

2005 Project Abstract

For the Period Ending June 30, 2006

TITLE: Metropolitan Area Wildlife Corridors – Phase II: 3.7. Forest Legacy Conservation Easement Acquisition

PROJECT MANAGER: Peggy Booth

ORGANIZATION: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

ADDRESS: 1200 Warner Rd, St Paul, MN 55106

WEB SITE ADDRESS: <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/snas/index.html>

FUND: Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

LEGAL CITATION: ML 2005, 1st Spec. Sess., Chap. 1, Art. 2, Sec. 11, Subd. 5b.

APPROPRIATION AMOUNT: \$20,000

Overall Project Outcome and Results

This appropriation continued an effort begun through a 2003 Metro Corridors Forest Legacy project funded by the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund. In total, a 42.5-acre conservation easement acquired through this project protects the 55-acre environmentally and historically significant Arcola Mills site (May Township, Washington County). The Environmental and Natural Resources appropriation acquired almost 20% of the \$1 million easement value (2003 appropriation: 7.29 acres and 2005 appropriation: .85 acres) and leveraged a 50% easement value contribution by the landowner, 10% value locally contributed by Washington County, and another 20% through Metro Greenways state bonding funds.

A full description of the project outcome and results is included with the 2003 project abstract and report.

Acquisition of the conservation easement assures that none of the site's significant natural resources will be lost to development and provided funds to the Arcola Mills Historic Foundation to enhance resource interpretation and conservation at the site.

Project Results Use and Dissemination

Project information has acknowledged contributions from the Environmental and Natural Resources Trust Fund.

LCMR 2005 Work Program

Date of Report: June, 30 2006
LCMR Final Work Program Report

I. PROJECT TITLE: Metropolitan Area Wildlife Corridors – Phase II: 3.7 Forest Legacy Conservation Easement Acquisition

Project Manager: Margaret (Peggy) Booth
Affiliation: Mn Department of Natural Resources – Division of Forestry
Mailing Address: 1200 Warner Road
City / State / Zip : St. Paul, MN 55106
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Total Biennial LCMR Project Budget:	LCMR Appropriation:	\$ 20,000
	Minus Amount Spent:	\$ 20,000
	Equal Balance:	\$ 0

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

Appropriation Language: Metropolitan Area Wildlife Corridors – Phase II. \$1,765,000 the first year and \$1,765,000 the second year are from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for the second biennium 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, Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Trust, Inc., Pheasants Forever, Inc. and Friends of the Minnesota Valley 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 and portions of the surrounding counties, through grants, contracted services, conservation easements, and fee acquisition. Land acquired with this appropriation must be sufficiently improved to meet at least minimum management standards as determined by the commissioner of natural resources. 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 similarly designate any lands acquired in less than fee title. 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:

This appropriation continued an effort begun through a 2003 Metro Corridors Forest Legacy project funded by the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund. In total, a 42.5-acre conservation easement acquired through this project protects the 55-acre environmentally and historically significant Arcola Mills site (May Township, Washington County). The Environmental and Natural Resources appropriation acquired almost 20% of the \$1 million easement value (2003 appropriation: 7.29 acres and 2005 appropriation: .85 acres) and leveraged a 50% easement value contribution by the landowner, 10% value locally contributed by Washington County, and another 20% through Metro Greenways state bonding funds.

A full description of the project outcome and results is included with the 2003 project abstract and report.

Acquisition of the conservation easement assures that none of the site’s significant natural resources will be lost to development and provided funds to the Arcola Mills Historic Foundation to enhance resource interpretation and conservation at the site.

IV. OUTLINE OF PROJECT RESULTS

Result 1: Acquire Significant Habitat

Summary Budget Information for Result 1:	LCMR Budget	\$20,000
	Amount Spent:	\$20,000
	Balance:	\$ 0

Completion Date: June 30, 2006

Final Report Summary:

A 42.5-acre conservation easement acquired through this project protects the 55-acre environmentally significant Arcola Mills site in May Township, Washington County. This Environmental and Natural Resources Trust Fund appropriation contributed about 2% of the funding (.85 acres). The funding package assembled by Metro Conservation Corridors partnership and the resulting acreage acquired by funding source is listed in a table included in the 2003 LCMR Final Report for Metropolitan Area Wildlife Corridors – Forest Legacy (3.6). Statements of the project’s significance, scope, and shortcomings are also discussed in that Final Report.

V. TOTAL LCMR PROJECT BUDGET:

- All Results: Personnel: \$0**
- All Results: Equipment: \$0**
- All Results: Development: \$0**

All Results: Acquisition: \$20,000 (conservation easement)
All Results: Other: \$0

TOTAL LCMR PROJECT BUDGET: \$20,000

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

V. OTHER FUNDS & PARTNERS:

A. Project Partners: See Table 1.

B. Other Funds being Spent during the Project Period: The budget for acquisition of a 42.5 acre conservation easement at Arcola Mills was: \$197,000 2003 LCMR for Forest Legacy, \$20,000 2005 LCMR for Forest Legacy, about \$207,000 from the DNR Metro Greenways Program (2002 and 2005 bonding), \$100,000 from Washington County, and \$500,000 donation by the Arcola Mills HistoricFoundation.

C. Required Match (if applicable): NA

D. Past Spending: 2003 LCMR for Forest Legacy: \$ 197,000 – used as needed for appraisal and related real estate transaction costs. Arcola Mills applied for federal Forest Legacy funding in fall 2004, but was not selected for funding.

E. Time: 3 years, until June 30, 2008.

VII. DISSEMINATION: When the Lower St. Croix Forest Legacy was completed, DNR Regional Operations and Arcola Mills Foundation cooperated to publicize accomplishments through press releases, Arcola Mills publications and website and DNR publications.

VIII. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS: Periodic work program progress reports were submitted February 1st and August 1st each year, starting with February 1st, 2006.

IX. RESEARCH PROJECTS: NA

Attachment A: Budget Detail for 2005 Metro Corridors Project

FINAL REPORT

Project Title: MWC Phase II: 3.7. Forest Legacy Conservation Easement Acquisition

Project Manager Name: Margaret (Peggy) Booth

LCMR Requested Dollars: \$ 20,000

BUDGET ITEM	Amount Budgeted (\$)	Amount Spent (\$)	Balance (\$)	Comments
DEVELOPMENT				
Land improvement			\$ -	
DEVELOPMENT - SUBTOTAL			\$ -	
ACQUISITION				
Land acquisition (<i>fee title & conservation easement</i>)		\$ 20,000.00		<i>conservation easement acquisition</i>
Land transaction costs (<i>e.g. survey, title, appraisal, environmental, & legal</i>)			\$ -	
ACQUISITION - SUBTOTAL	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00		
TOTAL LCMR Funding	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ -	