

2007 Project Abstract

For the Period Ending June 30, 2009

TITLE: Metro Conservation Corridors – Phase III
Overall Summary
PROJECT MANAGER: Bill Becker (Wayne Sames – temporary)
ORGANIZATION: MN Department of Natural Resources
ADDRESS: 500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, MN 55155-4010
WEB SITE ADDRESS: www.dnr.state.mn.us/metroconservationcorridors
FUND: Environmental and Natural Resources Trust Fund
LEGAL CITATION: Minnesota Laws 2007, Chapter 30, Section 2, Subdivision 4(c)

APPROPRIATION AMOUNT: \$2,500,000

OVERALL PROJECT OUTCOME AND RESULTS

During the third phase of the Metro Corridors project, the Metro Conservation Corridors Partners continued their work to accelerate protection and restoration of remaining high-quality natural lands in the greater Twin Cities Metropolitan Area by strategically coordinating and focusing conservation efforts within a connected and scientifically-identified network of critical lands. This corridor network stretches from the area's urban core to its rural perimeter, including portions of 16 counties.

The Partners employed a multi-faceted approach, which included accomplishments in four specific result areas:

1. *Coordinate Metro Conservation Corridors and Metro Greenways Programs:* Partners met quarterly to review project accomplishments and coordinate activity. With DNR support, the partners also launched development of an online database to facilitate tracking and reporting of MeCC projects over time.
2. *Restore and Enhance Significant Habitat:* Collectively, the partners restored 770 acres of land, including 1.26 miles of shoreline. Restoration of an additional 259 acres was completed using other funds.
3. *Acquire Significant Habitat:* Collectively, the partners protected 721 acres of land, including more than one-half mile of shoreline through acquisition of fee title and conservation easements and leveraged an additional 232 acres of land and ¼-mile of shoreline using other funds.
4. *Provide Community Conservation Assistance:* The Metro Greenways Program assisted four cities and two counties with the integration of natural resources information into local development and conservation planning and policy decisions.

Accomplishments during this phase also helped address a number of recommendations of the Statewide Conservation and Preservation Plan, including: protecting priority land habitats; protecting critical shorelands of streams and lakes; restoring land, wetlands, and wetland-associated watersheds; and improving connectivity and access to outdoor recreation.

PROJECT RESULTS USE AND DISSEMINATION

As projects were completed, the individual partners were encouraged to publicize accomplishments through press releases, organization newsletters, and websites. These efforts resulted in information being distributed to the public through websites, email lists, daily and weekly newspapers, newsletters, and other print materials. Additionally, once the MeCC database development is complete, the partnership hopes to be able to better disseminate information on its accomplishments through a public web portal.

Trust Fund 2007 Work Program Final Report

Date of Report: March 1, 2010

Date of Work program Approval:

Project Completion Date: 6/30/09

I. PROJECT TITLE: Metro Conservation Corridors (MeCC) Phase III:
Overall Summary

Project Manager: Wayne Sames
Affiliation: MN Dept of Natural Resources
Mailing Address: 500 Lafayette Road
City / State / Zip : St. Paul, MN 55155-4010
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Location: Within mapped Focus Area in the counties of Anoka, Carver, Chisago, Dakota, Goodhue, Hennepin, Isanti, LeSueur, Nicollet, Ramsey, Rice, Scott, Sherburne, Sibley, Washington and Wright. See Figure 1.

| | | | |
|---|----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Total Trust Fund Project Budget: | Trust Fund Appropriation: | \$ | 2,500,000 |
| | Minus Amount Spent: | \$ | 2,465,225 |
| | Equal Balance: | \$ | 34,775 |

Legal Citation: ML 2007, Chapter 30, Section 2, Subdivision 4c

Appropriation Language: (c) Metro Conservation Corridors- Phase III

\$2,500,000 is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for acceleration of agency programs and cooperative agreements with The Trust for Public Land; Friends of the Mississippi River; Great River Greening; Minnesota Land Trust; Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Trust, Inc.; Trout Unlimited; and Friends of the Minnesota Valley for the purposes of planning, restoring, 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. Expenditures are limited to the identified project corridor 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. All conservation easements must be perpetual and have a natural resource management plan. 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.

II. AND III. FINAL PROJECT SUMMARY:

During the third phase of the Metro Corridors project, the Metro Conservation Corridors Partners continued their work to accelerate protection and restoration of remaining high-quality natural lands in the greater Twin Cities Metropolitan Area by strategically coordinating and focusing conservation efforts within a connected and scientifically-identified network of critical lands. This corridor network stretches from the area's urban core to its rural perimeter, including portions of 16 counties.

The Partners employed a multi-faceted approach, which included accomplishments in four specific result areas.

1. *Coordinate Metro Conservation Corridors and Metro Greenways Programs:* Partners met quarterly to review project accomplishments and coordinate activity. With DNR support, the partners also launched development of an online database to facilitate tracking and reporting of MeCC projects over time.
2. *Restore and Enhance Significant Habitat:* Collectively, the partners restored 770 acres of land, including 1.26 miles of shoreline. Restoration of an additional 259 acres was completed using other funds.
3. *Acquire Significant Habitat:* Collectively the partners protected 721 acres of land, including more than one-half mile of shoreline through acquisition of fee title and conservation easements and leveraged an additional 232 acres of land and ¼-mile of shoreline using other funds.
4. *Provide Community Conservation Assistance:* The Metro Greenways Program assisted four cities and two counties with the integration of natural resources information into local development and conservation planning and policy decisions.

Accomplishments during this phase also helped address a number of recommendations of the Statewide Conservation and Preservation Plan, including, protecting priority land habitats, protecting critical shorelands of streams and lakes, restoring land, wetlands, and wetland-associated watersheds, and improving connectivity and access to outdoor recreation.

IV. OUTLINE OF PROJECT RESULTS:

Result 1: Coordinate Metro Conservation Corridors and Metro Greenways Programs

The work of the partners to conserve habitat and natural areas threatened by development was coordinated and prioritized to increase cost-effectiveness and efficiently leverage private and public resources. This project component represented 2 years of implementation support for the management and coordination of the overall program and the Metro Greenways component within it.

Summary Budget Information for Result 1:

| | |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| Trust Fund Budget: | \$ 165,000 |
| Amount Spent: | \$ 150,572 |
| Balance: | \$ 14,428 |

Deliverable

Bi -annual progress reports on overall results

Final Completion Date: 6/30/2009

Final Report Summary:

MeCC Partners met quarterly to discuss progress on accomplishments and coordinate protection, restoration, and community assistance efforts. Partners also launched development of a project database that will help track and report progress of the partnership over time.

Result 2: Restore & Enhance Significant Habitat

Description: Partner organizations restored approximately 770 acres of significant upland, shore land and/or wetland habitat within the corridors. This includes Metro Greenways providing grants for restoration work to a local unit of government and a non-profit organization. These two grants were selected through a request for proposal process (RFP) that included broad eligibility and outreach.

Summary Budget Information for Result 2:

| | |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| Trust Fund Budget: | \$ 279,416 |
| Amount Spent: | \$ 265,069 |
| Balance: | \$ 14,347 |

Deliverable

1. 203 acres restored

Final Completion Date: 6/30/2009

Final Report Summary:

Collectively, six partners restored 770 acres of land, including 1.26 miles of shoreline at 32 sites. Restoration of an additional 259 acres was completed using other funds.

Restoration activities were focused, and often coordinated, on improving habitat within SNA's and on other important public lands, restoring wetlands, and restoring habitat along trout streams.

A summary of each sub-result is provided below. For additional information and details on projects and expenditures, please see Table A and the individual work program final reports.

2.1: Restore/Enhance Significant Watershed Habitat – Friends of the Mississippi River

Friends of the Mississippi restored a total of 238 acres of significant habitat, including 79 acres using LCCMR funding, 95 acres using non-state funding, and 64 acres with other state funding.

Activities were focused on the following natural areas:

- Sand Coulee Prairie - City of Hastings
- Pine Bend Bluffs Scientific and Natural Area
- Rosemount Wildlife Preserve
- City of St. Paul Parks
- Hastings Wildlife Management Area
- Hastings River Flats Park
- Hastings Sand Coulee Scientific and Natural Area

2.2: Lower Minnesota River Watershed Restoration and Enhancement Project – Friends of the Minnesota Valley

Friends of the Minnesota Valley restored and enhanced a total of 234 acres of wetland within the Lower Minnesota River Watershed, including 165 acres using LCCMR funds and 69 acres using other funds. An additional 28 acres were restored using 2008 LCCMR funds and will be reported in the 2008 work program accomplishments.

Activities were focused on the following areas:

- Porter Creek, Scott County
- Rapids Lake, Carver County

2.3: Restore/Enhance Significant Habitat – Great River Greening

Great River Greening restored a total of 116.5 acres of ecologically significant land, including 86 acres using LCCMR funds and 30.5 acres using other funds.

Activities were focused in the following areas:

- St. Croix River Corridor (Arcola Mills, Afton State Park, Wind in the Pines Park, Tanglewood Nature Preserve, and Camp Waub-O-Jeeg)
- Eagle Creek AMA
- Credit River

2.4: Habitat Restoration/Enhancement Grants – DNR Metro Greenways

DNR Metro Greenways awarded two grants to restore a total of 11 acres of public lands and the project sponsors matched those dollars with \$100,000. At the Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary in St. Paul neighborhood groups worked with volunteers and the City to remove invasive plant and plant oak woodland and prairie on the

bluffs. Elk River removed invasive species and planted a prairie/savanna in an old pasture that was acquired in 2005 to expand Top of the World City Park.

2.5: Scientific & Natural Area Restoration and Enhancement – DNR Ecological Services

The SNA Program and its partners (including MeCC partner Friends of the Mississippi River) restored and enhanced native habitat on over 429 acres at 12 SNAs within the Metro Conservation Corridors. Specific accomplishments are: 13 acres of prairie restoration work at two sites in Washington and Dakota Counties; 197 acres of prescribed burns (and associated burn break development) at 6 SNAs in Goodhue and Washington Counties; and 219 acres of exotics species removal at 9 sites in Carver, Hennepin, Goodhue, and Washington Counties. This work was necessary to prevent the loss of important species, plant communities and features.

2.6: Stream Habitat Restoration – Trout Unlimited

Trout Unlimited restored 1.26 miles of streams in the Metro area by stabilizing streambanks and incorporating habitat for trout. Trout Unlimited also promoted stream restoration in the Metro area by providing 100 hours of technical assistance to local units of government and non-profit organizations, by creating and presenting a stream restoration display at the Great Waters Expo and the Healthy Waters & Heritage Fair as well as other local conservation venues, by the development of two news releases on key projects, by conducting three workshops, and by distributing handouts and newsletters.

Activities were focused in the following areas:

- Hay Creek, Goodhue County
- Vermillion River, Dakota County
- Brown's Creek, Washington County

Result 3: Acquire Significant Habitat

Description: Partner organizations protected through conservation easements and/or fee title approximately 721 acres of significant habitat within the identified corridors. This includes Metro Greenways providing funding to two locally nominated projects. Metro Greenways grants were selected through a request for proposal process (RFP) that includes broad eligibility and outreach.

| | | |
|---|---------------------------|---------------------|
| Summary Budget Information for Result 3: | Trust Fund Budget: | \$ 1,955,584 |
| | Amount Spent: | \$ 1,955,584 |
| | Balance: | \$ 0 |

Deliverable

1. 630 acres acquired

Final Completion Date: 6/30/2009

Final Report Summary:

Collectively, six partners acquired fee title or conservation easements on 18 sites, protecting a total of 721 acres. Acquisition of an additional 232 acres was completed using other funds.

Acquisition activities were focused on building on past projects, such as the Vermillion River, Rum River, and Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge sites. Efforts also focused on acquiring new SNA lands.

A summary of each sub-result is provided below. For additional information and details on projects and expenditures, please see Table A and the individual work program final reports.

3.1: Critical Land Protection Program fee title & conservation easement acquisition – The Trust for Public Land

The Trust for Public Land secured fee title on 118 acres of significant habitat, including 8 acres using LCCMR funding, 59 acres using non-state funding, and 51 acres with other state funding. The properties were then conveyed to public agencies for permanent protection.

Specific acquisitions include the following:

- Franconia St. Croix Bluffs SNA, Chisago County
- Ojiketa Regional Park, Chisago County

3.2: Protecting significant habitat by acquiring conservation easements - Minnesota Land Trust

The Minnesota Land Trust acquired conservation easements to protect 519 acres of land and more than 15,000 feet of shoreline. Contact was initiated with approximately 39 landowners, and 9 perpetual conservation easements were completed. Two easements were purchased, both at a bargain price. The remaining 7 easements were donated.

Projects were focused in the following areas:

- Rum River Watershed, four projects in Isanti County
- Hennepin County Corridors, four projects in Hennepin County
- Wild River State Park, Chisago County

3.3: Fee acquisition for the MN Valley National Wildlife Refuge - Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Trust, Inc.

The Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Trust, Inc. acquired fee title on 69 acres of significant habitat in the Minnesota River Valley in Jessenland Township of Sibley County, including 49 acres using LCCMR funding and 100 acres using non-state funding. Additionally, the MN Valley Trust acquired fee title to another 80 acres of significant habitat in the Minnesota River Valley in Faxon Township. After restoration of these parcels, they will be donated to the US Fish and Wildlife Service for perpetual management as part of the Jessenland Unit of the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge.

3.4: Grants & acquisition of fee title & conservation easements - Minnesota Department of Natural Resources - Metro Greenways

The DNR Metro Greenways program provided funding to protect significant habitat by acquiring fee title or conservation easements on 104 acres, including 96 acres using LCCMR funding and 8 acres using non-state funding. An additional 152 acres were protected through conservation easements held by the Minnesota Land Trust using two Metro Greenways grants provided through 2007 LCCMR funding, but have been excluded here to avoid double-counting.

Individual protection successes include the following:

- Wilmar - Dakota County
- Pilot Knob, Phase II – Mendota Heights (Dakota County)
- St. Catherine's Bluff – Scott County

3.5: DNR Fish & Wildlife Acquisition - Minnesota Department of Natural Resources – Fisheries & Wildlife

DNR Fisheries & Wildlife acquired two parcels on the Vermillion River in Dakota County, protecting nearly 47 acres of significant habitat, including 33 acres using LCCMR funding and 14 acres with other state funding. One of the parcels was also paid for with 2005 acquisition dollars, resulting in both acres and miles being divided proportionately between the two phases.

3.6: Scientific & Natural Area (SNA) Acquisition - Minnesota Department of Natural Resources – Ecological Services

The DNR SNA program, in cooperation with the Trust for Public Land, acquired two parcels of land totaling 85 acres of high priority native habitat which was designated as Franconia Bluffs SNA. Transaction costs for the acquisition and the boundary survey for Parcel 1 were covered using 2007 LCCMR funding, while the funds to purchase the parcel were covered using 2005 LCCMR funding. The LCCMR accomplishment acres for the acquisition of Parcel 1 are all counted as 2005 funding by the Trust for Public Land.

Parcel 2 consists of 37 acres, 16 acres of which were purchased using 2007 DNR SNA program LCCMR funds. An additional 20 acres were acquired using 2008 LCCMR funds and will be reported in the 2008 work program accomplishments.

Result 4: Provide Community Conservation Assistance

Description: Metro Greenways Program assisted four cities and two counties with the integration of natural resources information into local development and conservation planning and policy decisions. Grants were made to assist communities with a wide range of local conservation planning and implementation activities, such as:

- Obtaining a land cover inventory;
- Collecting and analyzing natural resources information;

- Integrating natural resources information and/or analysis into local plans, practices, and policies;
- Educate local government staff and elected and appointed officials on conservation and development approaches;
- Developing a process or approach to encourage inter-jurisdictional cooperation for management around a share, vital natural resource.

Projects were selected through a request for proposal process (RFP) that included broad eligibility and outreach. Selection criteria addressed the project and community's potential to: preserve ecological value, protect sensitive habitat from impairment, address growth pressures, integrate natural resource data and information into local plans, ordinances and policies. Project sponsors provided a 1:1 match (non-state dollars or in-kind support.)

Summary Budget Information for Result 4:

| | |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| Trust Fund Budget: | \$ 100,000 |
| Amount Spent: | \$ 94,000 |
| Balance: | \$ 6,000 |

Deliverable

1. 4-6 Communities Assisted

Final Completion Date: 6/30/2009

Final Report Summary:

DNR Metro Greenways awarded Community Conservation Assistance matching grants to four cities and two counties within the metropolitan area. Priority was given to projects that sought to resolve challenges associated with the conservation of remaining natural habitats in rapidly changing communities.

Metro Greenways provided grants that used a variety of tools in order to integrate natural resources information into local government planning, including the identification of natural areas, the development of ordinances and policies that protect natural resources and the creation of a GIS model to track natural resources.

Grant recipients included the following:

- City of Andover – Natural Resource Inventory
- City of Dayton – Ordinances
- Goodhue County – Policy & Planning
- City of Maplewood – Natural Resource Inventory
- City of Monticello – Natural Resource Inventory
- Scott County – Policy & Planning

V. TOTAL TRUST FUND PROJECT BUDGET:

Please also see the attached Table B and individual work programs for additional detail.

Staff or Contract Services: \$345,901
Community Assistance Grants: \$94,000
Equipment: \$5,292
Development: \$368
Restoration: \$107,330
Acquisition, including easements: \$ 1,851,809
Other: \$ 60,525

TOTAL TRUST FUND PROJECT BUDGET: \$2,500,000 (\$2,465,225 Spent)

Explanation of Capital Expenditures Greater Than \$3,500: N/A

VI. OTHER FUNDS & PARTNERS:

A. Project Partners: Metro Conservation Corridor partners (see Table A) and private landowners, local governments, regional, state and federal agencies, nonprofit organizations and citizen groups.

B. Other Funds Proposed to be Spent during the Project Period: Approximately \$6,800,000 were proposed to be spent during the project period. Actual funds spent or leveraged were: \$2,527,545 of other state funds and \$7,159,563 of other non-state funds (see Table A).

C. Past Spending:

Phase I (2003) - \$4,850,000 ETF
Phase II (2005) - \$3,530,000 ETF
Phase III (2007) - \$2,500,000 ETF

VII. DISSEMINATION: As projects were completed, the individual partners were encouraged to publicize accomplishments through press releases, organization newsletters and websites. These efforts resulted in information being distributed to the public through websites, email lists, daily and weekly newspapers, newsletters, and other print materials. Additionally, once the MeCC database development is complete, the partnership hopes to be able to better disseminate information on its accomplishments through a public web portal.

VIII. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS: Periodic work program progress reports were submitted February 1st and August 1st of each year, starting with February 1, 2008. This is the final work program report.

Metro Conservation Corridors - Phase III

date: 1/12/2010

Table A: Summary of Funding & Accomplishments
LCCMR Recommended Dollars: \$2,500,000

| Result / Activity | Partner | Project Funding | | | | | | Accomplishments | | | | | |
|--|---|----------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|------|---|-------|
| | | ENRTF 2007 Funds | | | Other Funds | | Total Project Funds Spent (ENRTF, Other State Funds & Non-State Funds combined) | ENRTF | | Other Funds | | Total Project Acres Completed (ENRTF & Other Funds combined) | |
| | | ENRTF 2007 Funds Allocated | ENRTF 2007 Funds Spent | ENRTF 2007 Funds Balance | Other State Funding Spent | Other Non-State Funding Spent | | ENRTF 2007 Acres/Miles Completed | Other Funds Acres/Miles Completed | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | ACRES | MILES | ACRES | MILES | | | | | | | | |
| 1. Coordinate MeCC Program | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.1. Coordination of MeCC program, local outreach and conservation implementation assistance for two year project term | All partners below - led by DNR Metro Greenways | \$165,000 | \$150,572 | \$14,428 | \$0 | \$0 | \$150,572 | | | | | | |
| 2. Restore & Enhancement Significant Habitat | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2.1. Restore/enhance significant watershed habitat. | Friends of the Mississippi River | \$53,000 | \$52,630 | \$370 | \$68,370 | \$45,330 | \$166,330 | 79 | | 159 | | | 238 |
| 2.2. Lower Minnesota River Watershed Restoration & Enhancement Project. | Friends of MN Valley | \$34,000 | \$34,000 | \$0 | \$0 | \$13,087 | \$47,087 | 165 | | 69 | | | 234 |
| 2.3. Restore/enhance significant habitat. | Great River Greening | \$60,000 | \$60,000 | \$0 | \$31,000 | \$90,000 | \$181,000 | 86 | | 30.5 | | | 116.5 |
| 2.4. Habitat restoration/enhance grants. | DNR - Metro Greenways | \$32,528 | \$30,870 | \$1,658 | | \$89,038 | \$119,908 | 11 | | | | | 11 |
| 2.5 Scientific & Natural Area (SNA) restoration & enhancement. | DNR - Ecological Services | \$34,888 | \$34,888 | \$0 | | | \$34,888 | 429 | | | | | 429 |
| 2.6. Stream habitat restoration | Trout Unlimited | \$65,000 | \$52,681 | \$12,319 | \$0 | \$93,058 | \$145,739 | | 1.26 | | | | 0.0 |
| SUBTOTAL | | \$279,416 | \$265,069 | \$14,347 | \$99,370 | \$330,513 | \$694,952 | 770 | 1.26 | 259 | 0.00 | | 1,029 |
| 3. Acquire Significant Habitat | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3.1 Critical Land Protection Program fee title & conservation easement acquisition. | The Trust for Public Land | \$420,000 | \$420,000 | \$0 | \$1,995,000 | \$2,320,000 | \$4,735,000 | 8 | | 110 | | | 118 |
| 3.2. Protecting significant habitat by acquiring conservation easements. | Minnesota Land Trust | \$134,000 | \$134,000 | \$0 | \$372,925 | \$2,399,500 | \$2,906,425 | 519 | | 0 | | | 519 |
| 3.3. Fee acquisition for Mn Valley National Wildlife Refuge. | MN Valley NWR Trust, Inc. | \$210,000 | \$210,000 | \$0 | \$0 | \$375,719 | \$585,719 | 49 | | 100 | | | 149 |
| 3.4. Grants & acquisition of fee title & conservation easements. | DNR - Metro Greenways | \$811,472 | \$811,472 | \$0 | | \$1,662,625 | \$2,474,097 | 96 | | 8 | | | 104 |
| 3.5. DNR Fish & Wildlife Acquisition. | DNR - Fisheries & Wildlife | \$172,000 | \$172,000 | \$0 | \$60,250 | \$0 | \$232,250 | 33 | 0.62 | 14 | 0.27 | | 47 |
| 3.6. Scientific & Natural Area (SNA) Acquisition. | DNR - Ecological Services | \$208,112 | \$208,112 | \$0 | | | \$208,112 | 16 | | | | | 16 |
| SUBTOTAL | | \$1,955,584 | \$1,955,584 | \$0 | \$2,428,175 | \$6,757,844 | \$11,141,603 | 721 | 0.62 | 232 | 0.27 | | 953 |
| 4. Community Conservation Assistance | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4.1 Assist local governments to promote the conservation of natural habitats. | DNR - Metro Greenways | \$100,000 | \$94,000 | \$6,000 | | \$71,206 | \$165,206 | | | | | | 70 |
| TOTAL | | \$2,500,000 | \$2,465,225 | \$34,775 | \$2,527,545 | \$7,159,563 | \$12,152,333 | 1,491 | 1.88 | 490 | 0.27 | | 2,051 |

 MLT Non-State Funding represents *known* donated value of conservation easements. Value is not known for every project completed.

Metro Conservation Corridors - Phase III
Table B: LCCMR Funding Request - Budget Detail

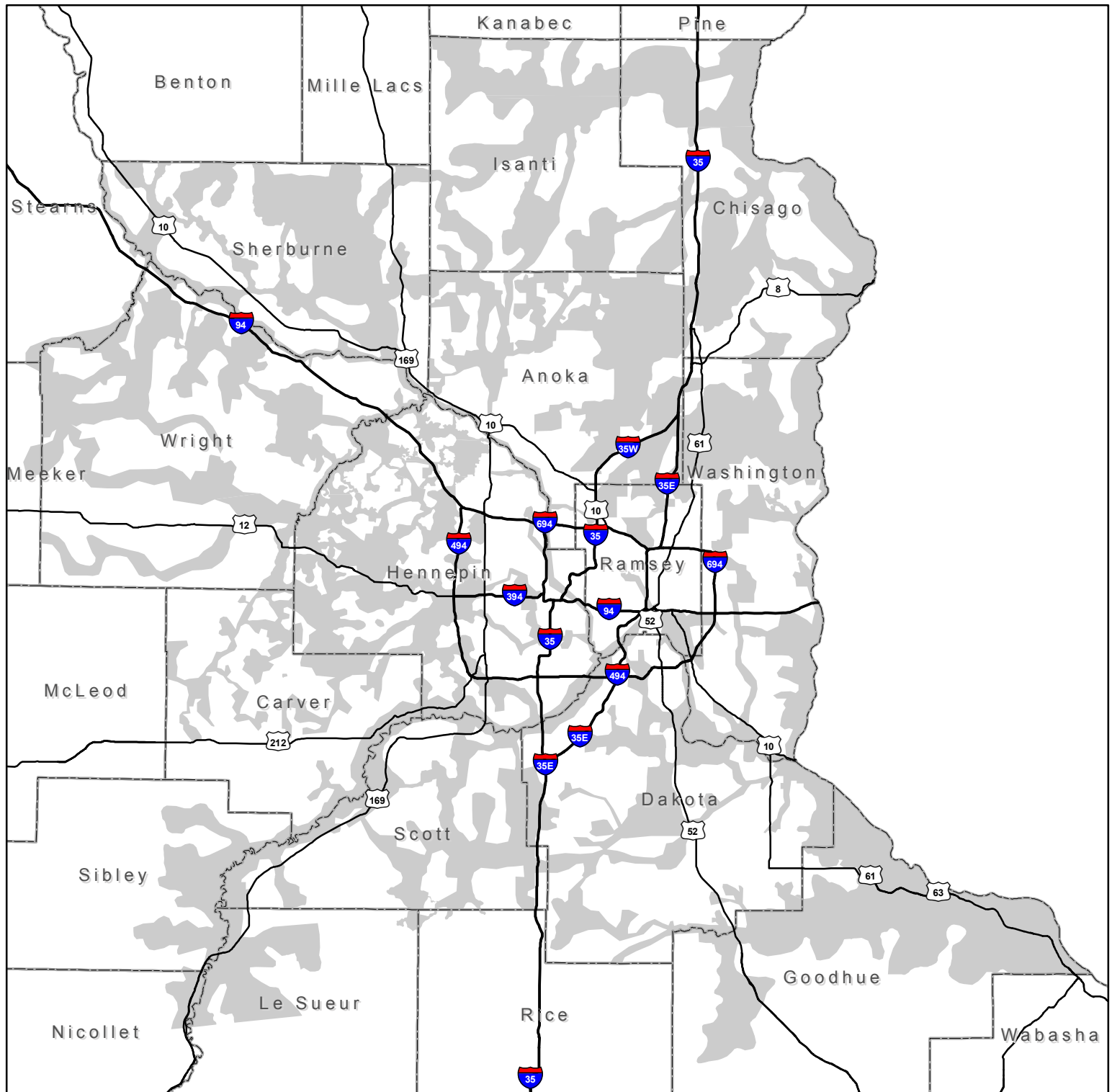
date: 1/6/10

LCCMR Recommended Dollars: \$2,500,000

| Activity | Partners | LCCMR Funding Spent | | | | | | | Budget Explanation (staff/contract services, development, equipment, other) |
|--|----------------------------------|-------------------------|----------|------------|-------------|--------------|-----------|--------------|--|
| | | Staff/contract services | Equipm't | Developm't | Restoration | Acquisition | Other | Total | |
| 1. Coordinate MeCC Program | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.1. Coordination of MeCC program & local outreach and implementation assistance for two year project term | DNR Metro Greenways/DNR OMBS | \$ 150,572 | | | | | | \$ 150,572 | Staff to manage and coordinate the program for two years |
| 2. Restore & Enhance Significant Habitat | | | | | | | | | |
| 2.1. Restore/enhance significant watershed habitat | Friends of the Mississippi River | \$ 52,360 | | | \$ 271 | | | \$ 52,631 | Includes hiring contractors to conduct restoration and enhancement activities and purchasing supplies and materials. |
| 2.2. Lower Minnesota River Watershed restoration & enhancement project | Friends of Minnesota Valley | \$ 23,000 | | | \$ 11,000 | | | \$ 34,000 | Staff/Contracts: Director of Conservation Programs for project coordination and implementation; Contracts for earth work, installing water control structures, breaking drain tile, etc.; Restoration:native plants and seed, trees, water control structures |
| 2.3. Restore/enhance significant habitat | Great River Greening | \$ 44,535 | \$ 1,859 | | \$ 12,851 | | \$ 754 | \$ 59,999 | Staff: Ecologists and Conservation Director; Field Manager; Volunteer Manager; Restorations Technicians; Project Administration. Restoration: Contracts for site prep, prairie seeding; plant, mulch, and seed purchase; travel within Minnesota. Equipment: Seed drill, mower, harrow, roller, sprayers, Rx burn eq't, saws, loppers, etc. Other: Volunteer event supplies (approved food and bevg, port. toilets, tent rentals etc.) |
| 2.4. Habitat restoration/enhance. Grants | DNR - Metro Greenways | | | | \$ 30,870 | | | \$ 30,870 | Grants to LGU's and NGO's for restoration and enhancement |
| 2.5. Scientific & Natural Area (SNA) restoration & enhancement | DNR - Ecological Services | \$ 27,959 | \$ 3,433 | \$ 368 | \$ 3,128 | | | \$ 34,888 | DNR SNA crew; fleet charges & incidental parts; supplies (e.g. fencing & signs); seeds & seedlings & other supplies. |
| 2.6. Stream habitat restoration | Trout Unlimited | \$ 2,700 | | | \$ 49,210 | | \$ 771 | \$ 52,681 | Staff: Project Manager for promotion of stream restoration in the Metro area; Restoration: hourly rate for bulldozers, excavators, and dump trucks; rock and materials; Other: Display to promote stream restoration projects |
| SUBTOTAL | | \$ 150,554 | \$ 5,292 | \$ 368 | \$ 107,330 | \$ - | \$ 1,525 | \$ 265,069 | |
| 3. Acquire Significant Habitat | | | | | | | | | |
| 3.1. Critical Land Protection Program fee title & conservation easement acquisition | The Trust for Public Land | | | | | \$ 420,000 | | \$ 420,000 | To protect 48 acres at Franconia St. Croix Bluffs/Franconia Bluffs SNA, a project that also used the balance of TPL's Phase II 2005 MeCC funding; and to protect 70 acres on Green Lake/ Camp Ojiketa, a project that also used the balance of TPL's Phase IV 2008 MeCC funding. |
| 3.2. Protecting significant habitat by acquiring conservation easements | Minnesota Land Trust | 44,589 | | | | 30,411 | 59,000 | \$ 134,000 | Staff: Includes conservation director or land protection staff; staff attorney; and support staff. Acquisition: \$28,657 for costs associated with acquiring donated or purchased CE's, \$1,754 for mileage and related travel expenses. Other: \$59,000 for easement stewardship . |
| 3.3. Fee acquisition for Mn Valley National Wildlife Refuge | MN Valley NWR Trust, Inc. | | | | | \$ 210,000 | | \$ 210,000 | Fee title acquisition of significant habitat in Minnesota River Valley |
| 3.4. Grants & acquisition of fee title & conservation easements | DNR - Metro Greenways | | | | | \$ 811,472 | | \$ 811,472 | Grants to LGUs and NGOs for direct acquisition of fee title & conservation easements. |
| 3.5. DNR Fish & Wildlife Acquisition | DNR - Fisheries & Wildlife | | | | | \$ 172,000 | | \$ 172,000 | DNR fee acquisition of lands for AMA and/or WMA, including related real estate transaction costs |
| 3.6. Scientific & Natural Area (SNA) Acquisition | DNR - Ecological Services | \$ 186 | | | | \$ 207,926 | | \$ 208,112 | Acquisition: fee title acquisition, including related real estate transaction costs. |
| SUBTOTAL | | \$ 44,775 | | | | \$ 1,851,809 | \$ 59,000 | \$ 1,955,584 | |
| 4. Community Conservation Assistance | | | | | | | | | |
| 4.1. Assist local governments to promote the conservation of natural habitats | DNR - Metro Greenways | | | | | | \$ 94,000 | \$ 94,000 | Grants to assist local governments with gathering and integrating natural resources information into local development and conservation planning and policy decisions |
| SUBTOTAL | | | | | | | \$ 94,000 | \$ 94,000 | |
| TOTAL | | \$ 345,901 | \$ 5,292 | \$ 368 | \$ 107,330 | \$ 1,851,809 | \$ 60,525 | \$ 2,465,225 | |

Figure 1

Metro Conservation Corridors 2007 Focus Areas



Metro Conservation Corridors

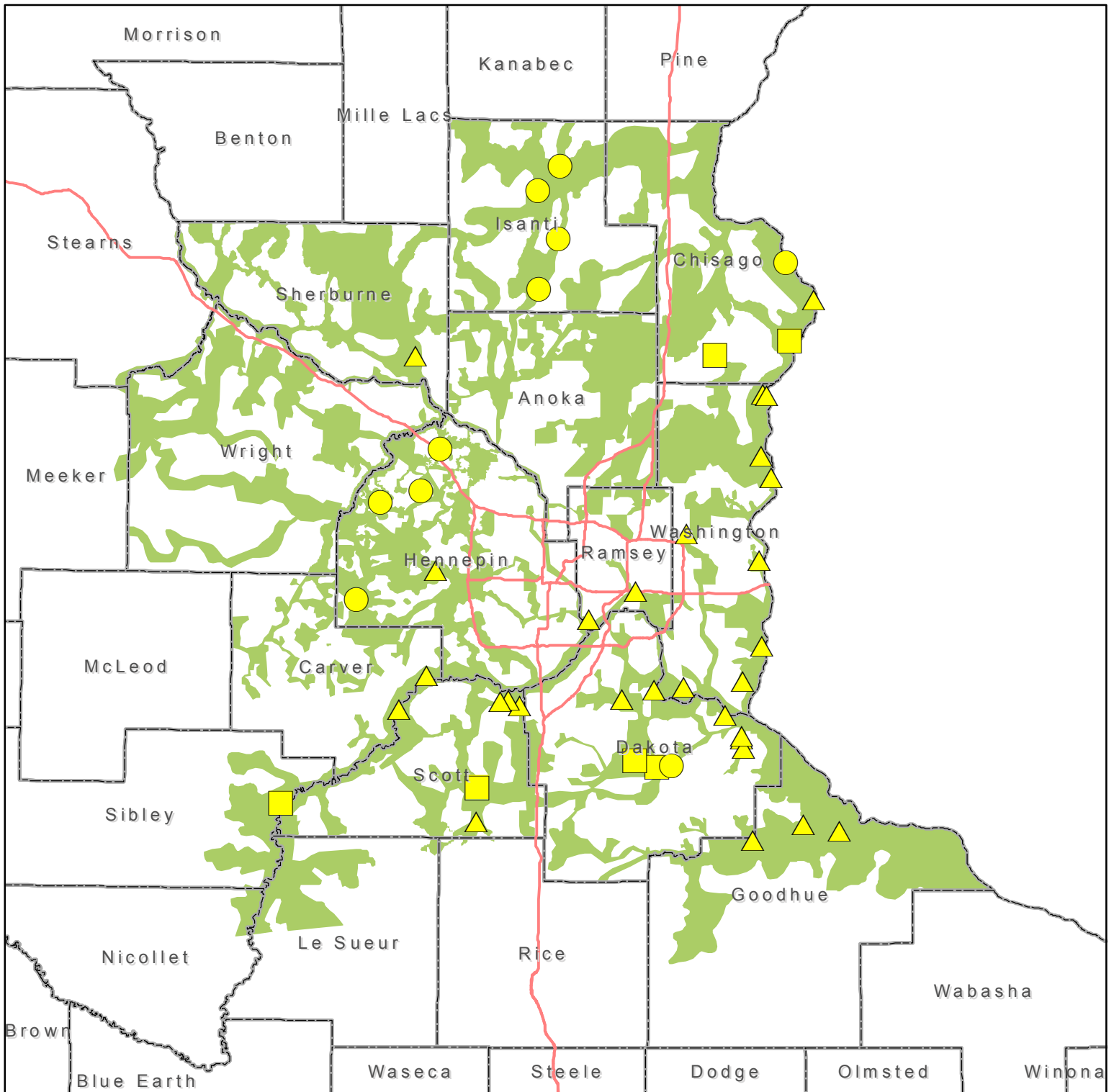


County Boundaries

Interstate Highways

Secondary Highways

Metro Conservation Corridors Projects



MeCC projects - 2007

- ▲ Restoration
- Conservation Easement
- Fee

DNR Central Region
2010

LEGISLATIVE-CITIZEN COMMISSION ON MINNESOTA RESOURCES

2007 Project Abstract

For the Period Ending June 30, 2009

PROJECT TITLE: (4c.2.1) Metro Conservation Corridors (MeCC) Phase III- Friends of the Mississippi River - Restore/enhance significant watershed habitat.

Project Manager: Tom Lewanski

Affiliation: Friends of the Mississippi River

Mailing Address: 360 North Robert Street, Suite 400

City / State / Zip : St. Paul, MN 55101

Telephone Number: 651 222-2193 Ext. 12

E-mail Address: tlewanski@fmr.org

FAX Number: 651 222-6005

Web Page address: www.fmr.org

Funding Source: Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund\

Legal Citation: ML 2007, [Chap.30], Sec.[2], Subd.4c (2.1).

Appropriation Amount: \$53,000.

OVERALL PROJECT OUTCOME AND RESULTS

FMR committed to working with both public and private landowners to restore and/or enhance 18 acres of significant habitat using MeCC Phase III funding and an additional 7 acres of significant habitat using other funding for a total of 25 acres. We also committed to leveraging \$20,000 in non-state funding for the project.

In the final analysis of our achievements for this project (MeCC Phase III – 2007 appropriation) FMR was able to conduct restoration activities on 79-acres using Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) dollars. We were able to use the ENRTF funding to leverage an additional \$45,330 in non-state funding with which we were able to conduct restoration/enhancement activities on 95-acres. Furthermore, we were able to leverage additional state funding (\$68,370) to do restoration and enhancement activities on 64-acres.

Specifically, FMR conducted restoration and enhancement activities on the following sites:

- **Sand Coulee Prairie - City of Hastings' property.** We cut and treated shrubs and trees (9-acres), controlled knapweed (3-acres), conducted a prescribed burn (20-acres) and worked with a biology class from the Hastings High School to collect seed and ultimately install the plants germinated from this seed, back in the prairie (1-acre).
- **Pine Bend Bluffs Scientific and Natural Area.** Two prescribed burns took place on prairie (27-acres). We removed brush from bluff prairies

and other areas (30-acres) and mowed installed prairie (42-acres). We also cut and treated buckthorn and herbaceous weeds (42-acres).

- **Rosemount Wildlife Preserve.** We conducted a prescribed burn on an installed prairie (8-acres) and cut and treated buckthorn in the woodland (14-acres).
- **City of St. Paul Parks.** Exotic brush removal (14-acres).
- **Hastings Wildlife Management Area.** Cut and treated buckthorn (20-acres).
- **Hastings River Flats Park.** Mowed an installed prairie (1-acre).
- **Hastings Sand Coulee Scientific and Natural Area.** Treated herbaceous weeds (6.5-acres).

PROJECT RESULTS USE AND DISSEMINATION

Website description of St. Paul Parks restoration project:

http://www.fmr.org/news/current/crosby_farm_restoration-2008-01

Trust Fund 2007 Work Program Final Report

Date of Report: 08/17/09

Trust Fund 2007 Work Program Final Report

Date of Next Status Report: 08/01/09

Date of Work program Approval: June 5, 2007

Project Completion Date: 6/30/09

I. PROJECT TITLE: (4c.2.1) Metro Conservation Corridors (MeCC) Phase III- Friends of the Mississippi River - Restore/enhance significant watershed habitat.

Project Manager: Tom Lewanski

Affiliation: Friends of the Mississippi River

Mailing Address: 360 North Robert Street, Suite 400

City / State / Zip : St. Paul, MN 55101

Telephone Number: 651 222-2193 Ext. 12

E-mail Address: tlewanski@fmr.org

FAX Number: 651 222-6005

Web Page address: www.fmr.org

Location: Within mapped focus area in the counties of Dakota, Goodhue, Hennepin, Ramsey, and Washington .

| | | |
|---|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Total Trust Fund Project Budget: | Trust Fund Appropriation: | \$ |
| | 53,000. | |
| | Minus Amount Spent: | \$ 50,890. |
| | Equal Balance: | \$ 2,110. |

Legal Citation: ML 2007, [Chap.30], Sec.[2], Subd.4c (2.1).

Appropriation Language:

(c) Metro Conservation Corridors - Phase III

\$2,500,000 is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for acceleration of agency programs and cooperative agreements with The Trust for Public Land; Friends of the Mississippi River; Great River Greening; Minnesota Land Trust; Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Trust, Inc.; Trout Unlimited; and Friends of the Minnesota Valley for the purposes of planning, restoring, 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. Expenditures are limited to the identified project corridor 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. All conservation easements must be perpetual and have a natural resource management plan. 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.

II & III FINAL PROJECT SUMMARY:

FMR committed to working with both public and private landowners to restore and/or enhance 18 acres of significant habitat using MWC III funding and an additional 7 acres of significant habitat using other funding for a total of 25 acres. We also committed to leveraging \$20,000 in non-state funding for the project.

In the final analysis of our achievements for this project (MeCC Phase III – 2007 appropriation) FMR was able to conduct restoration activities on 79-acres using LCCMR funding. We were able to use the LCCMR funding to leverage an additional \$45,330 in non-state funding with which we were able to conduct restoration/enhancement activities on 95-acres. Furthermore, we were able to leverage additional state funding (\$68,370) to do restoration and enhancement activities on 64-acres.

Specifically, FMR conducted restoration and enhancement activities on the following seven sites:

- **Sand Coulee Prairie - City of Hastings' property.** We cut and treated shrubs and trees (9-acres), controlled knapweed (3-acres), conducted a prescribed burn (20-acres) and worked with a biology class from the Hastings High School to collect seed and ultimately install the plants germinated from this seed, back in the prairie (1-acre).
- **Pine Bend Bluffs Scientific and Natural Area.** Two prescribed burns took place on prairie (27-acres). We removed brush from bluff prairies and other areas (30-acres) and mowed installed prairie (42-acres). We also cut and treated buckthorn and herbaceous weeds (42-acres).
- **Rosemount Wildlife Preserve.** We conducted a prescribed burn on an installed prairie (8-acres) and cut and treated buckthorn in the woodland (14-acres).
- **City of St. Paul Parks.** Exotic brush removal (14-acres).
- **Hastings Wildlife Management Area.** Cut and treat buckthorn (20-acres).
- **Hastings River Flats Park.** Mowed an installed prairie (1-acre).
- **Hastings Sand Coulee Scientific and Natural Area.** Treated herbaceous weeds (6.5-acres).

IV. OUTLINE OF PROJECT RESULTS:

Result 1: N/A (see Overall Work Program Summary)

Result 2: Restore & Enhance Significant Habitat:

Final Report Summary 6/30/2009:

Description: During the timeframe of this project (MeCC Phase III – 2007 appropriation) FMR was able to conduct restoration activities on 79-acres using LCCMR funding. We were able to use the LCCMR funding to leverage an additional \$45,330 in non-state funding with which we were able to conduct restoration/enhancement activities on 95-acres. Furthermore, we were able to leverage additional state funding (\$68,370) to do restoration and enhancement activities on 64-acres. The total number of acres upon which we conducted restoration and enhancement activities was 238.

Specifically, FMR conducted restoration and enhancement activities on the following sites:

- **Sand Coulee Prairie -City of Hastings' property.** We cut and treated shrubs and trees (9-acres), controlled knapweed (3-acres), conducted a prescribed burn (20-acres) and worked with a biology class from the Hastings High School to collect seed and ultimately install the plants germinated from this seed, back in the prairie (1-acre).
The Sand Coulee Prairie is the largest remaining native prairie in Dakota County and one of the highest quality prairies remaining in the metro area. There have been thirteen rare species documented on this prairie. Over the last several years, we have partnered with a field biology class from the Hastings High School to improve the ecological health of the City's portion of the prairie. We work with the students to collect prairie seed from the site. During this phase of the project, a local nursery, The Vagary, donated their expertise, materials, and greenhouse space to germinate the seed and to grow the young plants. The high school students then returned to install the plants back to the site.
- **Hastings Sand Coulee Scientific and Natural Area.** Treated herbaceous weeds (6.5-acres).
- **Pine Bend Bluffs Scientific and Natural Area.** Two prescribed burns took place on prairie (27-acres). We removed brush from bluff prairies and other areas (30-acres) and mowed installed prairie (42-acres). We also cut and treated buckthorn and herbaceous weeds (42-acres).
- **Rosemount Wildlife Preserve.** We conducted a prescribed burn on an installed prairie (8-acres) and cut and treated buckthorn in the woodland (14-acres).
- **City of St. Paul Parks.** Exotic brush removal (14-acres).
- **Hastings Wildlife Management Area.** Cut and treat buckthorn (20-acres).
- **Hastings River Flats Park.** Mow an installed prairie (1-acre).

With this final report, we are asking for a change to the budget. We are seeking to move some funding between budget categories. Attachment A has been modified to reflect this budget change. In the final analysis, we did not use the \$2000 allocated to plant material in the Other direct operating cost line item.

Summary Budget Information for Result 2: **Trust Fund Budget:** \$ 53,000.
Amount Spent: \$ 50,890.
Balance: \$ 2,110.

| Deliverable | Completion Date | Budget | Status |
|----------------------|-----------------|----------|-----------|
| 1. 25 acres restored | 6/30/2009 | \$53,000 | Completed |

Final Completion Date: 6/30/2009

V. TOTAL TRUST FUND PROJECT BUDGET (FINAL REVISED):

Staff or Contract Services: \$52,734

Equipment:

Development: \$

Restoration: \$

Other: travel: \$266

Acquisition, including easements: \$

TOTAL TRUST FUND PROJECT BUDGET: \$ 53,000*

(*Staff or contract services include both staff expenses and contractor fees for restoration activities. Restoration category includes plant material expenses.)

