

2005 Project Abstract

For the Period Ending June 30, 2008

TITLE: Development of Scientific & Natural Areas (5c)

PROJECT MANAGER: Peggy Booth

ORGANIZATION: Department of Natural Resources, Scientific & Natural Area Program

ADDRESS: 500 Lafayette Rd, Box 25, St Paul, MN 55155-4025

WEB SITE ADDRESS: www.dnr.state.mn.us/snas

FUND: The Environment & Natural Resources Trust Fund

LEGAL CITATION: ML 2005, First Special Session, Chp. 1, Art. 2, Sec. 11, Subd. 5(c).

APPROPRIATION AMOUNT: \$134,000

Overall Project Outcome and Results

Ecological restoration and development projects were carried out on about 330 acres in 25 counties across the state at 38 of the state's 147 state Scientific and Natural Areas (SNA). This included prairie grassland improvement (exotics and woody encroachment removal) on 155 acres at 17 SNAs, prairie restoration – including seed collection on 40 acres at 2 SNAs, 179 acres prescribed burns and 31.35 miles of burn break development at 18 SNAs, boundary signing along 19 miles of perimeter at 4 SNAs, and other development work (deer enclosure construction, kiosk, gates, parking lots, and site cleanup at 8 SNAs. This work is necessary to preserve and perpetuate the state's ecological diversity including rare species and native plant communities in sites of biological diversity significance which are part of the state's SNA system and to enhance their value and usage as part of the state's outdoor recreation system.

LCCMR 2005 Work Program Final Report

Date of Report: June 30, 2008
LCCMR 2005 Work Program Final Report

I. PROJECT TITLE: Development of Scientific & Natural Areas (5c)

Project Manager: Peggy Booth
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Location: Statewide

Total Biennial LCMR Project Budget:	LCMR Appropriation:	\$ 134,000
	Minus Amount Spent:	<u>\$ 134,000</u>
	Equal Balance:	<u>\$ 0</u>

Legal Citation: ML 2005, 1st Spec. Sess., Chap. 1, Art. 2, Sec. 11, Subd. 5(c).

Appropriation Language: Development of Scientific and Natural Areas - \$134,000 \$67,000 the first year and \$67,000 the second year are from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to develop and enhance lands designated as scientific and natural areas. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2008, 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

Ecological restoration and development projects were carried out on about 330 acres in 25 counties across the state at 38 of the state's 147 state Scientific and Natural Areas (SNA). This included prairie grassland improvement (exotics and woody encroachment removal) on 155 acres at 17 SNAs, prairie restoration – including seed collection on 40 acres at 2 SNAs, 179 acres prescribed burns and 31.35 miles of burn break development at 18 SNAs, boundary signing along 19 miles of perimeter at 4 SNAs, and other development work (deer enclosure construction, kiosk, gates, parking lots, and site cleanup at 8 SNAs. This work is necessary to preserve and perpetuate the state's ecological diversity including rare species and native plant communities in sites of biological diversity significance which are part of the state's SNA system and to enhance their value and usage as part of the state's outdoor recreation system.

IV. OUTLINE OF PROJECT RESULTS:

Result 1: Development of SNA lands

Summary Budget Information for Result 1:

LCMR Budget	\$134,000
Balance	\$ <u> 0</u>

Final Report Summary:

Ecological restoration and development projects were carried out on about 330 acres at 38 state Scientific and Natural Areas in 25 counties across the state. This included prairie grassland improvement (exotics and woody encroachment removal) on 155 acres at 17 SNAs, prairie restoration – including seed collection on 40 acres at 2 SNAs, 179 acres prescribed burns and 31.35 miles of burn break development at 18 SNAs, boundary signing along 19 miles of perimeter at 4 SNAs, and other development work (deer exclosure construction, kiosk, gates, parking lots, and site cleanup) at 8 SNAs. Without this funding support, the rare resources and plant communities at these sites would have deteriorated in quality and public use of these sites would have been compromised.

