

2003 Project Abstract
For the Period Ending June 30, 2006

FINAL REPORT

TITLE: Local Initiative Grants- Conservation Partners and Environmental Partnerships

PROJECT MANAGER: Wayne Sames

ORGANIZATION: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

ADDRESS: Office of Management and Budget Services
Box 10, 500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, MN 55155-4010

WEB SITE ADDRESS: wayne.sames@dnr.state.mn.us

FUND: Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

LEGAL CITATION: ML 2003, Ch. 128, Art. 1, Sec. 9, Subd. 05(f)

APPROPRIATION AMOUNT: \$512,000

Overall Project Outcome and Results

The objective of this program is to foster public/private and intergovernmental partnerships by providing state matching grants to private organizations and local governments for "on the ground" fish, wildlife and native plant habitat improvement projects and related research and for a variety of environmental service and conservation projects.

A total of 39 grants totaling \$406,513 were provided to private and non-profit organizations, educational institutions, local governments and soil and water conservation districts. Of that total, 24 Conservation Partners grants were made for "on the ground" fish, wildlife and native plant habitat improvement projects and research or surveys of fish and wildlife directly related to specific habitat improvement. The remaining 15 Environmental Partnerships grants were made for a variety of community environmental service, education, information, and conservation projects.

A number of habitat restorations were completed, including lakeshore, river shore land, wetland, prairie and oak savannah restorations. A number of tree and native grass planting projects were also funded, including a customized tree planting machine. Among the Environmental Partnerships projects funded were rainwater gardens, stream sampling, interpretive exhibits and signs, a Bluebird Trail, a bog walk project, a field study program for grade school students, a Lake Superior Coastal Reforestation Booklet, a natural resource inventory and management plan, and a land stewardship conference.

Since these projects are located throughout the state, many Minnesotans will benefit directly by having access to the project areas. Minnesotans in general will also benefit from information or research that may be applicable in many locations, such as the sago pondweed research or the coastal forest reforestation booklet, or from the habitat improvements that benefit fish and

wildlife populations and help protect water quality. Environmental education, interpretation and information projects also help foster an appreciation for the need to conserve our natural resources, particularly for younger generations.

For more detailed information on any of the projects contact the DNR Local Grants Unit. A list of funded projects is included in the work program final report.

LCMR 2003 Final Work Program Report

SEP 20 2006

Date of Report: September, 2006
Date of Next Status Report: N/A
Date of Work Program Approval: June 25, 2003
Project Completion Date: June 30, 2006

I. PROJECT TITLE: Local Initiative Grants – Conservation Partners and Environmental Partnerships

Project Manager: Wayne Sames
Affiliation: DNR, Local Grants Program
Mailing Address: OMBS, Box 10, 500 Lafayette Road
City/State/Zip: St. Paul, MN 55155-4010
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Total Biennial LCMR Project Budget:	LCMR Appropriation:	\$512,000
	Minus Amount Spent:	\$466,513
	Equal Balance:	\$45,487

Legal Citation: ML 2003, Art. 1, Chap. 128, Sec. 9, Subd. 05f.

Appropriation Language: 5(f) Local Initiative Grants – Conservation Partners and Environmental Partnerships
\$256,000 the first year and \$256,000 the second year are from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for matching grants of up to \$20,000 to local government and private organizations for enhancement, research and education associated with natural habitat and environmental service projects. 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:

The objective of this program is to foster public/private and intergovernmental partnerships by providing state matching grants to private organizations and local governments for “on the ground” fish, wildlife and native plant habitat improvement projects and related research and for a variety of environmental service and conservation projects.

A total of 39 grants totaling \$406,513 were provided to private and non-profit organizations, educational institutions, local governments, and soil and water conservation districts. Of that total, 24 Conservation Partners grants were made for “on the ground” fish, wildlife and native plant habitat improvement projects and research or surveys of fish and wildlife directly related to specific habitat improvement. The remaining 15 Environmental Partnerships grants were made

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A number of habitat restorations were completed, including lakeshore, river shore land, wetland, prairie and oak savannah restorations. A number of tree and native grass planting projects were also funded, including a customized tree planting machine. Among the Environmental Partnerships projects funded were rainwater gardens, stream sampling, interpretive exhibits and signs, a Bluebird Trail, a bog walk project, a field study program for grade school students, a Lake Superior Coastal Reforestation Booklet, a natural resource inventory and management plan, and a land stewardship conference.

Since these projects are located throughout the state, many Minnesotans will benefit directly by having access to the project areas. Minnesotans in general will also benefit from information or research that may be applicable in many locations, such as the sago pondweed research or the coastal forest reforestation booklet, or from the habitat improvements that benefit fish and wildlife populations and help protect water quality. Environmental education, interpretation and information projects also help foster an appreciation for the need to conserve our natural resources, particularly in our younger generations.