Explanation of Capital Expenditures Greater Than \$3,500: N/A

VI. OTHER FUNDS & PARTNERS:

A. Project Partners: FMR partnered with the following entities to conduct the restoration & enhancement activities presented in this report:

| Partner funds | Site | amount |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| nonstate | | |
| FMR/Malcolm Trust account | Pine Bend Bluffs SNA | \$7,074.18 |
| Hastings High School | Sand Coulee-City of Hastings | \$11,000.00 |
| St. Paul Parks | Crosby Park | (in-kind) \$16,056.00 |
| The Vagary | Sand Coulee-City of Hastings | (in-kind) \$1,200.00 |

| | | |
|--|---|--------------|
| Capital Region Watershed District | Crosby Park | \$10,000.00 |
| Subtotal -nonstate other state funds used | - | \$45,330.18 |
| DNR Remediation Grant | Hastings Sand Coulee SNA & Pine Bend Bluffs SNA | \$68,370.65 |
| Total leveraged funds | | \$113,700.83 |

C. Past Spending: Metro Wildlife Corridors I & II - \$182,000

D. Time: 2 years

VII. DISSEMINATION: Metro Corridors will periodically distribute information about the program through the widely broadcasted emails to people on the Embrace Open Space (EOS) database, through the EOS quarterly meetings and jointly held county meetings, and on the MeCC website. FMR will also highlight projects on its website, through local media, through its monthly electronic newsletter, and through its periodic print newsletter.

VIII. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS: Periodic work program progress reports will be submitted not later than February 1st and August 1st each year, starting with February 1, 2008. A final work program report and associated products will be submitted between June 30 and August 1, 2009 as requested by the LCCMR.

| | | | | | |
|--|---|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Attachment A: Budget Detail for 2007 Projects | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| Project Title: Metro Conservation Corridors (MeCC) Phase III-Friends of the Mississippi River (2.1) | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| Project Manager Name: Tom Lewanski | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| Trust Fund Appropriation: \$ 53,000 | | | | | |
| 1) See list of non-eligible expenses, do not include any of these items in your budget sheet | | | | | |
| 2) Remove any budget item lines not applicable | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| 2007 Trust Fund Budget | <u>Result 2</u> <u>Budget:</u> | Amount Spent (6/30/08) | Amount Spent (12/31/08) | Amount Spent (6/30/09) | Balance (12/31/08) |
| | | | | | |
| BUDGET ITEM | Restoration | | | | |
| PERSONNEL: wages and benefits | \$ 8,859 | \$ - | \$ 4,057 | \$ 4,693 | \$ 110 |
| Contracts | | | | | \$ - |
| Professional/technical <i>(with whom?, for what?)</i> | \$ 41,875 | \$ 15,260 | \$ 7,931 | \$ 18,684 | \$ 0 |
| Other direct operating costs <i>(plant material)</i> | \$ 2,000 | \$ - | | | \$ 2,000 |
| Travel expenses in Minnesota | \$ 266 | \$ - | \$ 68 | \$ 198 | \$ 0 |
| COLUMN TOTAL | \$ 53,000 | \$ 15,260 | \$ 12,055 | \$ 23,575 | \$ 2,110 |

2007 Project Abstract

For the Period Ending June 30, 2009

PROJECT TITLE: Metropolitan Area Wildlife Corridors – Phase III: 2.4. Lower Minnesota River Watershed Restoration & Enhancement Project - Friends of the MN Valley

PROJECT MANAGER: Joe Pavelko

AFFILIATION: Friends of the Minnesota Valley

MAILING ADDRESS: 10800 Lyndale Ave. South, Suite 120

CITY/STATE/ZIP: Bloomington, MN 55420

PHONE: 952-881-9075

FAX: 952-881-3174

E-MAIL: jpavelko@friendsofmnvalley.org

WEBSITE: www.friendsofmnvalley.org

FUNDING SOURCE: Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

LEGAL CITATION: ML 2007, Chp. 30, Sec. 2, Subd. 4(c).

APPROPRIATION AMOUNT: \$34,000

Overall Project Outcome and Results

Friends of the Minnesota Valley, in conjunction with numerous partners, restored and enhanced 165 acres of wetland within the Lower Minnesota River Watershed (plus an additional 97 acres from matching funds for a total of 262 acres) exceeding the projected restored acreage total of 25 acres. We restored two wetlands, a 2 acre wetland adjacent to the impaired Porter Creek in Scott County and a 260 acre wetland near the City of Carver within the Rapids Lake Unit of the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge. Both wetlands will provide quality habitat for migratory birds and other wetland-dependent species, especially the 260 acre wetland known as Rapids Lake.

Rapids Lake, a large wetland in the floodplain of the Minnesota River between the Cities of Carver and Jordan, is located within the Rapids Lake Unit, an expanding unit of the national wildlife refuge. The structure will restore the hydrology of the wetland and enable the USFWS to manage water levels to maximize benefits to wetland dependant plant and animal species. The USFWS will protect and manage the restoration in perpetuity.

The restoration of the lake was a key part in the overall development and restoration plan of the Rapids Lake Unit spearheaded by the Refuge and the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Trust, Inc. The Rapids Lake restoration enabled the completion of seven miles of newly-constructed visitor trails open to the public for wildlife-dependent recreation and is only a short walk from the newly-constructed Rapids Lake Education and Visitor Center located on the bluff of the Minnesota River.

Trust Fund 2007 Work Program Final Report

Date of Report: 7/2/2009

Trust Fund 2007 Work Program Final Report

Date of Work program Approval: 6/5/2007

Project Completion Date: 6/30/2009

I. PROJECT TITLE: Metropolitan Area Wildlife Corridors – Phase III: 2.4. Lower Minnesota River Watershed Restoration & Enhancement Project - Friends of the MN Valley

Project Manager: Joe Pavelko

Affiliation: Friends of the Minnesota Valley

Mailing Address: 10800 Lyndale Ave. South, Suite 120

City / State / Zip: Bloomington, MN 55420

Telephone Number: 952-881-9075

E-mail Address: jpavelko@friendsofmnvalley.org

FAX Number: 952-881-3174

Web Page address: www.friendsofmnvalley.org

<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/metroconservationcorridors/index.html>

Location: Within mapped Focus Area and within the counties of Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Le Sueur, Nicollet, Rice, Scott, and Sibley. See Figure 1.

| | | | |
|---|----------------------------------|-----------|--------|
| Total Trust Fund Project Budget: | Trust Fund Appropriation: | \$ | 34,000 |
| | Minus Amount Spent: | \$ | 34,000 |
| | Equal Balance: | \$ | 0 |

Legal Citation: ML 2007, Chp. 30, Sec. 2, Subd. 4(c).

Appropriation Language: (c) Metro Conservation Corridors- Phase III \$2,500,000 is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for acceleration of agency programs and cooperative agreements with The Trust for Public Land; Friends of the Mississippi River; Great River Greening; Minnesota Land Trust; Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Trust, Inc.; Trout Unlimited; and Friends of the Minnesota Valley for the purposes of planning, restoring, 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. Expenditures are limited to the identified project corridor 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. All conservation easements must be perpetual and have a natural resource management plan. 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.

II. and III. Final Project Summary:

Friends of the Minnesota Valley, in conjunction with numerous partners, restored and enhanced 165 acres of wetland within the Lower Minnesota River Watershed (plus an additional 97 acres from matching funds for a total of 262 acres) exceeding the projected restored acreage total of 25 acres. We restored two wetlands, a 2 acre wetland adjacent to the impaired Porter Creek in Scott County and a 260 acre wetland near the City of Carver within the Rapids Lake Unit of the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge. Both wetlands will provide quality habitat for migratory birds and other wetland-dependent species, especially the 260 acre wetland known as Rapids Lake.

Rapids Lake, a large wetland in the floodplain of the Minnesota River between the Cities of Carver and Jordan, is located within the Rapids Lake Unit, an expanding unit of the national wildlife refuge. The structure will restore the hydrology of the wetland and enable the USFWS to manage water levels to maximize benefits to wetland dependant plant and animal species. The USFWS will protect and manage the restoration in perpetuity.

The restoration of the lake was a key part in the overall development and restoration plan of the Rapids Lake Unit spearheaded by the Refuge and the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Trust, Inc. The Rapids Lake restoration enabled the completion of seven miles of newly-constructed visitor trails open to the public for wildlife-dependent recreation and is only a short walk from the newly-constructed Rapids Lake Education and Visitor Center located on the bluff of the Minnesota River.

IV. OUTLINE OF PROJECT RESULTS:

Result 1: Restore & Enhance Significant Habitat

Description: Within the Expanded Minnesota River Focus Area, Friends of the Minnesota Valley restored and enhanced 164 acres of regionally significant habitat (prorated of the 262 total restored project acres).

Summary Budget Information for Result 1:

| | |
|---------------------------|------------------|
| Trust Fund Budget: | \$ 34,000 |
| Amount Spent: | \$ 34,000 |
| Balance: | \$ 0 |

| Deliverable | Completion Date | Budget | Status |
|------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1. 164 acres restored | 6/30/2009 | \$34,000 | Complete |

| Source | Cost | Acres |
|------------------------------|------------------|--------------|
| Trust Fund Dollars (2007) | 34,000.00 | 165 |
| Trust Fund Dollars (2008) | 5,019.50 | 28 |
| Matching Dollars (Non-State) | 13,086.62 | 69 |
| Totals | 52,106.12 | 262 |

A total of 262 acres were restored with the help of matching dollars. Acres were prorated based on percent of funding for the project.

In order to complete the Rapids Lake restoration, Friends of the MN Valley needed to use the remaining 2007 appropriation funding and a small amount of the 2008 appropriation funding. The number of acres restored with the 2008 appropriation (28 acres prorated) will be counted toward the 2008 appropriation funding.

Final Completion Date: 6/30/2009

Final Report Summary 6/30/2009:

Friends of the Minnesota Valley, along with the USFWS and Scott County SWCD, restored a 2 acre wetland adjacent to Porter Creek within Cedar Lake Township of Scott County. The wetland will provide quality habitat and help increase the water quality of Porter Creek.

Friends of the Minnesota Valley along with the USFWS, MN DNR, and Carver County SWCD, successfully designed and installed a water control structure on the outlet to Rapids Lake, a large 260 acre Type IV riverine wetland within the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge near the City of Carver, MN. The water control structure will restore the hydrology of the wetland and will enable the USFWS to manage water levels to maximize benefits to wetland-dependent plant and animal species. The water control structure is specifically designed to prevent beaver damage and to withstand flooding from the Minnesota River. It will also help prevent rough fish from entering the wetland. In addition, the structure acts as a trail crossing. In order to get heavy equipment into the site, a new trail had to be constructed. This new trail was the critical link in completing over seven miles of recreational trails.

Currently Rapids Lake water levels are being drawn down to expose mudflats to stimulate vegetation growth. Until recently, the lake had not successfully been drawn down for over 15 years. Restoration work is protected and managed in perpetuity by the USFWS.

V. TOTAL TRUST FUND PROJECT BUDGET:

Staff or Contract Services: \$ 5,000 (for staff salaries)

Equipment: \$ 0

Development: \$ 0

Restoration: \$ 29,000

Acquisition, including easements: \$ 0

TOTAL TRUST FUND PROJECT BUDGET: \$ 34,000

Explanation of Capital Expenditures Greater Than \$3,500: N/A

VI. OTHER FUNDS & PARTNERS:

A. Project Partners: Metro Conservation Corridor partners (see Table A), private landowners, local governments, regional, state and federal agencies, nonprofit organizations and citizen groups.

B. Other Funds Proposed to be Spent during the Project Period: Friends of the Minnesota Valley along with other partners spent an additional \$13,086.62 of matching funds.

C. Past Spending: The Friends of the MN Valley received \$40,000 in appropriations from the 2005 LCMR/Phase2 MWC. LCMR appropriation during the 2002-2003 biennium of \$18,000 to help implement the successful Big Rivers Partnership.

D. Time: 2 years

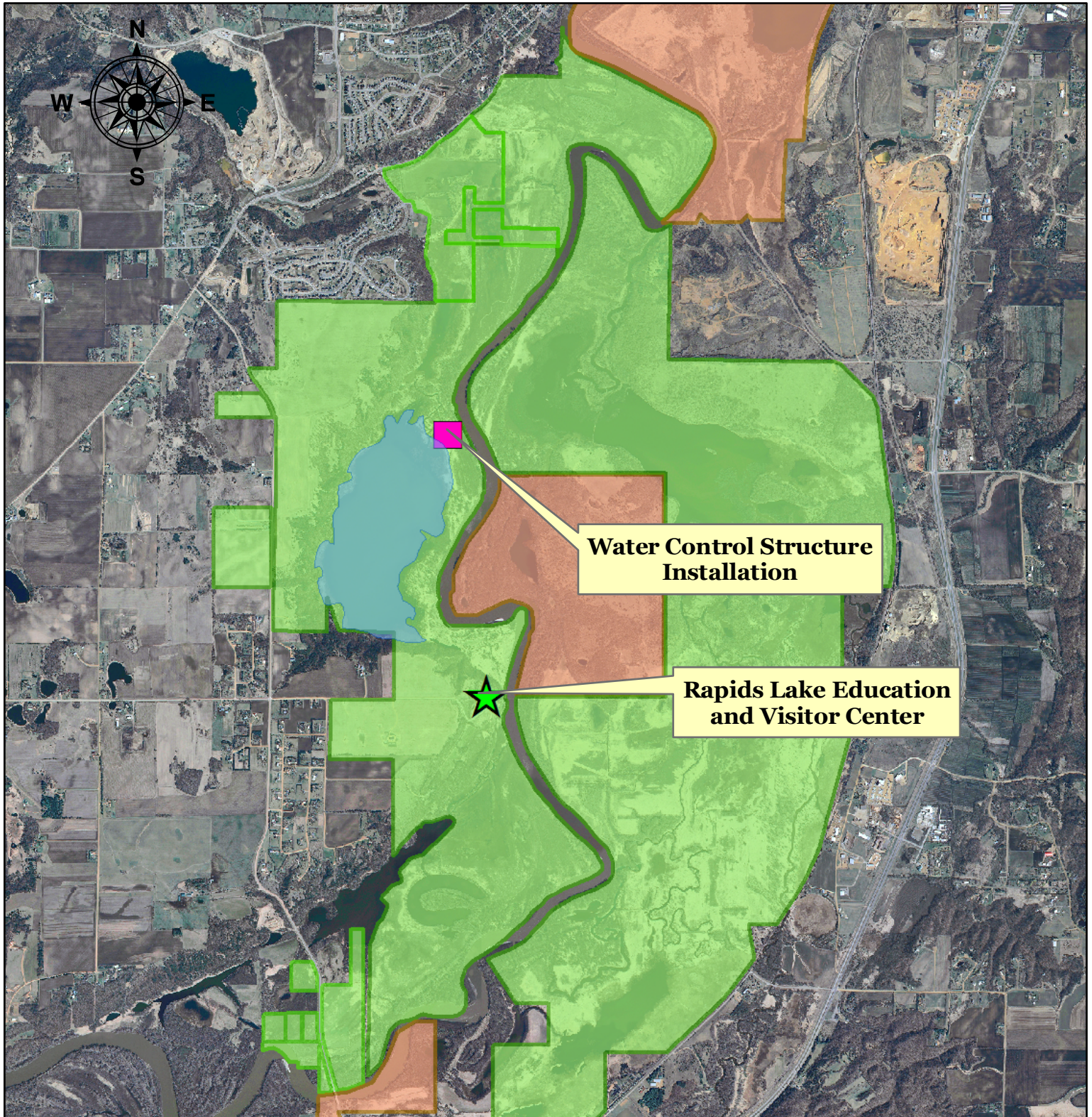
VII. DISSEMINATION: Metro Corridors periodically distributed information about the program through the widely broadcasted emails to people on the Regional Greenways Collaborative (RGC) database, through the RGC quarterly meetings, and jointly held county meetings. As projects were completed, Friends of the Minnesota Valley publicized project accomplishments through press releases, the Friends' quarterly newsletter, and posted projects on our website.