Specifically, this work was completed at the following counties and SNAs:

- Big Stone County – Bonanza Prairie SNA and Clinton Prairie SNA;
- Brown County – Cottonwood River Prairie SNA;
- Chippewa County – Gneiss Outcrops;
- Clay County – Blanket Flower Prairie SNA and Felton Prairie SNA;
- Dodge County – Hythecker Prairie SNA and Iron Horse Prairie SNA;
- Fillmore County – Cherry Grove Blind Valley SNA and Rushford Sand Barrens SNA;
- Goodhue County – Cannon River Turtle Preserve SNA and River Terrace Prairie SNA;
- Itasca County – Chisholm Point Island SNA;
- Jackson County – Des Moines River Prairie SNA;
- Lac Qui Parle County – Yellow Bank Hills SNA;
- LeSueur County – Chamberlain Woods SNA and Kasota Prairie SNA;
- Nobles County – Compass Prairie SNA;
- Norman County – Prairie Smoke Dunes SNA and Sandpiper SNA;
- Olmsted County – Oronoco Prairie SNA;
- Pipestone County – Prairie Coteau SNA;
- Polk County – Pembina Trail Preserve SNA;
- Redwood County – Cedar Mountain SNA and Swedes Forest SNA (see below also);
- Rice County – Prairie Creek Woods SNA and Townsend Woods SNA;
- Sherburne County – Mississippi River Islands SNA;
- St. Louis County – Moose Mountain SNA;
- Stearns County – Avon Hills Forest SNA, Roscoe Prairie SNA, and Quarry Park SNA;
- Stevens County – Verlyn Marth Memorial Prairie SNA

- Wabasha County – Kellogg-Weaver Dunes SNA and Zumbro Falls Woods SNA;
- Washington County – Grey Cloud Dunes SNA and St. Croix Savanna SNA;
- Yellow Medicine County – Blue Devil Valley SNA and Swedes Forest SNA (see above also).

V. TOTAL LCMR PROJECT BUDGET:

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Balance</u>
All Results: Personnel:	\$77,227	0
All Results: Equipment:	\$ 0	0
All Results: Development:	\$56,773	0
All Results: Acquisition:	\$ 0	0
All Results: Other:	\$ 0	0

TOTAL LCMR PROJECT BUDGET: \$134,000

Explanation of Capital Expenditures Greater Than \$3,500: NA

OTHER FUNDS & PARTNERS:

A. Project Partners: STS Programs and Volunteers.

B. Other Funds being Spent during the Project Period: Laws 2003, SNA Bonding, \$500,000 (\$300,000 acquisition & \$200,000 development) ; Laws 2005, SNA Bonding, \$300,000 (\$150,000 acquisition & \$150,000 development); Laws 2005, Environmental Trust Fund, SNA Metro Corridors, \$300,000 (\$200,000 acquisition & \$100,000 development). RIM Critical Habitat Match Funding (\$46,000) will be directed to several SNA sites in the metro corridors areas for enhancement and restoration.

C. Required Match (if applicable): NA

D. Past Spending: Environmental Trust Fund, Laws of 2003, Art.1, Chap.128, Sec. 9, Subd.5 (d) Acquisition and Development of Scientific and Natural Areas \$480,000 (\$400,000 acquisition & \$80,000 development); Environmental Trust Fund, Laws of 2003, Chap.128, Art.1, Sec.9, Subd.5 (b), \$264,000 acquisition; RIM Critical Habitat Match Funding, \$140,000 Development.

E. Time: 3 years, until February 15, 2008.

VII. DISSEMINATION: Selected activities may be publicized through media outlets such as newspapers, radio and television or acknowledged through public tours and websites, etc.

VIII. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS: Periodic work program progress reports will be submitted not later than February 1st and August 1st each year, starting with February 1st, 2006. A final work program report will be submitted by July 1st, 2008.

IX. RESEARCH PROJECTS: NA

5c. Development of Scientific and Natural Areas

Program Manager: Peggy Booth

TOTAL APPROPRIATION: \$ 134,000

2005 LCMR Proposal Budget	Result 1 Budget:	Amount Spent	Balance	
BUDGET ITEM	Development of SNAs			TOTAL FOR BUDGET
Project crews (technicians and laborers paid almost exclusively with special project funds) to carry out restoration and enhancement, amounting to 3.0 FTE over the life of the project. Crew costs were included in land improvement cost totals in original	\$ 77,227	\$ 77,227	\$ -	
Fringe benefits range from 14.8- 18% for laborers.				
Travel expenses in Minnesota were lumped with land improvement cost totals in original Attachment A. Actual expenditures will be reported separately in status reports. Note: this category includes fleet charges for equipment used in restoration & development.	\$ 41,268	\$ 41,268	\$ -	
Supplies, seed and materials	\$ 15,506	\$ 15,506	\$ -	
TOTAL Land improvement will include seed collection, restoration activities, signing and posting, prescribed burning, site clean up, and fencing among other projects.	\$ 134,000	\$ 134,000	\$ -	\$ 134,000