

**2003 Project Abstract**  
For the Period Ending June 30, 2006

**TITLE: Metropolitan Area Wildlife Corridors-Friends of the Mississippi River 2.2**  
**PROJECT MANAGER: Tom Lewanski**  
**ORGANIZATION: Friends of the Mississippi River**  
**ADDRESS: 360 North Robert Street, Saint Paul MN 55101**  
**WEB SITE ADDRESS: www.fmr.org**  
**FUND: Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund**  
**LEGAL CITATION: ML 2003, Ch. 128, Art. 1, Sec. 9, Subd. 5(b)**

**APPROPRIATION AMOUNT: \$92,000**

Overall Project Outcome and Results

FMR had one result in the Metropolitan Area Wildlife Corridors project:  
Objective: Restore 100 acres of significant habitat, which may include prairie, oak savanna, and deciduous forest and/or wetland communities.

Results: Using such habitat restoration techniques as soil preparation (spraying, burning, disking, dragging) seed drilling, mowing, prescribed burning, spot spraying, installation of native plants, and removal of invasive species, FMR restored 13 acres of prairie, enhanced 165 acres of existing prairie, installed a 1300 foot lakeshore planting, restored 50-acres of wetland, and enhanced 123 acres of woodland. These restoration and enhancement activities represent 12 distinct projects within Dakota and Hennepin Counties (MWC focus areas 5,6,7).

FMR was able to leverage over \$146,000 in non-Metro Wildlife Corridors funding through this project. Of the total 351+ acres that FMR restored during this project, FMR's MWC funds were used to restore 178-acres, while the non-MWC funds were used to restore an additional 173-acres.

Each of these twelve projects are ecologically significant because the restoration and enhancement that took place at these sites not only improved and increased important wildlife habitat, but many of them provide water quality benefits as well. Eleven of the twelve projects are adjacent to bodies of water. Eight of the restoration project sites were located within a designated Greenway in Dakota County.

Project Results Use and Dissemination

FMR utilized hundreds of volunteers for restoration activities during this project. In addition, FMR placed articles about these projects in its newsletters and on it's webpage. For two webpage examples, visit:

[http://www.fmr.org/profile\\_mar\\_2005.html](http://www.fmr.org/profile_mar_2005.html)

[http://www.fmr.org/gqua0106\\_2.html](http://www.fmr.org/gqua0106_2.html)

Several newspaper articles also appeared in area newspapers regarding FMR's restoration projects. For an example, visit:

<http://www.thisweek-online.com/2006/January/13Wiklund.html>

**LCMR 2003 Work Program**

**Date of Report:** *June 30, 2006*

**Date of Next Status Report:** LCMR Final Work Program Report

**Date of Work program Approval:** July 9, 2003

**Project Completion Date:** June 30, 2006

**I. PROJECT TITLE: Metropolitan Area Wildlife Corridors-Friends of the Mississippi River 2.2**

- 3. Rice, Clearwater, and Hardwood Creek
- 5. Upper Mississippi River
- 6. Lower Mississippi River
- 7. Vermillion River
- 9. Scott County

**Project Manager:** *Tom Lewanski*

**Affiliation:** Friends of the Mississippi River

**Mailing Address:** 360 North Robert Street

**City / State / Zip:** Saint Paul, MN 55101

**Telephone Number:** 651-222-2193 Ext. 12

**E-mail Address:** [tlewansk@fmr.org](mailto:tlewansk@fmr.org)

**FAX Number:** 651-222-6005

**Web Page address:** [www.fmr.org](http://www.fmr.org)

<b>Total Biennial LCMR Project Budget:</b>	<b>LCMR Appropriation:</b>	<b>\$ 92,000</b>
	<b>Minus Amount Spent:</b>	<b>\$ 90,897</b>
	<b>Equal Balance:</b>	<b>\$ 1,103</b>

**Legal Citation:** ML 2003, Chp. 128, Art. 1, Sec. 9, Subd. 05b

**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. ~~\$3,700,000~~\$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. & III Final PROJECT SUMMARY:**

### Overall Project Outcome and Results

FMR had one result in this project:

**Objective:** Restore 100 acres of significant habitat, which may include prairie, oak savanna, and deciduous forest and/or wetland communities.