VIII. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS: Periodic work program progress reports were submitted not later than February 1st and August 1st each year, starting with February 1, 2008. This is the final work program submitted July 2nd, 2009.

| | | | | | |
|---|---------------------|------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Attachment A: Budget Detail for 2007 Projects | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| Project Title: Metro Conservation Corridors (MeCC) Phase III: Friends of the MN Valley (2.4) | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| Project Manager Name: Joe Pavelko | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| Trust Fund Appropriation: \$ 34,000 | | | | | |
| 1) See list of non-eligible expenses, do not include any of these items in your budget sheet | | | | | |
| 2) Remove any budget item lines not applicable | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| 2007 Trust Fund Budget | Result 2 Budget: | Amount Spent (date) | Balance (date) | TOTAL BUDGET | TOTAL BALANCE |
| | | | | | |
| BUDGET ITEM | Restoration | | | | |
| PERSONNEL: wages and benefits | \$ 5,000 | \$ 5,000 | \$ - | \$ 5,000 | \$ - |
| | | | | | |
| Contracts | | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| Professional/technical (Construction companies for earth work such as building dikes, installing water control structures, breaking drain tile, and other activities that require heavy equipment) | \$ 18,000 | \$ 18,000 | \$ - | \$ 18,000 | \$ - |
| Other land improvement (native prairie seed, trees, water control structures) | \$ 11,000 | \$ 11,000 | \$ - | \$ 11,000 | \$ - |
| COLUMN TOTAL | \$ 34,000 | \$ 34,000 | \$ - | \$ 34,000 | \$ - |

Rapids Lake Restoration

MN Valley National Wildlife Refuge - Rapids Lake Unit
Carver County, MN



-  Rapids Lake - 260 Acres
-  State Recreation Area - MN DNR
-  MN Valley National Wildlife Refuge - USFWS



0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles





2007 Project Abstract

For the Period Ending June 30, 2009

PROJECT TITLE: Restore/Enhance Significant Habitat. Metro Conservation Corridors (MeCC) Phase III: Great River Greening (2.3)

PROJECT MANAGER: Wiley Buck

AFFILIATION: Great River Greening

MAILING ADDRESS: 35 W. Water St.

CITY/STATE/ZIP: St. Paul, MN 55107

PHONE: 651 665.9500 x15

FAX: 651 665.9409

E-MAIL: wbuck@greatrivergreening.org

WEBSITE: www.greatrivergreening.org

FUNDING SOURCE: Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

LEGAL CITATION: ML 2007, Chap. 30, Sec. 2, Subd. 4c2.3.

APPROPRIATION AMOUNT: \$ 60,000

Overall Project Outcome and Results

This project restored a total of 86 ecologically significant acres, and an additional 30.5 acres using other state funds. Primary criteria for project selection were ecological significance, importance to the community, and partner commitment.

Several distinguished projects were part of our St. Croix Healthy Waters Initiative. These include:

- Forest reconstruction at Afton State Park using the direct hardwood seeding method (56 acres plus 29 using other state funds)
- Oak savanna restoration at Tanglewood Nature Preserve in the protected St. Croix Greenway, Marine (5 acres).
- Garlic mustard control and ravine erosion control for prime Louisiana Waterthrush habitat, at Arcola Mills Historic Foundation, a protected site with forest of Minnesota County Biological Survey (MCBS) statewide significance (12 acres).
- Erosion control and invasive shrub control at Wind in the Pines Park, a Scandia park adjacent to Falls Creek SNA (.5 acres plus .5 acres using other state funds)
- Award-winning erosion control for ravines traversing three communities of MCBS statewide significance at Camp Waub-O-Jeeg, Taylor's Falls. (4.5 acres)

Other project activities include:

- Continued prairie reconstruction establishment, maintenance, and supplemental plug planting at OH Anderson Elementary School, Mahtomedi, while using it as a living classroom (3 acres)
- Maintained the planted oak trees and controlled invasive species at Eagle Creek AMA, Savage, as part of the savanna reconstruction (4 acres plus 1 acre using other state funds)
- Installed a raingarden to protect the Credit River (recently listed as impaired) and continued invasive species control at the dry hill prairie of MCBS statewide significance, both at Hidden Valley City Park, Savage (1 acre).

We leveraged over \$90,000 of non-state cash match (1.5 to 1) and garnered over \$31,000 of other state support; 327 volunteers contributed 760 hours to these projects; and at Afton State Park, 2.8 million hardwood seeds, including 1.7 million acorns, were planted.

Project Results Use and Dissemination

Great River Greening listed community volunteer events on its website, www.greatrivergreening.org (350 hits/month), distributed 1,000 flyers at various community events like Hands on Twin Cities Day at the Mall of America and the Living Green Expo, mailed 3,200 hard copies of its event listings to its community volunteers, and e-mailed over 4,000 of the volunteer workday lists. From these and other recruitment efforts, 327 volunteers contributed 760 hours to Greening's Restore/Enhance Significant Habitat: MeCC Phase III projects. Our volunteer opportunities offer community members transformative experiences – including service learning, camaraderie, ownership and stewardship of the project, and face-to-face contact with ecologists – that can create a life-long dialogue about the importance of preserving Minnesota's native habitats.

Projects are typically collaborations with partners that foster exchange of information on techniques, strategies, and priorities. Jon and Neu Gamble, the owners of Camp Waub-O-Jeeb, were awarded Chisago SWCD's Outstanding Conservationist Award for 2009 <http://www.chisagoswcd.org/Conservationists.htm> for their support and willingness to have work done at the camp to help mitigate sedimentation to the St. Croix River. Greening identified problem areas and provided design solutions to control run-off from their property to the ravines and eventually the St. Croix River. They are now being put forward by the county for the regional SWCD award.

At Afton State Park, Greening and DNR Parks recruited volunteers from the birding community, through both Audubon Minnesota and DNR birding volunteers, to conduct bird monitoring at the project site. Through this process, the birding community will be directly learning about the project.

Trust Fund 2007 Work Program Final Report

Date of Report: 8/15/09

Trust Fund 2007 Work Program Final Report

Date of Next Status Report: n/a

Date of Work program Approval: 22 March 2007

Project Completion Date: 6/30/09

I. PROJECT TITLE: Metro Conservation Corridors (MeCC) Phase III: Great River Greening (2.3)

Project Manager: Wiley Buck

Affiliation: Great River Greening

Mailing Address: 35 W. Water St.

City / State / Zip : St. Paul, MN 55107

Telephone Number: 651 665.9500 x15

E-mail Address: wbuck@greatrivergreening.org

FAX Number: 651 665.9409

Web Page address: www.greatrivergreening.org

Location: Within mapped Focus Area in the counties of Anoka, Carver, Chisago, Dakota, Goodhue, Hennepin, Isanti, LeSueur, Nicollet, Ramsey, Rice, Scott, Sherburne, Sibley, Washington and Wright. See attached MCC_2007_bw.pdf.

| | | | |
|---|----------------------------------|-----------|---------------|
| Total Trust Fund Project Budget: | Trust Fund Appropriation: | \$ | 60,000 |
| | Minus Amount Spent: | \$ | <u>60,000</u> |
| | Equal Balance: | \$ | -0- |

Legal Citation: ML 2007, Chap. 30, Sec. 2, Subd. 4c2.3.

Appropriation Language:

(c) Metro Conservation Corridors- Phase III \$2,500,000 is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for acceleration of agency programs and cooperative agreements with The Trust for Public Land; Friends of the Mississippi River; Great River Greening; Minnesota Land Trust; Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Trust, Inc.; Trout Unlimited; and Friends of the Minnesota Valley for the purposes of planning, restoring, 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. Expenditures are limited to the identified project corridor 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. All conservation easements must be perpetual and have a natural resource management plan. 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.

II. and III. FINAL PROJECT SUMMARY

This project restored a total of 86 ecologically significant acres, and an additional 30.5 acres using other state funds. Primary criteria for project selection were ecological significance, importance to the community, and partner commitment.

Several distinguished projects were part of our St. Croix Healthy Waters Initiative. These include:

- Forest reconstruction at Afton State Park using the direct hardwood seeding method (56 acres plus 29 using other state funds)
- Oak savanna restoration at Tanglewood Nature Preserve in the protected St. Croix Greenway, Marine (5 acres).
- Garlic mustard control and ravine erosion control for prime Louisiana Waterthrush habitat, at Arcola Mills Historic Foundation, a protected site with forest of Minnesota County Biological Survey (MCBS) statewide significance (12 acres).
- Erosion control and invasive shrub control at Wind in the Pines Park, a Scandia park adjacent to Falls Creek SNA (.5 acres plus .5 acres using other state funds)
- Award-winning erosion control for ravines traversing three communities of MCBS statewide significance at Camp Waub-O-Jeeg, Taylor's Falls. (4.5 acres)

Other project activities include:

- Continued prairie reconstruction establishment, maintenance, and supplemental plug planting at OH Anderson Elementary School, Mahtomedi, while using it as a living classroom (3 acres)
- Maintained the planted oak trees and controlled invasive species at Eagle Creek AMA, Savage, as part of the savanna reconstruction (4 acres plus 1 acre using other state funds)
- Installed a raingarden to protect the Credit River (recently listed as impaired) and continued invasive species control at the dry hill prairie of MCBS statewide significance, both at Hidden Valley City Park, Savage (1 acre).

We leveraged over \$90,000 of non-state cash match (1.5 to 1) and garnered over \$31,000 of other state support; 327 volunteers contributed 760 hours to these projects; and at Afton State Park, 2.8 million hardwood seeds, including 1.7 million acorns, were planted.

IV. OUTLINE OF PROJECT RESULTS:

Result 1: N/A

Result 2: Restore & Enhance Significant Habitat:

Description: Within the mapped Focus Areas, Great River Greening anticipates restoring 61 acres and 0.10 miles of shoreline of ecologically significant natural areas, including prairie, oak communities, and streambanks. Primary criteria for project selection are ecological significance, importance to the community, and partner commitment.

Final Report Summary 6/30/2009:

Greening restored 86 ecologically significant acres, and an additional 30.5 acres using other state funds. Primary criteria for project selection were ecological significance, importance to the community, and partner commitment. Greening exceeded our anticipated restoration of 60 acres with and 0.1 mile of shoreline.

While all acres were ecologically significant, many of these acres were concentrated into our St. Croix Healthy Waters Initiative and our Million Acorn Campaign, providing an additional focus to the restoration work. In addition, we employed the direct hardwood seeding technique for a large forest reconstruction project at Afton State Park, and in the process built capacity to undertake these projects in the metro area.

We leveraged over \$90,000 of non-state match (1.5 to 1), exceeding our non-state match goals of 1:1, and garnered over \$31,000 of other state support; 327 volunteers contributed 760 hours to these projects; and at Afton State Park, 2.8 million hardwood seeds, including 1.7 million acorns, were planted.

V. TOTAL TRUST FUND PROJECT BUDGET: \$60,000

Staff or Contract Services: \$44,535

Equipment: \$1,859

Development: \$ -0-

Restoration: \$ 11,936+ Other: \$1,670

Acquisition, including easements: \$ -0-

TOTAL TRUST FUND PROJECT BUDGET: \$ 60,000

Explanation of Capital Expenditures Greater Than \$3,500: N/A

VI. OTHER FUNDS & PARTNERS:

A. Project Partners: Metro Conservation Corridor partners (see Table A) and anticipated project partners include NFWF, Bush Foundation, Washington Co., Chisago Co., DNR Parks, Anoka County, and Target Corp.

B. Other Funds Proposed to be Spent during the Project Period: We anticipate \$45,000 in non-state matching funds will be leveraged with the LCCMR funds, and \$10,000 of other state funds.

C. Past Spending: 2005: \$100,000 for Metro Corridors II; 2003: \$124,000 for Metro Corridors I, and \$255,000 for Bucks and Buckthorn: Engaging Young Hunters in Restoration; 2001: \$910,000 for Big Rivers Partnership; 1999: \$800,000 for Big Rivers Partnership. \$300,000 RIM Critical Habitat Match. These funds leveraged over \$4.5 million in non-state funds.

D. Time: 2 years

VII. DISSEMINATION

Great River Greening listed community volunteer events on its website, www.greatrivergreening.org, (350 hits/month) distributed 1,000 flyers at various community events like Hands on Twin Cities Day at the Mall of America and the Living Green Expo, mailed 3,200 hard copies of its event listings to its community volunteers, and e-mailed over 4,000 of the volunteer workday lists. From these and other recruitment efforts, 327 volunteers contributed 760 hours to Greening's Restore/Enhance Significant Habitat: MeCC III projects. Our volunteer opportunities offer community members transformative experiences - including service learning, camaraderie, ownership and stewardship of the project, and face-to-face contact with ecologists - that can create a life-long dialogue about the importance of preserving Minnesota's native habitats.

Projects are typically collaborations with partners that foster exchange of information on techniques, strategies, and priorities. Jon and Neu Gamble, the owners of Camp Waub-O-Jeeb, were awarded Chisago SWCD's Outstanding Conservationist Award for 2009 <http://www.chisagoswcd.org/Conservationists.htm> for their support and willingness to have work done at the camp to help mitigate sedimentation to the St. Croix River; Greening identified problem areas and provided design solutions to control run-off from their property to the ravines and eventually the St. Croix River. They are now being put forward by the county for the regional SWCD award.

At Afton State Park, Greening and DNR Parks recruited from the birding community, both Audubon Minnesota and DNR birding volunteers, to conduct bird monitoring at the project site. Through this process, the birding community will be directly learning about the project.

VIII. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS: Periodic work program progress reports will be submitted not later than February 1st and August 1st each year, starting with February 1, 2008. A final work program report and associated products will be submitted between June 30 and August 1, 2009 as requested by the LCCMR

| | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|--------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Attachment A: Budget Detail for 2007 Projects | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| Project Title: Metro Conservation Corridors (MeCC) Phase III: Great River Greening (2.3) | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| Project Manager Name: Wiley Buck | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| Trust Fund Appropriation: \$ 60,000 | | | | | | |
| 1) See list of non-eligible expenses, do not include any of these items in your budget sheet | | | | | | |
| 2) Remove any budget item lines not applicable | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| 2007 Trust Fund Budget | <u>Result 2</u> <u>Budget:</u> <i>approved 3/2/09</i> | <u>Result 2</u> <u>Budget:</u> <i>revised 6/30/09</i> | Amount Spent <i>6/30/09</i> | Balance <i>6/30/09</i> | TOTAL BUDGET | TOTAL BALANCE |
| | | | | | | |
| BUDGET ITEM | Restore and Enhance | | | | | |
| PERSONNEL: wages and benefits | \$ 24,217 | <u>\$ 25,963</u> | \$ 25,963 | \$ - | \$ 25,963 | \$ - |
| | | | | | | |
| Contracts | | | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| Professional/technical (site prep, prairie seeding) | \$ 19,697 | <u>\$ 18,572</u> | \$ 18,572 | \$ - | \$ 18,572 | \$ - |
| Grants to LGUs and NGOs for restoration projects | | | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| Other direct operating costs (for what? – be specific) | | | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| Equipment / Tools (Seed drill, mower, harrow, roller, sprayers, Rx burn eq't, saws, loppers,) | \$ 1,836 | <u>\$ 1,859</u> | \$ 1,859 | \$ - | \$ 1,859 | \$ - |
| Office equipment & computers - NOT ALLOWED unless unique to the project | | | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| Other Capital equipment (list specific items) | | | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| Land acquisition | | | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| Land rights acquisition (less than fee) | | | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| Professional Services for Acq. | | | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| Printing | | | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| Other Supplies (list specific categories) | | | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| Travel expenses in Minnesota | \$ 1,000 | \$ 915 | \$ 915 | \$ - | \$ 915 | \$ - |
| Travel outside Minnesota (where?) | | | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| Construction (for what?) | | | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| Other land improvement (plant, mulch, and seed purchase) | \$ 13,230 | \$ 11,936 | \$ 11,936 | \$ - | \$ 11,936 | \$ - |
| Other (Volunteer event supplies (approved food and bevg, port. toilets, tent rentals etc.)) | \$ 20 | \$ 754 | \$ 754 | \$ - | \$ 754 | \$ - |
| COLUMN TOTAL | \$ 60,000 | \$ 60,000 | \$ 60,000 | \$ - | \$ 60,000 | \$ - |

2007 Project Abstract

For the Period Ending June 30, 2009

PROJECT TITLE: Metro Conservation Corridors (MeCC) Phase III: Metro Greenways

PROJECT MANAGER: Marybeth Block (Sharon Pfeifer 06/07 through 12/07)

AFFILIATION: MN Dept of Natural Resources - Central Regional Operations

MAILING ADDRESS: 1200 Warner Road

CITY/STATE/ZIP: St. Paul, MN 55106

PHONE: 651-259-5835

FAX: 651-772-7997

E-MAIL: Marybeth.block@state.mn.us

WEBSITE: <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/greenways/index.html>

FUNDING SOURCE: Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

LEGAL CITATION: ML 2007, [Chap. 30], Sec.[2], Subd.4c.