For more detailed information on any of the projects contact the DNR Local Grants Unit. A list of funded projects is included in the work program final report.

IV. OUTLINE OF PROJECT RESULTS: These programs provide financial assistance and incentives to private organizations and local governments for projects that result in improved habitat, environmental education activities, and a variety of community environmental service projects.

Result 1 Conservation Partners Matching Grant Program

Description: \$276,465 of the appropriation was spent for this program, including \$246,465 for grants and \$30,000 for personnel costs. The matching grants funded 24 projects for private organization or local government efforts to provide "on the ground" fish, wildlife and native plant habitat improvement projects and research or surveys of fish and wildlife directly related to specific habitat improvement through cooperation by private organizations and local governments. This differs somewhat from the original estimate of \$250,000 for 26 projects because of the individual nature of each proposal and the relative rankings. An attempt was made to come as close as feasible to the original estimates. The maximum grant amount is \$20,000. \$30,000 was used for personnel costs, which include staff time to process grant agreements and payments and additional administration support for project solicitation; application evaluation and ranking; review and approval of project billings; project liaison with grant recipients; oversight and monitoring; closeout and reporting; etc.

**Summary Budget Information For Result 1: LCMR Budget \$276,465
Balance \$25,487**

Completion Date: Work on the various projects was completed by June 30, 2006.

Result 2 Environmental Partnerships Matching Grant Program

Description: \$190,048 of the appropriation was spent for this program, including \$160,048 for grants and \$30,000 for personnel costs. The matching grants funded 15 projects for private organization or local government efforts to complete a variety of community environmental service, education, information and conservation projects. This differs from the original estimate of \$202,000 for 29 projects because of the individual nature of each proposal and the relative rankings. An attempt was made to come as close as feasible to the original estimates. The maximum grant amount is \$20,000. Eligible projects include, but are not limited to: community environmental service projects to clean up natural areas, such as streams, lakes and wetlands; preparation and production of environmental education products such as handbooks, manuals, videos and newsletters; and development of educational materials and exhibits that demonstrate environmental conservation principles. \$30,000 was used for personnel costs. The types of personnel costs are the same as described in Result 1.

**Summary Budget Information For Result 2: LCMR Budget \$190,048
Balance \$20,000**

Completion Date: Work on the various projects was completed by June 30, 2006.

V. TOTAL LCMR PROJECT BUDGET:

All Results: Personnel:	\$60,000
All Results: Equipment:	\$0
All Results: Development:	\$406,513
All Results: Acquisition:	\$0
All Results: Other:	\$0
Balance:	<u>\$45,487</u>
TOTAL LCMR PROJECT BUDGET:	\$512,000

VI. PAST, PRESENT AND CURRENT SPENDING:

- A. PAST SPENDING:** The grants program was first funded with LCMR funds in 1995. The total funding appropriated for the program since then is \$2,510,000. The Environmental Partnerships Matching Grant Program was first funded with LCMR funds in 1997. The total appropriated for the program since then is \$700,000. The total appropriated for both programs in 2001 was \$900,000. These totals have been matched by at least an equal amount of local government and private organization funds.
- B. Current Spending for the Project Period:** A total of \$466,513 has been spent, leaving a balance of \$45,487.
- C. Required Match:** Grant recipients must provide a 50/50 match, resulting in a match of at least \$406,513.
- D. Future Spending:** N/A

VII. PROJECT PARTNERS:

A. Partners Receiving LCMR Funds: DNR staff are responsible for soliciting, evaluating and ranking applications; developing grant agreements; reviewing and approving reimbursement requests; project liaison; review and monitoring of results; processing payments; and project closeout. Projects are implemented by local governments and private organizations.

VIII. DISSEMINATION: Grant application information is distributed on an annual basis through mailings to eligible local governments and organizations. Information about the grant programs is also available on DNR's web page and through the DNR's Financial Assistance Directory.

IX. LOCATION: The grant program is a statewide program. Projects were located at various locations throughout the state.

X. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS: Periodic work program progress reports will be submitted not later than October 2003, October 2004, and October 2005. A final work program report and associated products will be submitted by June 30, 2006.