**Results:** Using such habitat restoration techniques as soil preparation (spraying, burning, disking, dragging) seed drilling, mowing, prescribed burning, spot spraying, installation of native plants, and removal of invasive species, FMR restored 13 acres of prairie, enhanced 165 acres of existing prairie, installed a 1300 foot lakeshore planting, restored 50-acres of wetland, and enhanced 123 acres of woodland. These restoration and enhancement activities represent 12 distinct projects within Dakota and Hennepin Counties (MWC focus areas 5,6,7).

FMR was able to leverage over \$146,000 in non-Metro Wildlife Corridors funding through this project. Of the total 351+ acres that FMR restored during this project, FMR's MWC funds were used to restore 178-acres, while the non-MWC funds were used to restore an additional 173-acres.

Each of these twelve projects are ecologically significant because the restoration and enhancement that took place at these sites not only improved and increased

important wildlife habitat, but many of them provide water quality benefits as well. Eleven of the twelve projects are adjacent to bodies of water. Eight of the restoration project sites were located within a designated Greenway in Dakota County.

#### Project Results Use and Dissemination

FMR utilized hundreds of volunteers for restoration activities during this project. In addition, FMR placed articles about these projects in its newsletters and on its webpage. For two webpage examples, visit:

- [http://www.fmr.org/profile\\_mar\\_2005.html](http://www.fmr.org/profile_mar_2005.html)
- [http://www.fmr.org/gqua0106\\_2.html](http://www.fmr.org/gqua0106_2.html)

Several newspaper articles also appeared in area newspapers regarding FMR's restoration projects. For an example, visit:

- <http://www.thisweek-online.com/2006/January/13Wiklund.html>

#### **IV. OUTLINE OF PROJECT RESULTS:**

**Result 1:** Restore 100 acres of significant habitat.

**Description:** FMR will restore 100 acres of significant habitat using established management tools and by planting native plants. Native communities to be restored may include prairie, savanna, deciduous forest, and/or wetlands.

<b>Summary Budget Information for Result 1:</b>	<b>LCMR Budget</b>	<b><u>\$92,000</u></b>
	<b>Balance</b>	<b><u>\$ 1,103</u></b>

#### **Completion Date:**

- We anticipate that by June 30, 2004 15 acres of significant habitat will be restored.
- We anticipate that by June 30, 2005 an additional 45 acres of significant habitat will be restored.
- We anticipate that by June 30, 2006 an additional 40 acres of significant habitat will be restored, bring the total acres restored at the end of grant period to 100.

## Final Report Summary:

### Overall Project Outcome and Results

FMR had one result in this project:

Objective: Restore 100 acres of significant habitat, which may include prairie, oak savanna, and deciduous forest and/or wetland communities.

Results: Using such habitat restoration techniques as soil preparation (spraying, burning, disking, dragging) seed drilling, mowing, prescribed burning, spot spraying, installation of native plants, and removal of invasive species, FMR restored 13 acres of prairie, enhanced 165 acres of existing prairie, installed a 1300 foot lakeshore planting, restored 50-acres of wetland, and enhanced 123 acres of woodland. These restoration and enhancement activities represent 12 distinct projects within Dakota and Hennepin Counties (MWC focus areas 5,6,7). The specific restoration project sites addressed during Metro Wildlife Corridors Phase I include (# of distinct projects at site):