APPROPRIATION AMOUNT: \$944,000

Overall Project Outcome and Results:

The DNR Metro Greenways mission is to **protect, connect and restore** a regional network of natural areas in the growth corridor of the state. This mission is accomplished by supporting local conservation efforts with matching grants, while insuring each individual effort contributes to the regional network concept. During Phase 3 of this program:

Two projects received a total of \$30,870 to implement restoration activities on 11 acres of public land and the project sponsors matched those dollars with \$100,000. At the Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary in St. Paul neighborhood groups worked with volunteers and the City of St. Paul to remove invasive plant and plant oak woodland and prairie on the bluffs. The city of Elk River removed invasive species and planted a prairie/savanna in an old pasture that was acquired in 2005 to expand Top of the World City Park.

Five projects received a total of \$1,029,349 that, when combined with over \$3 million dollars from other funding partners, protected 248 acres of open space and high-value ecological areas. Three projects acquired conservation easements to protect: 44 acres along the Vermillion River in Dakota County, 12 acres in the St. Croix Basin's Valley Branch watershed, and 140 acres in Isanti County. The program assisted two local governments to purchase land: the City of Mendota Heights acquired 15 acres at the Pilot Knob Natural Area and Scott County acquired 41 acres that will become part of the future planned 900+ acre Doyle-Kennefick Regional Park.

Six projects received Community Assistance grants to develop tools and policies that local governments will use to protect high quality natural areas. Three of the projects conducted natural resource inventories using the MN Land Cover Classification System. One project developed a model to predict a parcel's sensitivity to development. One project drafted a conservation ordinance. One project developed a Stewardship Guide to provide crucial information to a county wanting to develop a sound conservation easement program.

Project Results Use and Dissemination

Press releases were sent to local newspapers where projects were funded. The DNR intends to post Community Assistance Project Profiles on their website and restoration and protection project information will be available through the public map generated from the MeCC database. All DNR Metro Greenways-generated news releases cited the required MN Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund attribution language.

Trust Fund 2007 Work Program Final Report

Date of Report: September 14, 2009

Date of Next Status Report: Trust Fund 2007 Work Program Final Report

Date of Work program Approval: 6/5/2007

Project Completion Date: 6/30/09

I. PROJECT TITLE: Metro Conservation Corridors (MeCC) Phase III: Metro Greenways

Project Manager: Marybeth Block (Sharon Pfeifer 06/07 through 12/07)

Affiliation: MN Dept of Natural Resources - Central Regional Operations

Mailing Address: 1200 Warner Road

City / State / Zip : St. Paul, MN 55106

Telephone Number: 651 259-5835

E-mail Address: Marybeth.block@dnr.state.mn.us

FAX Number: 651 772 7997

Web Page address: <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/greenways/index.html>

Location: Within mapped Focus Area in the counties of Anoka, Carver, Chisago, Dakota, Goodhue, Hennepin, Isanti, LeSueur, Nicollet, Ramsey, Rice, Scott, Sherburne, Sibley, Washington and Wright. See Figure 1.

Total Trust Fund Project Budget:

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Trust Fund Appropriation: | \$ 944,000 |
| Minus Amount Expended: | \$ 936,342 |
| Balance: | \$ 7,658 |

Legal Citation: ML 2007, [Chap. 30], Sec.[2], Subd.4c.

Appropriation Language: (c) Metro Conservation Corridors- Phase III \$2,500,000 is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for acceleration of agency programs and cooperative agreements with The Trust for Public Land; Friends of the Mississippi River; Great River Greening; Minnesota Land Trust; Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Trust, Inc.; Trout Unlimited; and Friends of the Minnesota Valley for the purposes of planning, restoring, 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. Expenditures are limited to the identified project corridor 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. All conservation easements must be perpetual and have a natural resource management plan. 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.

II. and III. FINAL PROJECT SUMMARY:

The DNR Metro Greenways mission is to **protect, connect and restore** a regional network of natural areas in the growth corridor of the state. This mission is accomplished by supporting local conservation efforts with matching grants, while insuring each individual effort contributes to the regional network concept. During Phase 3 of this program:

Two projects received \$30,870 to implement restoration activities on 11 acres public land and the project sponsors matched those dollars with \$100,000. At the Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary in St. Paul neighborhood groups worked with volunteers and the City to remove invasive plant and plant oak woodland

and prairie on the bluffs. Elk River removed invasive species and planted a prairie/savanna in an old pasture that was acquired in 2005 to expand Top of the World City Park.

Five projects received \$1,029,349 that, when combined with over \$3 million dollars from other funding partners, protected 248 acres of open space and high-value ecological areas. Three conservation easements acquired 44 acres along the Vermillion River in Dakota County, 12 acres in the St. Croix Basin's Valley Branch watershed and 140 acres in Isanti County. The program assisted two local governments to purchase land: 15 acres at the Pilot Knob Natural Area in Mendota Heights and 41 acres that will become part of a future 900+ acre regional park.

Six project received Community Assistance grants to develop tools and policies that local governments will use to protect high quality natural areas. Three of the projects conducted a natural resource inventories using the MN Land Cover Classification System. One developed a model predict a parcel's sensitivity to development and another drafted a conservation ordinance. A Stewardship Guide was written to provide crucial information to a county wanting to develop a sound conservation easement program.

IV. OUTLINE OF PROJECT RESULTS:

Result 1 (restoration): The original project proposal stated a goal of treating 45 acres with restoration practices with over \$44,000 budgeted for grants. The request for proposal process yielded 2 projects applications to carry out restoration activities on 11 acres.

In April of 2008 the LCCMR approved an amendment to transfer the balance of \$13,885 from this result to result 2 (protection). In February of 2009 the work program was again amended to transfer the remaining balance of \$2,413 in result 2 (protection) was back to result 1 to increase the grant to the City of Elk River so they could carry out all of the restoration activities they had planned.

The East Side Neighborhood Development Association was awarded a \$20,000 grant to continue carrying out restoration activities at the Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary at St. Paul, MN. This site, once sacred to the Dakota, was contaminated with asbestos when owned by the BNSF Railroad. The Metro Greenways program assisted the City of St. Paul to purchase the property by acquiring a conservation easement on this parcel in 2002 (with bonding funds.) After extensive clean up of the site, Metro Greenways awarded a \$50,000 grant (appropriated from Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund funds "Trust Funds") in 2005 to begin landscape restoration activities at the Nature Center. The activities carried out with money awarded under this work program include:

- Removed 11 invasive species from 1.75 acres: Canada Thistle, Burdock, Spotted Knapweed, Buckthorn, Garlic Mustard, Birdsfoot Trefoil, Artemisia, Canada Goldenrod, biennial Thistle, Curly dock and Reed Canary Grass.
- Conducted a prescribed burn.
- In April, 2008, 300 volunteers planted, caged and mulched 700 oaks woodland trees and shrubs on 1.5 acres. This site was selected for HGTVs "Change the World Week."
- In April of 2009 the City of St. Paul and Lower Phalen Creek Group planted, caged and mulched 220 oaks woodland trees and shrubs on .75 acres.

*note: the City of St. Paul has been watering the trees during drought conditions.

- 7 warm season native grass species and 7 native forbs species where planted on the bluff.

The oak woodland tree and shrub plantings are doing well with the extra steps taken to establish them. Establishing the native species on the bluff is challenging due to the steep slopes, poor quality soil and invasive species.

The total cost of the project was \$97,254 up substantially from the original budget amount of \$50,500. The match of \$77,711 was provided by various entities (refer to the chart on the next page.)

The City of Elk River carried out restoration activities on 7 acres at the Top of the World Park Addition. This project was carried out on land acquired in Phase 3 (2005) in part with Trust Funds through a Metro Greenways Grant. This restoration project, carried out with Phase 4 (2007) Trust Fund money, focused on native prairie/savanna restoration activities:

- Site preparation
- Treatment to remove & control invasive trees and shrubs: cut and treat the stumps.
- Selectively cut small oaks that occurred under the canopy of healthy, more mature oaks.
- Conducted a prescribed burn
- Seeded the prairie and savanna area

This project included a collaborative approach with the City of Elk River parks staff, volunteers, and a private contractor (Bonestroo). This team worked well together and was able to successfully complete a number of site preparation activities in close sequence, thanks to good communication. With the economic downturn the city experienced some budgetary challenges during the course of this project that required some adjustment in the work plan for this grant project. The MN DNR staff worked with the city and the contractor to make appropriate adjustments to the work plan and schedule, allowing this project to be successfully completed. The City has (and will continue to) spot mow and apply herbicide as needed to establish the seeding. The City is also responsible for installing an interpretive sign.

Summary Budget Information for Result 2:

| Grant Recipient | Project Name | Deliverable | Acres | Total Cost | Metro Greenways \$ | Other Funds \$ |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|---|-------|------------|--------------------|---|
| | | | | | | |
| Eastside Neighborhood | Bruce Vento Nature Center | Continued restoration of this urban site that was severely degraded when purchased from Burlington Northern Railroad in 2002. | 4 | \$97,254 | \$19,543 | McNeely Foundation: \$13,000; McKnight Foundation: 2,000; HGTV funds: 6,405 St. Paul: \$15,945; St. Paul & East Side Youth Conserv Corps & HGTV Volunteers \$40,361 |
| Elk River | Top of the World Savanna | Invasive control, prairie/savanna restoration activities and signage. . | 7 | \$22,664 | \$11,327 | City in-kind/cash match: ~\$11,000 |
| | | | 11 | \$119,908 | 30,870 | |

Deliverable

Completion Date

1. 11 acres treated with restoration efforts 6/30/2009

Original Budget: \$44,000
 Amended Budget: \$32,528
Amount Expended: \$30,870
Balance: \$ 1,658

Result 2 (acquisition): The Metro Greenways Advisory Committee recommended 7 projects, but one withdrew and two were funding with bonding dollars. Five projects protecting 248 acres were funded with trust fund dollars.

- 3 projects protect 194 acres by acquiring a conservation easement on privately owned land. The Minnesota Land Trust holds easements on 2 properties (12 acres in Washington County and 140 acres in Isanti County.) Dakota County holds one conservation easement on 44 acres (and along 1,310 linear feet of the Vermillion River) near Hastings.
- 2 projects protect 52 acres by acquiring land that will be owned by local units of government and protected by deed restrictions. The City of Mendota Heights expanded the Pilot Knob Natural Area by 15 acres. Scott County purchased a parcel that, in the future, will be part of a regional park.

| Grantee | Project Name | Location | Deliverable | Acres | Total Cost | Metro Greenway Grant | Other Funds \$ |
|--|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|--|------------|-----------------|----------------------|---|
| Result 2: Acquire Significant Habitat | | | | | | | |
| Dakota County | Wilmar | Dakota County, Vermillion Township | The County acquired a conservation easement from the landowner. The protected area includes cropland, floodplain trees and other vegetation that straddles 1,310 linear feet Vermillion River. | 44 | \$225,000 | \$40,000 | Dakota County FNAP |
| Mendota Heights | Pilot Knob, Phase II | Dakota County, Mendota Heights | The City acquired a parcel that abuts Pilot Knob parcel acquired in 2005. The MG grant included 2 appropriations: 72% acquired from Phase 3 funds and 28% from Phase 2 funds (acreage has been prorated by the % paid in this phase.) | 11 | \$1,689,911 | \$144,513 | City \$400K; Dak. Co. \$400K; DNR \$1.2 M; TPL-ETF \$200K |
| MN Land Trust | Beckman Farm | Isanti County, Stanchfield Township | MLT acquired a Conservation easement from the landowner. The protected area includes restored cropland including a 40 acre wetland, 40 acre mature red/white pine forest, and 800 feet of shoreline. | 140 | \$475,000 | \$315,000 | none |
| MN Land Trust | Steltzner | Washington County, Afton | MLT acquired a Conservation easement from the landowner. This project was originally submitted by Washington Co. but MLT took over because the landowner is an employee of the County. The protected area is largely oak woodland-brushland. Valley Creek flows by property and it abuts Belwin. | 12 | \$150,000 | \$75,000 | landowner donation |
| Scott County | St. Catherine's Bluff | Scott County, Cedar Lake Township | The County acquired land comprised of a high-quality bluff-top maple-basswood forest (25 acres) and 3500' of undisturbed shoreline. The parcel will be part of the planned Doyle-Kennebeck Regional Park, which will encompass about 900 acres. The MG grant included 2 appropriations - 85% acquired with Phase 3 and 15% with Phase 4 Metro Greenways funds. (acreage has been prorated by the % paid in this phase.) | 41 | \$1,210K | \$236,959 | \$41,740 from Metro Greenways Phase 3, \$769,680 from Met Council and \$170,044 from ENT fund |
| TOTAL | | | | 248 | \$3,812K | \$811,472 | |

Deliverable

1. 256 acres acquired

Completion Date

6/30/2009

Original Budget: \$800,000

Amended Budget: \$811,472

Amount Expended: \$811,472

Balance: \$ 0

Result 3: Community Conservation Assistance

Four cities and two counties within the metropolitan area were awarded Community Conservation Assistance matching grants. The purpose of this grant is to assist local governments with gathering and integrating natural resources information into local development and conservation planning and policy decisions. The DNR is especially interested in projects that seek to resolve challenges associated with the conservation of remaining natural habitats in rapidly changing communities.

Final Report Project Summary:

| Grant Recipient | Project Type | Deliverable | Area | Total Cost \$ | Metro Greenway \$ | Other Funds |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|---------------|---------------|-------------------|--|
| Result 3: Provide Community Conservation Assistance | | | | | | |
| Andover | Natural Resource Inventory (Targeted) | NRI/MLCCS to identify natural and semi-natural areas and assess the overall quality to aid staff and commission members efforts to protect, restore and encourage private land stewardship. | 740 acres | \$14,000 | \$9,476 | City |
| Dayton | Ordinances | Developed a Conservation Subdivision Ordinance aimed at protection of natural resources within the designated Greenway Corridor. | Greenway | \$35,000 | \$10,000 | City |
| Goodhue County | Policy & Planning | Developed a GIS model that combines data and assigns a numerical score to a parcel indicating the quantity and quality of natural resources, and other relevant characteristics of the property. | entire county | \$70,000 | \$35,000 | County |
| Maplewood | Natural Resource Inventory (Targeted) | NRI/MLCCS to 1) Develop a Greenways policy statement and 2) Develop a conservation-based zoning district | Greenway | \$40,000 | \$10,000 | City |
| Monticello | Natural Resource Inventory (Targeted) | NRI/MLCCS to identify high quality natural resources based on scientific review and concurrent process where the public identified priority natural resource areas. Protection strategies were also identified. | 10,000 acres | \$30,000 | \$9,984 | City |
| Scott | Policy & Planning | Developed a Stewardship Guide to provide crucial information specific to land management for the purpose of informing the decisions and process Scott County is undertaking to develop a sound conservation easement program. | entire county | \$66,000 | \$19,540 | Co. Parks& Trails McKnight Scott WMO |
| | | | | \$165,206 | \$94,000 | |

Deliverable: Local land protection tools, policies and inventories.