2003 LCMR Project History, DNR Local Grants Programs
 Conservation Partners and Environmental Partnerships Grant Programs
 09/18/2006

Conservation Partners

CP04-2.03	Bluewater Covenant Bible Camp	Tree Restoration	\$3,828
CP04-2.02	Breezy Point	Pelican Woods Cemetery	\$5,000
CP04-3.09	Community Design Center of MN	East Side Youth Ecology Project	\$20,000
CP04-1.03	Concordia College	Prairie Restoration Study	\$13,297
CP04-3.01	Edina	Buckthorn Abatement Master Plan Study	\$408
CP04-4.01	Faribault County SWCD	Bass Lake Watershed Study	\$8,000
CP04-4.02	Fillmore County SWCD	Pond Restoration	\$20,000
CP04-2.01	Fond du Lac	Nature Trail Habitat Restoration	\$10,000
CP04-4.03	Heron Lake WD	Sago Pondweed Research	\$10,000
CP04-4.04	Hutchinson	Miller Woods Oak Savannah Restoration	\$16,340
CP04-1.02	Lake Washburn Association	Lake Washburn Restoration Project	\$2,700
CP04-3.02	Lower Phalen Creek Project	Vento Sanctuary Habitat Enhancement	\$20,000
CP05-007	Mower SWCD	Cooperative Tree Planter	\$3,500
CP04-3.04	Natural Resources Restoration, Inc.	Afton State Park	\$13,560
CP04-3.03	Natural Resources Restoration, Inc.	Carver Rapids Restoration	\$9,872
CP04-3.05	Natural Resources Restoration, Inc.	Interstate State Park	\$3,520
CP04-3.10	New Hope	Victory Ponds Native Planting & Interpretation	\$9,450
CP04-4.09	Pheasants Forever	Dehning Waterfowl Restoration	\$3,000
CP04-4.05	Redwood Co. Pheasants Forever	Farm bill Program Habitat Restoration	\$807
CP04-4.06	Rice County Forestry Comm.	Tree planting machine	\$2,459
CP04-4.07	Rice County SWCD	Native Grass No-Till Drill	\$10,725
CP04-3.06	Shingle Ck Watershed Mgmt Comm.	Shingle Creek Corridor Study	\$20,000
CP04-3.07	South St. Paul	Mississippi River Reg. Trail Vegetation Restoration	\$20,000
CP04-3.08	Stearns County SWCD	Lakeshed Naturalization Conservation Projects	\$20,000

Projects: 24	Total Program Award:	\$246,465
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Environmental Partnerships

EP04-4.01	Blue Earth	Multi-use Environ. Corridor Planning	\$20,000
EP04-4.02	Blue Earth River Basin Initiative	Land Stewardship Conference	\$2,500
EP04-4.07	Blue Earth SWCD	Rainwater Garden Project	\$15,000
EP04-3.01	Cairn & Associates	Supporting Community Habitat Restoration	\$19,750
EP04-4.03	Dodge	Stream Sampling Program	\$14,000

2003 LCMR Project History, DNR Local Grants Programs
 Conservation Partners and Environmental Partnerships Grant Programs

09/18/2006

EP04-3.02	Friends of the Mississippi River	Mississippi River Gorge Stewardship Project	\$20,000
EP04-3.03	Maplewood	Interpretive Exhibits	\$20,000
EP04-4.04	Mountain Lake # 173	Mountain Lake Bluebird Trail	\$1,603
EP04-2.02	Orr	Bogwalk Project	\$1,500
EP04-3.04	Prior Lake	Natural Resource Inventory and Manage. Plan	\$19,260
EP05-031	Putting Green, Inc.	Interpretive Signs for Nature Trail	\$4,500
EP04-4.05	Red Wing Wildlife League	Develop Restoration Plan	\$9,914
EP04-3.05	Saint John's Arboretum	Field Study Program	\$4,500
EP04-2.01	Sugarloaf Interpretive Center Assoc.	Coastal Forest Reforestation Booklet	\$4,900
EP04-4.06	Winona	Ecoyard Demonstration Site	\$2,621

Projects: 15	Total Program Award:	\$160,048
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Appropriation Summary:

Appropriation Total:	\$512,000
Administration Costs:	\$60,000
Project Approp. Total:	\$452,000
Project Awards:	\$406,513
Balance:	\$45,487
Total Projects Funded:	39

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

Proposal Title: Local Initiative Grants - Conservation Partners and Environmental Partnerships

Project manager Name: Wayne Sames

LCMR Requested Dollars: \$512,000

2003 LCMR Proposal Budget	Result 1 Budget:	Amount Spent (12/04)	Balance (12/04)	Result 2 Budget:	Amount Spent (12/04)	Balance (12/04)	
	Conservation Partners Grants			Environmental Partnership Grants			
BUDGET ITEM	\$301,952	\$276,465.00	\$25,487	\$210,048	\$190,048.00	\$20,000	TOTAL FOR BUDGET ITEM: \$512,000
PERSONNEL: Staff Expenses, wages, salaries – Be specific on who is paid \$, to do what? Make each person paid a separate line item	30,000	30,000	0	30,000	30,000	0	60,000
PERSONNEL: Staff benefits – Be specific; list benefits for each person on a separate line item	Included in above amount.			Included in above amount.			
Other land improvement: habitat	271,952	246,465	25,487				271,952
Other: conservation projects				180,048	160,048	20,000	180,048
COLUMN TOTAL	301,952	276,465	25,487	210,048	190,048	20,000	512,000