- Benjamin – prairie installation. Non-MWC funding - \$3,000.
- Robinson – prescribed burn on native prairie.
- Wiklund/Rosemount Wildlife Preserve – prairie installation, exotic removal in existing woodland. Non-MWC funding - \$6,000.
- Spring Lake Park Reserve – exotic removal in existing woodland. Non-MWC funding - \$5,000.
- Sand Coulee (2) – woody plant removal and prescribed burns on native prairie. Non-MWC funding - \$15,000.
- Pine Bend Bluffs - exotic removal in existing woodland and initiation of prairie installation. Non-MWC funding - \$65,285.
- Hastings Riverflats Park – wet meadow and mesic prairie installation, wetland planting. Non-MWC funding - \$43,750.
- Mississippi River Gorge Regional Park – oak savanna restoration
- Karpen – exotic removal and planting in existing woodland. Non-MWC funding - \$2,500
- Empire Wastewater Treatment Plant (2) – prairie planting, wetland restoration, exotic removal along Vermillion River. Non-MWC funding - \$6,200.

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Each of these twelve projects are ecologically significant because the restoration and enhancement that took place at these sites not only improved and increased important wildlife habitat, but many of them provide water quality benefits as well. Eleven of the twelve projects are adjacent to bodies of water. Eight of the restoration project sites were located within a designated Greenway in Dakota County and seven of the restoration sites are open to be enjoyed by the public.



A budget change was requested on August 3. Tom Lewanski discussed this request with Susan Thornton of the LCMR staff. Permission was granted. This workplan and attachment A reflect this budget change.

At the end of the project FMR left \$1,103 of its \$92,000 allotment unspent. This was the result of the actual cost for contractor work being less than what the bid amount was.

**V. TOTAL LCMR PROJECT BUDGET (BASED ON REQUESTED 6/30/06 BUDGET CHANGES):**

**All Results: Personnel: \$ \$18,190**

**All Results: Equipment: \$**

**All Results: Development (subcontractors): \$ 68,180.**

**All Results: Acquisition: \$**

**All Results: Other: Travel: \$600. Materials through vendors (seeds, plants, herbicide): \$5,030.**

**TOTAL LCMR PROJECT BUDGET: See Attachment A**

**Explanation of Capital Expenditures Greater Than \$3,500: No capital expenditures will be made as part of this project.**

**VI. PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE SPENDING:**

**A. Past Spending:**

The following projects reflect work that FMR has conducted in Metropolitan Area Wildlife Corridor Project focus areas. Because FMR has not chosen specific project sites, LCMR funds may or may not be spent on these projects.

Flint Hills Resources: 2001 - \$50,000 (For restoration on their bluffland property)  
2002 - \$50,000 (For restoration on their bluffland property)

Metropolitan Environmental Partners Grant: \$76,000 (For streambank and buffer restoration)

Gorge Stewards: \$14,500 (Restoration in the Mississippi River gorge in Minneapolis)

Minnesota DNR Prairie stewardship: \$5,000. (Prairie restoration in Ravenna Township-Dakota County)

Department of Natural Resources/Prairie Stewardship Grant - \$5,000 (Prairie restoration in Ravenna Township)

**B. Current Spending:**

The following projects reflect work that FMR will conduct in Metropolitan Area Wildlife Corridor Project focus areas during the life of this LCMR grant. Because FMR has not chosen specific project sites, LCMR funds may or may not be spent on these projects.

North American Wetland Conservation act Grant (NAWCA) - \$43,000  
(Habitat restoration at the Hastings Riverflats Park site)

Flint Hills Resources: \$100,000 (For restoration on their bluffland property)

Metropolitan Environmental Partners Grant: \$250,000  
(wetland and prairie restoration, streambank stabilization/restoration)

**C. Required Match (if applicable):** No match is required.

**D. Future Spending:**

Flint Hills Resources - \$50,000 annually for restoration on their bluffland property.

**VII. Project Partners:**

**A. Partners Receiving LCMR Funds**

FMR has not selected specific project sites for the Metropolitan Area Wildlife Corridors Project. Therefore the specific restoration activities have not been determined. Based on final project site selections and their restoration needs, FMR will seek bids and enter into contracts with vendors to perform these activities. See attachment A.