Completion Date

06/30/2009

Summary Budget Information for Result 3:

| | |
|------------------|------------|
| Original Budget: | \$ 100,000 |
| Amount Expended: | \$ 94,000 |
| Balance: | \$ 6,000 |

TOTAL TRUST FUND PROJECT BUDGET:

Staff or Contract Services: \$0

Equipment: \$0

Development: \$ 0

Restoration: \$ \$30,870 for restoration activities on 11 acres

Acquisition, including easements: \$ 811,472 protected 248 acres

Community Assistance: \$94,000 for 6 projects developing tools to assist local governments in managing and protecting natural resources.

TOTAL TRUST FUND PROJECT BUDGET: \$ 936,342

Explanation of Capital Expenditures Greater Than \$3,500: N/A

V. OTHER FUNDS & PARTNERS:

A. Project Partners: Metro Conservation Corridor partners (see Table A) and private landowners, local governments, regional, state and federal agencies, nonprofit organizations and citizen groups.

B. Other Funds Spent during the Project Period: \$3,161,154

C. Past Spending: In the past 8 years, Metro Greenways has received the following direct appropriations: 1998 bonding: \$4,000,000, 2000 Bonding: \$1,500,000, 2001 LCMR: \$2,730,000, 2003 LCMR/Phase1 MWC: \$1,089,000 appropriation, 2005 LCMR/Phase2 MWC: \$1,200,000. In addition, since inception of the program, over \$3 of non-state funds for every LCMR dollar has been directly leveraged towards the projects funded by Metro Greenways.

D. Time: 2 years

VI. DISSEMINATION: Metro Corridors will periodically distribute information about the program through the widely broadcasted emails to people on the Embrace Open Space (EOS) database, through the EOS quarterly meetings and jointly held county meetings, and on the MeCC website. As projects are completed, the partners involved will publicize accomplishments through press releases and organization newsletters and websites.

VIII. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS: Periodic work program progress reports will be submitted not later than February 1st and August 1st each year, starting with February 1, 2008. A final work program report and associated products will be submitted between June 30 and August 1, 2009 as requested by the LCCMR.

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|-------------------------|-----------------|--|-------------------------|----------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Attachment A: Final Budget Detail 2007 (Phase 3) MeCC- DNR Metro Greenways | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Project Title: Metro Greenways (Results 1,2 and 3) | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Project Manager Name: Marybeth Block | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Trust Fund Appropriation: \$ 944,000 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2007 Trust Fund Budget | Result 1 Budget: Restoration | Amount Spent | Balance | Result 2 Budget: Protection | Amount Spent | Balance | Result 3 Budget: CCA | Amount Spent | Balance | TOTAL BUDGET | TOTAL BALANCE |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |
| BUDGET ITEM | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Grants to LGUs and NGOs | 32,528 | \$ 30,870 | \$ 1,658 | \$ 811,472 | \$811,472 | 0 | \$100,000 | 94,000.00 | \$6,000 | \$944,000 | 7,658 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |
| COLUMN TOTAL | \$ 32,528 | \$ 30,870 | \$ 1,658 | \$ 811,472 | \$811,472 | \$ - | \$100,000 | \$94,000 | \$6,000 | \$ 944,000 | \$7,658 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |

2007 Work Project Abstract

For the Period Ending June 30, 2007

PROJECT TITLE: Metro Conservation Corridors Phase III: Scientific and Natural Areas (2.5 & 3.6)
Project Manager: Margaret (Peggy) Booth
Affiliation: MN Dept of Natural Resources – Div. of Ecological Resources
Mailing Address: 500 Lafayette Rd, Box 25
City / State / Zip : St. Paul, MN 55155-4025
Telephone Number: 651-259-5088
E-mail Address: peggy.booth@dnr.state.mn.us
FAX Number: 651-296-1811
Web Page Address: <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/snas/index.html>
Funding Source: Environment & Natural Resources Trust Fund

Legal Citation: ML 2007, Chap. 30, Sec. 2, Subd. 4(c)

Appropriation Language: (c) Metro Conservation Corridors - Phase III

\$2,500,000 is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for acceleration of agency programs and cooperative agreements with The Trust for Public Land; Friends of the Mississippi River; Great River Greening; Minnesota Land Trust; Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Trust, Inc.; Trout Unlimited; and Friends of the Minnesota Valley for the purposes of planning, restoring, 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. Expenditures are limited to the identified project corridor 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. All conservation easements must be perpetual and have a natural resource management plan. 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.

APPROPRIATION AMOUNT: \$243,000

Overall Project Outcome & Results

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Scientific and Natural Area (SNA) Program worked with the Trust for Public Land (Metro Conservation Corridors partner) to acquire a 16 acre portion of a larger acquisition of 85.2 acres of high priority native habitat designated as the new Franconia Bluffs SNA. The sites acquired contain native plant communities, such as mesic oak and maple-basswood forests and habitat for rare plant and animal species including red-shouldered hawk, Cerulean warbler, Acadian flycatcher, Louisiana waterthrush, bald eagle, and wood turtle; and adjoins the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway which contains four state-listed fish species documented near the SNA and a total of 40 native mussel species, two of which are federally- and state-endangered;

The SNA Program and its partners (including Metro Corridor partners Friends of the Mississippi River) restored and enhanced native habitat on over 429 acres at 12 SNAs within the Metro Corridors Focus Area. Specific accomplishments are: 13 acres of prairie restoration work (local

ecotype seed collection from onsite or within 20 miles and seeding) at two sites in Washington and Dakota Counties; 197 acres of prescribed burns (and associated burn break development) at 6 SNAs in Goodhue and Washington Counties; and 219 acres of exotics species removal at 9 sites in Carver, Hennepin, Goodhue, and Washington Counties. This work is necessary to prevent the loss of important species, plant communities and features.

The SNA goal is to preserve and perpetuate the ecological diversity of Minnesota's heritage for scientific study, education, and nature observation. Over 3000 acres in 24 SNAs have been designated within Metro Conservation Corridors Focus Area. These SNAs are managed to protect elements of natural diversity such as rare and endangered plant and animal species, undisturbed plant communities, and geological features.

Project Results Use & Dissemination

SNA's partner – the Trust for Public Land – issued a press release for each acquisition completed through this project.

Trust Fund 2007 Work Program Final Report

Date of Report: 11/13/09

Trust Fund 2007 Work Program Final Report

Project Completion Date: 6/30/09

I. PROJECT TITLE: Metro Conservation Corridors Phase III:
Scientific and Natural Areas (2.5 and 3.6)
Project Manager: Margaret (Peggy) Booth
Affiliation: MN Dept of Natural Resources – Div. of Ecological Resources
Mailing Address: 500 Lafayette Rd, Box 25
City / State / Zip : St. Paul, MN 55155-4025
Telephone Number: 651-259-5088
E-mail Address: peggy.booth@dnr.state.mn.us
FAX Number: 651-296-1811
Web Page address: <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/snas/index.html>

Location: Current and proposed Scientific and Natural Areas within mapped Focus Area in the counties of Anoka, Carver, Chisago, Dakota, Goodhue, Hennepin, Isanti, LeSueur, Nicollet, Ramsey, Rice, Scott, Sherburne, Sibley, Washington and Wright. See Figure 1.

| | | |
|---|----------------------------------|------------------|
| Total Trust Fund Project Budget: | Trust Fund Appropriation: | \$243,000 |
| | Minus Amount Spent: | \$243,000 |
| | Equal Balance: | \$0 |

Legal Citation: ML 2007, Chap. 30, Sec. 2, Subd. 4(c)

Appropriation Language:

Appropriation Language: (c) Metro Conservation Corridors - Phase III
\$2,500,000 is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for acceleration of agency programs and cooperative agreements with The Trust for Public Land; Friends of the Mississippi River; Great River Greening; Minnesota Land Trust; Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Trust, Inc.; Trout Unlimited; and Friends of the Minnesota Valley for the purposes of planning, restoring, 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. Expenditures are limited to the identified project corridor 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. All conservation easements must be perpetual and have a natural resource management plan. 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.

II & III. FINAL PROJECT SUMMARY

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Scientific and Natural Area (SNA) Program worked with the Trust for Public Land (Metro Conservation Corridors partner) to acquire 85.2 acres (16 acres directly through these funds) of high priority native habitat which were designated as the new Franconia Bluffs SNA. The sites acquired contain native plant communities, such as mesic oak and maple-basswood forests and habitat for rare plant and animal species including red-shouldered hawk, Cerulean warbler, Acadian flycatcher, Louisiana waterthrush, bald eagle, and wood turtle; and adjoins the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway which contains four state-listed fish species documented near the SNA and a total of 40 native mussel species, two of which are federally- and state-endangered;

The SNA Program and its partners (including Metro Corridor partners Friends of the Mississippi River) restored and enhanced native habitat on over 429 acres at 12 SNAs within the Metro Corridors Focus Area. Specific accomplishments are: 13 acres of prairie restoration work (local ecotype seed collection from onsite or within 20 miles and seeding) at two sites in Washington and Dakota Counties; 197 acres of prescribed burns (and associated burn break development) at 6 SNAs in Goodhue and Washington Counties; and 219 acres of exotics species removal at 9 sites in Carver, Hennepin, Goodhue, and Washington Counties. This work is necessary to prevent the loss of important species, plant communities and features.

The SNA goal is to preserve and perpetuate the ecological diversity of Minnesota's heritage for scientific study, education, and nature observation. Over 3000 acres in 24 SNAs have been designated within Metro Conservation Corridors Focus Area. These SNAs are managed to protect elements of natural diversity such as rare and endangered plant and animal species, undisturbed plant communities, and geological features.

IV. OUTLINE OF PROJECT RESULTS:

Result 1: N/A

Result 2: Scientific & Natural Area (SNA) Restoration & Enhancement

The SNA Program and its partners (including Metro Corridor partners Friends of the Mississippi River) restored and enhanced native habitat on over 429 acres (not counting accomplishment acres done through other partners or funding). Work was targeted at prairie restoration and enhancement and exotics species removal. This work is necessary to prevent the loss of important species, plant communities and features from past land use practices (prior to SNA designation), lack of natural disturbance regimes, and encroachment by invasives species. Project crew and partner activities included seed collection (local ecotype from onsite or within 20

miles), planting, removal of exotics, control of woody encroachment, and prescribed burns.

Summary Budget Information for Result 2:

| | |
|---------------------------|------------------|
| Trust Fund Budget: | \$ 34,888 |
| Amount Spent: | \$ 34,888 |
| Balance: | \$ 0 |

Final Report Summary 6/30/2009:

The SNA goal is to preserve and perpetuate the ecological diversity of Minnesota's heritage for scientific study, education, and nature observation. To date, 24 SNAs encompassing over 3000 acres have been designated within Metro Conservation Corridors Focus Area. These SNAs are managed to protect elements of natural diversity such as rare and endangered plant and animal species, undisturbed plant communities, and geological features.

Restoration and enhancement activities on 429 acres at 12 SNAs were completed with this appropriation as follows:

- 197 acres of prescribed burns (and associated burn break development) at River Terrace Prairie (17 ac), Spring Creek Prairie (42 ac), and Cannon River Turtle Preserve (17.5 ac) SNAs (Goodhue Co); Grey Cloud Dunes (71 ac), St. Croix Savanna (31.5 ac), and Lost Valley Prairie (18 ac) SNAs (Washington Co);
- 219 acres of exotics species removal at Seminary Fen** SNA (4 ac – Carver Co); Spring Creek Prairie** SNA (Goodhue Co); Wood-Rill SNA (200 ac – Hennepin Co); Hastings Sand Coulee (1 ac – Dakota Co); Savage Fen (Scott Co); Falls Creek SNA, Lost Valley Prairie** (2 ac), St. Croix Savanna** (11 ac), and Grey Cloud Dunes** (1 ac) SNAs (Washington Co); and
- 13 acres of prairie restoration work (seeding only) at Pine Bend Bluffs (3 ac – Dakota Co); and Lost Valley Prairie (10 ac – Washington Co; supplemented by donated time by SNA volunteers).

Note: ** additional exotics control activities (acres not counted here) were also completed on these sites during this timeframe using 2005 and 2006 bonding funds. Also, prairie restoration work above was supplemented by Friends of the Mississippi River work funded by Remediation Grant projects at Pine Bend Bluffs.

Result 3: Scientific & Natural Area (SNA) Acquisition.

The SNA program in cooperation with the Trust for Public Land acquired 85.2 acres (16 acres directly through this funding) of high priority native habitat which was designated as Franconia Bluffs SNA. Priority was given to fee acquisition both protecting the resources and providing for public access. Acquisition was initially targeted at four primary locations: a) the largest remaining unprotected parcel of Mississippi River frontage within the Pine Bend Bluffs Natural Area (a MCBS-mapped natural area of bluffs, remnant white pines and other forests, as well as prairies with listed species in Dakota County), b) an addition of MCBS mapped native prairie and ravines adjoining the Lost Valley SNA (Washington County), c) additional lands supporting rare animal and plant species at Hastings Sand Coulee (Dakota County); and d) a proposed new Franconia Bluffs SNA in Chisago County overlooking the St Croix River (Chisago County).

The DNR has a long-range plan for SNA acquisition and designation based upon the Natural Heritage data system, Minnesota County Biological Survey (MCBS), the Ecological Classification, and the Minnesota Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy. All lands acquired as an SNA must have an ecological evaluation approved by the Commissioner's Advisory Committee.

Summary Budget Information for Result 3:

| | |
|---------------------------|------------------|
| Trust Fund Budget: | \$208,112 |
| Amount Spent: | \$208,112 |
| Balance: | \$ 0 |

Final Report Summary 6/30/2009: Two parcels totaling 85.2 acres in Franconia Township in Chisago County were acquired in part through funding through collaboration with Metro Corridors partner – the Trust for Public Land – and designated as the new Franconia Bluffs SNA. These acquisitions were approved by the township and county boards and are both open to public hunting.

The new Franconia Bluffs SNA is within the northern end of 6-mile long Franconia St. Croix Corridor project area that was evaluated by the DNR's Natural Heritage Program (November 2005) and approved by the Commissioner's Advisory Committee (December 2005) for potential protection through Scientific and Natural Area designation. The St Croix valley and adjoining lands are a resource of national significance. This part of the St Croix River is home to 4 species of state-listed fish species and 40 species of native mussels, two of which are federal and state endangered species. Furthermore, the wooded bluffs of Franconia Township are habitat for many birds and rare plants, including wood turtles. Much of the bottomlands along this 6-mile stretch of river are protected through the St Croix National Scenic Riverway. But, the adjoining bluffs and creek valleys (such as acquired here) are incredibly important wildlife habitat that is very vulnerable to impacts by development.

The new Franconia Bluffs SNA contains native plant communities such as Southern Dry-Mesic Oak Forest, Southern Dry-Mesic Oak (Maple) Woodland, and Maple-Basswood Forest (East Central) and habitat for rare plant and animal species including red-shouldered hawk (*Buteo lineatus*), Cerulean warbler (*Dendroica cerulea*), Acadian flycatcher (*Empidonax virescens*), Louisiana waterthrush (*Seiurus motacilla*), bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*), and wood turtle (*Glyptemys insculpta*).

