Pass WMA, DU cost-share was key to helping the DNR chemically remove fish and re-seed wild rice in a timely manner in 785 wetland acres comprising Mud and Howard Lakes, two significant shallow lake wetlands that are managed intensively for waterfowl habitat and public use. At Bradshaw WMA, DU cost-share helped a strong partnership between DNR and the US Fish & Wildlife Service implement seven wetland restorations totaling 37.7 acres that had been stalled due to lack of funding. In each case, the wetland projects were very significant but would not have been completed without the timely funding assistance of DU and this LCMR grant.

<u>Wetland Project Name</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Metro Corridor Project Area</u>	<u>Acres Restored or Enhanced</u>
Carlos Avery WMA Pools 15/17	Anoka	2	251 Wetland Acres Enhanced
Lamprey Pass WMA – Mud/Howard Lakes	Anoka	3	785 Wetland Acres Enhanced
Bradshaw WMA	Scott	9	37.7 Wetland Acres Restored
			1,073.7 Total Wetland Acres

V. TOTAL LCMR PROJECT BUDGET:

All Results: Personnel/Administrative:	= \$ 9,239
All Results: Contracts:	= \$ 81,251
All Results: Supplies/Misc.:	= \$ 1,510
TOTAL	= \$ 92,000

TOTAL LCMR PROJECT BUDGET: \$92,000
See: ATTACHMENT A for complete budget details

VI. PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE SPENDING:

A. Past Spending: Since 1984, DU has spent more than \$500,000 on acquisition and restoration projects in the 7-county metro area, especially on the Carlos Avery Wildlife Management Area, but also on the Bradshaw Lake WMA in Scott county and Chub Lake WMA in Dakota County.

B. Current Spending: The total partner expense to accomplish all three wetland projects included \$92,000 in LCMR grant funds, \$59,774 in other state funds, and \$16,614 in other non-state funds for a total expenditure of \$168,388 by DU and it's partners.

C. Required Match: N/A

D. Future Spending: DU expects to spend \$300,000 of LCMR, state, and DU funds to improve Mud Lake on Carlos Avery WMA in Chisago County in 2006 and 2007. Other DU funding will be focused on shallow lake conservation work around the state that DU is strategically targeting through its Living Lakes Initiative.

VII. PROJECT PARTNERS:

A. Partners Receiving LCMR Funds: DU used LCMR grant funds to reimburse the Minnesota DNR for project costs on the Lamprey Pass WMA.

B. Project Cooperators: DU partnered with the Minnesota DNR on the Carlos Avery WMA and Lamprey Pass WMA projects, and with both the Minnesota DNR and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service on the Bradshaw WMA project.

VIII. DISSEMINATION: News of project accomplishments were disseminated by periodic news releases by project cooperators and also by DU through the Minnesota newsletter Cattails, other DU publications, in articles in private outdoor publications such as "Outdoor News", and on DU's website (www.ducks.org).

IX. LOCATION: The following table lists locations of projects accomplished through this grant:

<u>Project Name</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Project Area</u>	<u>Wetland Location</u>
Carlos Avery WMA	Anoka	2	Township 32N, Range 22W, Section 18 45deg 15min 45sec N Lat, 93deg 7min 52sec W Long
Lamprey Pass WMA	Anoka	3	Township 32N, Range 22W, Sections 13 and 14 UTM: Zone 15, 497,540 East, 5,012130 North
Bradshaw WMA	Scott	9	Township 113N, Range 22W, Sections 10 and 16 44deg 36min 33sec N Lat, 93deg 27min 20sec W Long

X. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS: Periodic work program progress reports were submitted August 1 and February 1 each year during the grant period. This document constitutes the final work program report.

XI. RESEARCH PROJECTS: N/A

Attachment A. FINAL REPORT Budget Detail for 2003 Project

Project Title: Metro Wildlife Habitat Corridors – DU Wetland Restoration on Public Lands.

Project Manager Name: Jon Schneider

LCMR Dollars: \$92,000

2003 LCMR Proposal Budget		Result 1 Budget:	Amount Spent	Result 1 Balance	TOTAL FOR Budget ITEM			
Budget Item		Title: Restore significant habitat			BUDGET TOTAL:	AMOUNT SPENT TO DATE	BALANCE (1/31/06)	
Wages, salaries & benefits		Detail						
	DU Group 2 Professional Staff (project engineers, biologists, etc.)		\$4,698	\$4,698	\$0	\$4,698	\$4,698	\$0
	DU Group 3 Technical Staff (technicians, construction managers, etc.)		\$4,541	\$4,541	\$0	\$4,541	\$4,541	\$0
	Wages subtotal		\$9,239	\$9,239	\$0	\$9,239	\$9,239	\$0
Contracts								
	Contract Earthmoving & Water Control Structure Replacement, Carlos Avery WMA	DU Project # MN-139-2	\$35,174	\$35,174	\$0	\$35,174	\$35,174	\$0
	Contract Rotenone Application & Wild Rice Seeding on Lamprey Pass WMA	DU Project # MN-357-1	\$28,568	\$28,568	\$0	\$28,568	\$28,568	\$0
	Contract Earthmoving on Bradshaw Lake WMA	DU Project # MN-148-2	\$17,509	\$17,509	\$0	\$17,509	\$17,509	\$0
	Contract subtotal		\$81,251	\$81,251	\$0	\$81,251	\$81,251	\$0
Other								
	Wild Rice Seed Material for Lamprey Pass WMA	DU Project # MN-357-1	\$1,510	\$1,510	\$0	\$1,510	\$1,510	\$0
COLUMN TOTAL			\$92,000	\$92,000	\$0	\$92,000	\$92,000	\$0