**B. Project Cooperators:**

- Metropolitan Council
- Flint Hills Resources
- The City of Hastings
- 3M
- Dakota County Parks
- Great River Greening
- DNR
- Rice Creek Watershed District
- Minneapolis Park Board
- Longfellow Community Council
- Seward Neighborhood Group
- Prospect Park East River Road Improvement Association
- Desnoyer Park Improvement Association
- Merriam Park Community Council
- Macalaster Groveland Community Council

- Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board
- Mississippi Watershed Management Organization
- City of St. Paul Division of Parks and Recreation
- MNRRA
- Hastings High School

**VIII. DISSEMINATION:** DNR website: [www.dnr.state.mn.us](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us). Information on the project will also be discussed in FMR's newsletter and will be posted on FMR's website: [www.fmr.org](http://www.fmr.org). See overall work program for more details on dissemination.

**IX. LOCATION:**

Focus Area number/ name

3. Rice, Clearwater, and Hardwood Creek
5. Upper Mississippi River
6. Lower Mississippi River
7. Vermillion River
9. Scott County

**X. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:** Periodic work program progress reports will be submitted not later than *February 1, 2004, August 1, 2004, February 1, 2005, August 1, 2005, February 1, 2006, August 1, 2006*

**A final work program report and associated products will be submitted by June 30, 2006.**

**XI. Budget.** See attachment A for budget details.



**Attachment A: Budget Detail for 2003 Projects - Summary and a Budget page for each partner**

**Proposal Title: Metropolitan Area Wildlife Corridors-Friends of the Mississippi River 2.2**

**Project Manager Name: Tom Lewanski**

**CMR Requested Dollars: \$92,000**

	<u>Result 1 Budget:</u>	<u>Requested budget change (6/30/06)</u>	<u>Amount spent to date (6/30/06)</u>	<u>Final project balance</u>
<b>2003 LCMR Proposal Budget</b>				
<b>BUDGET ITEM</b>				
<b>PERSONNEL: Staff Expenses, wages, salaries – Be specific on who is paid \$, to do what? Make each person paid a separate line item</b>				
Conservation Director	5,400	6,290	6,290	0
Restoration Ecologist	9,548	9,301	9,037	264
<b>PERSONNEL: Staff benefits – Be specific; list benefits for each person on a separate line item</b>				
Conservation Director:(Dental, Health, long-term disability, workers comp)	900	1083	1,083	0
Restoration Ecologist:(Dental, Health, long-term disability, workers comp)	1,452	1516	1,516	0
<b>Personnel subtotal</b>	<b>17,300</b>	<b>18,190</b>	<b>17,926</b>	<b>264</b>
<b>Contracts</b>				
Professional/technical (with whom?, Other contracts: FMR will seek bids and contract with (a) vendor(s) for soil preparation (burning, herbicide spraying, discing, etc), seed planting, prescribed burning, mowing, and exotic woody plant removal services.	68,180	68,180	67,996	184
<b>Space rental: NOT ALLOWED</b>				<b>0</b>
<b>Other direct operating costs: seed, plant material, herbicide, etc.</b>	<b>5,920</b>	<b>5030</b>	<b>4,401</b>	<b>629</b>
<b>Equipment / Tools (what equipment? Give a general description and cost)</b>				<b>0</b>
<b>Printing</b>				<b>0</b>
<b>Advertising</b>				<b>0</b>
<b>Communications, telephone, mail, etc.</b>				<b>0</b>
<b>Office Supplies (list specific categories)</b>				<b>0</b>
<b>Other Supplies (list specific categories)</b>				<b>0</b>
<b>Travel expenses in Minnesota</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>575</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Travel outside Minnesota (where?)</b>				<b>0</b>
<b>Construction (for what?)</b>				<b>0</b>
<b>Other land improvement (for what?)</b>				<b>0</b>
<b>Other (Describe the activity and cost)</b>				<b>0</b>
<b>COLUMN TOTAL</b>	<b>92,000</b>	<b>92,000</b>	<b>90,897</b>	<b>1,103</b>