Transaction costs totaling \$26,597 (including boundary survey costs of \$16.6K) from this appropriation to the SNA program was expended towards acquisition of the 48-acre Franconia Bluffs – Parcel 1 by the Trust for Public Land (TPL) and conveyed to the DNR on June 2, 2008. TPL used its 2005 Metro Corridors LCCMR funds to pay the landowner. This site was designated as the Franconia Bluffs SNA on June 19, 2008. The boundary survey for the new Franconia Bluffs SNA was completed in September 2008 with this funding (and boundary signs installed using 2008

bonding). The LCCMR accomplishment acres for this acquisition are all counted as 2005 funding by TPL.

The 37.2-acre Franconia Bluffs – Parcel 2 was acquired by the Trust for Public Land and conveyed to the DNR on June 4, 2009 and designated as SNA on June 29, 2009. The landowner donated \$8,105 of its value and DNR paid all the direct landowner costs (\$385,000) using a combination of this fund (42.3% - 15.7 acres) and the 2008 LCCMR SNA Statewide funding (55.7% - 20.7 acres) – with costs summarized in the table below. The LCCMR members and staff visited this site on June 17, 2009. The map of both parcels is attached which also shows areas of the site for restoration and enhancement through other funding.

| Franconia Bluffs SNA – Parcel 2 Funding Sources | \$s Spent | Pro-rated % | Pro-rated Acres |
|---|------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| 2007 LCCMR Metro Corridors/SNA appropriation – Direct Cost | \$166,251 | 42.29% | 15.73 |
| 2008 LCCMR SNA Statewide – Direct Cost | \$218,749 | 55.65% | 20.70 |
| Landowner Donation | \$8,105 | 2.06% | 0.77 |
| SUBTOTAL – Direct Fee Acquisition | \$393,105 | 100.00% | 37.20 |
| 2007 LCCMR – SNA Real Estate Transaction \$s (<i>other transaction costs to be reported as part of 2008 report</i>) | \$5,803 | | |
| TPL Real Estate Transaction \$s (donated) | \$23,953 | | |

Work was also initiated through using \$9,461 of this funding to acquire several other parcels which could not be completed under this appropriation: a proposed addition to the Lost Valley Prairie SNA (with the offer turned down by the landowner, but was acquired later in 2009 with state bonding); a proposed addition to Hastings Sand Coulee (with the offer turned down by the landowner); a proposed addition to Pine Bend Bluffs SNA (which was moved to other funding because of delays in the project).

V. TOTAL TRUST FUND PROJECT BUDGET:

Staff or Contract Services: \$28,145 (for 0.7 FTE of SNA project crew, paid almost exclusively with special project funds, to carry out restoration & development work; and less than .001 FTE unclassified acquisition specialist)

Equipment: \$3,433 (truck, tractor & equipment fleet charges & incidental parts for chainsaws, tractor, & vehicles needed for restoration & development work)

Development: \$0 (signs, fencing, and other supplies needed to bring sites up to minimum standards) – costs were or will be paid through bonding.

Restoration: \$3,496 (towards work on 429 acres – various supplies & direct expenses for restoration field work, including travel expenses)

Acquisition, including easements: \$207,926 (for 85 acres acquired in fee and designated as SNA – 16 acres fully paid with these funds; including transaction costs and some travel expenses)

TOTAL TRUST FUND PROJECT BUDGET: \$ 243,000

Explanation of Capital Expenditures Greater Than \$3,500: N/A

VI. OTHER FUNDS & PARTNERS:

A. Project Partners: SNA developed and implemented its projects in cooperation with Friends of the Mississippi River and The Trust for Public Land. SNA also involved the Minnesota Conservation Corps, Sentence to Serve, local groups, and volunteers in project implementation.

B. Other Funds Proposed to be Spent during the Project Period:

Restoration/enhancement projects include DNR general funding support and bonding and involved NGO partners using other state or non-state funds (not counted in accomplishment acres). Because landowners declined acquisition offers on two projects and a third project was delayed past the timeframe of this appropriation, this project did not generate any county match and landowner donations, nor was Metro Greenways LCCMR or bonding funds used.

C. Past Spending: SNA acquisition and development appropriations received July 2005-June 2007: LCMR SNA Metro Corridors Phase II: \$300,000; 2005 Bonding (primarily non-Metro): \$2,000,000. SNA general fund for Central Region is approximately \$110,000 annually for region staff, operations and crew.

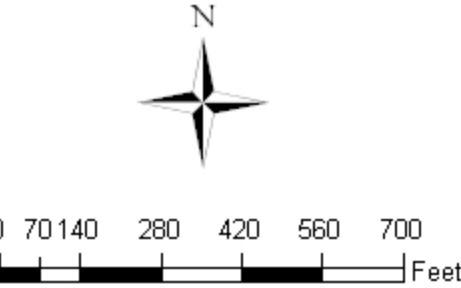
D. Time: Restoration work was completed by June 2008; acquisition projects were completed in June 2009.

VII. DISSEMINATION: SNA's partner – the Trust for Public Land – issued a press release for each acquisition completed through this project.

VIII. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS: Periodic work program progress reports were completed by around February 1st and August 1st each year, starting with February 1, 2008. This is the final work program report and associated products.

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---------------------------------|----------------------------|---|---------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Attachment A: Budget Detail for 2007 Projects | | FINAL | | | | | | |
| Project Title: Metro Conservation Corridors Phase III: Scientific and Natural Areas (2.5 and 3.6) | | | | | | | | |
| Project Manager Name: Margaret (Peggy) Booth | | | | | | | | |
| Trust Fund Appropriation: \$ 243,000 | | | | | | | | |
| 1) See list of non-eligible expenses, do not include any of these items in your budget sheet | | | | | | | | |
| 2) Remove any budget item lines not applicable | | | | | | | | |
| 2007 Trust Fund Budget | <u>Result 2</u> <u>Budget:</u> | Amount Spent (FINAL) | Balance (FINAL) | <u>Result 3</u> <u>Budget:</u> | Amount Spent (FINAL) | Balance (FINAL) | TOTAL BUDGET | TOTAL BALANCE |
| BUDGET ITEM | Restoration | | | Protection | | | | |
| PERSONNEL: wages and benefits: Project crews (paid almost exclusively with special project funds) to carry out restoration and enhancement, amounting to .6 FTE over the life of the project. Fringe varies from 14.8 -18%. | \$ 27,959 | \$ 27,959 | \$ - | \$ 186 | \$ 186 | \$ - | \$ 28,145 | \$ - |
| Equipment / Tools: truck, tractor & equipment fleet charges & incidental parts for chainsaws, tractor, vehicles, etc. | \$ 3,433 | \$ 3,433 | \$ - | | | \$ - | \$ 3,433 | \$ - |
| Land acquisition | | | \$ - | \$ 166,251 | \$ 166,251 | \$ - | \$ 166,251 | \$ - |
| Land rights acquisition (less than fee) | | | \$ - | | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| Professional Services for Acq. - including attorney general & closing company costs | | | \$ - | \$ 41,648 | \$ 41,648 | \$ - | \$ 41,648 | \$ - |
| Other Supplies: e.g. fencing, exclosure mats, signs, seeds, gloves, chemical, etc | \$ 2,460 | \$ 2,460 | \$ - | | | \$ - | \$ 2,460 | \$ - |
| Travel expenses in Minnesota | \$ 668 | \$ 668 | \$ - | \$ 27 | \$ 27 | \$ - | \$ 695 | \$ - |
| Other land improvement: direct expenses not included above for purposes of meeting min. standards & restoration | \$ 368 | \$ 368 | \$ - | | | \$ - | \$ 368 | \$ - |
| COLUMN TOTAL | \$ 34,888 | \$ 34,888 | \$ - | \$ 208,112 | \$ 208,112 | \$ - | \$ 243,000 | \$ - |

Franconia Bluffs SNA



Legend

Signs

- Boundary (yellow square)
- Interpretive (blue square)
- R&R (orange square)
- Wood Routed (brown square with a cross)

Development Features

- parking lot (orange rectangle)

Field Work Areas

- (green outline)

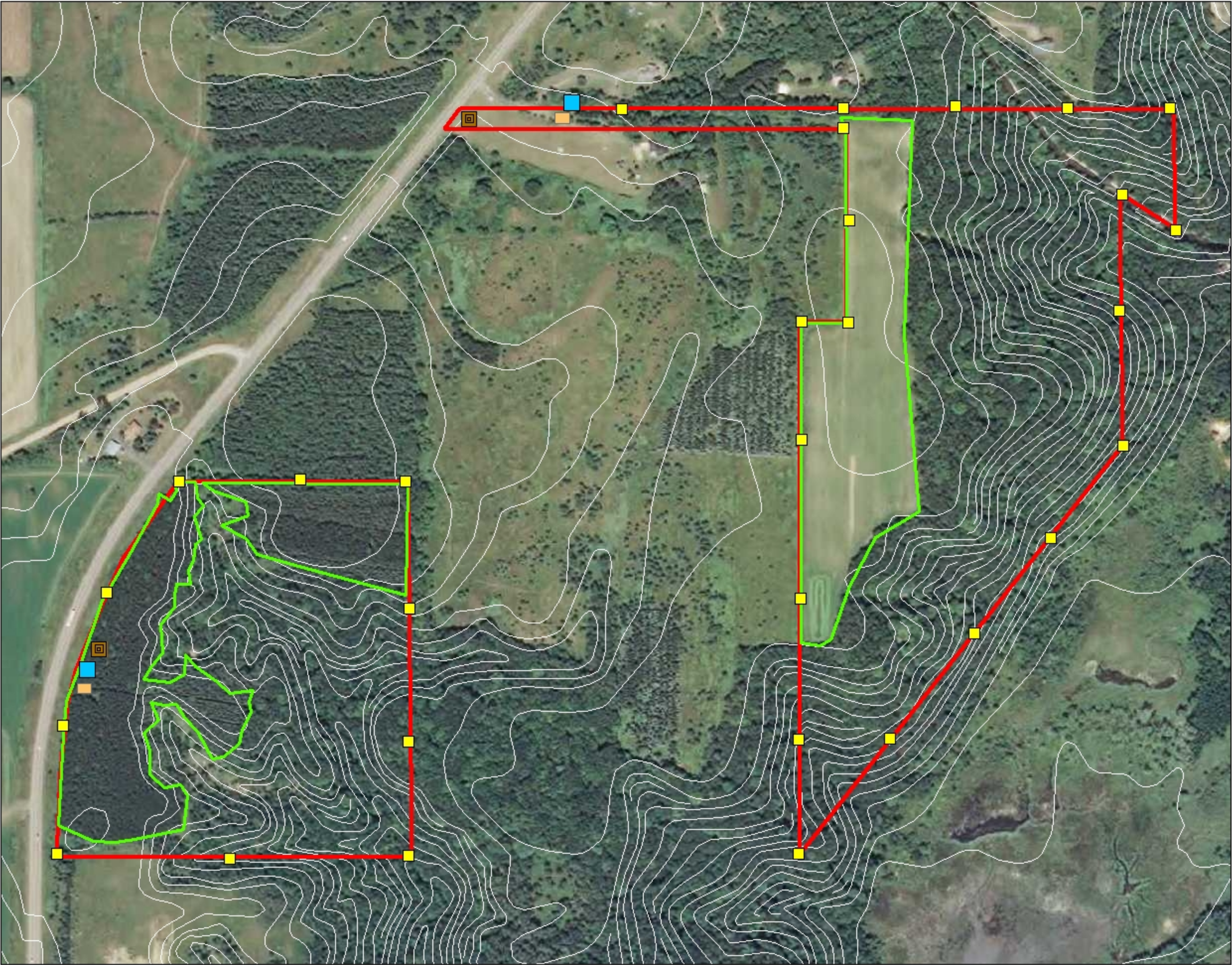
SNA Boundaries

- (red outline)

Contours

- (thin white line)

2008 infrared aerial



2007 Project Abstract

For the Period Ending June 30, 2009

PROJECT TITLE: Metro Conservation Corridors (MeCC) – Phase III – (Trout Unlimited)

PROJECT MANAGER: Jeff Hastings

AFFILIATION: Trout Unlimited

MAILING ADDRESS: E7740 Hastings Lane

CITY/STATE/ZIP: Westby, Wisconsin 54667

PHONE: 608-606-4158

FAX: N/A

E-MAIL: jhastings@tu.org

WEBSITE: www.tu.org/driftless

FUNDING SOURCE: Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

LEGAL CITATION: ML 2007, Chap. 30, Sec.2, Subd. 4c (2.6).

APPROPRIATION AMOUNT: \$65,000

Overall Project Outcome and Results

Stream restoration projects that stabilize eroding banks and incorporate habitat for adult trout are common projects in the southeast part of Minnesota; however, few such projects have been undertaken in the Metro area. This project was initiated to ramp up the number of projects in the Metro area and build the capacity of various groups to do them. Funding from the Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund helped sponsor educational workshops, field days, symposiums, displays and eventually two major restoration projects organized by the Twin Cities TU on Hay Creek.

In terms of capacity building, there was significant progress made in working with the Twin Cities Trout Unlimited Chapter, with over 3000 members, which had never taken the lead on a major stream restoration project. Over the course of this grant several of their members attended workshops, symposiums, and other projects so that they too could do a project.

One of the goals of this project was to restore over 1.5 miles of stream corridor over a two year period. Unfortunately time ran out and two projects were not completed – permits, funding, weather, contractors and rock availability, and other factors all have to be timed perfectly to complete a project on time. However, over 1.25 miles were completed involving a number of federal, state, county and private groups and over 2000 hours of volunteer labor.

The project was successful in that: (1) a number of groups completed successful projects; (2) several groups obtained the skills to complete stream projects; (3) the public was better informed on what is involved in a stream restoration project; (4) and four projects totaling over 1.25 miles were completed in the Metro area.

Project Results Use and Dissemination

Project results were disseminated both locally and nationally. Project updates were emailed quarterly to all the partners and anyone that requested to be informed of current happenings. To help facilitate an email newsletter Trout Unlimited created a signup sheet on their website allowing easy access to anyone interested in finding out more about projects. Local and state media were also used to raise awareness of the importance of stream resources and benefits of local restoration projects in the Metro Area. Partnership signs will be posted in the fall of 2010 on both the Hay Creek and Brown Creek projects. Project Manager gave numerous presentations to Trout Unlimited chapters, Great Waters Fly Fishing Expo, and County and

Federal Conservationists. Finally, each fall a display was developed and exhibited at the Great Waters Fly Fishing Expo in Minneapolis. For more detail see final report under "Promote Stream restoration in the Metro Area".

Trust Fund 2007 Work Program Final Report

Date of Report: August 5, 2009
Trust Fund 2007 Work Program Final Report
Date of Work program Approval:
Project Completion Date: June 30, 2009

I. PROJECT TITLE: Metro Conservation Corridors (MeCC)– Phase III – (Trout Unlimited)

Project Manager: Jeff Hastings
Affiliation: Trout Unlimited
Mailing Address: E7740 Hastings LN,
City / State / Zip : Westby, WI 54667
Telephone Number: 608-606-4158
E-mail Address: jhastings@tu.org
FAX Number: n/a
Web Page address: www.tu.org/driftless

Location: Within mapped Focus Area in the counties of Anoka, Carver, Chisago, Dakota, Goodhue, Hennepin, Isanti, LeSueur, Nicollet, Ramsey, Rice, Scott, Sherburne, Sibley, Washington and Wright.

| | | |
|---|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| Total Trust Fund Project Budget: | Trust Fund Appropriation: | \$65,000 |
| | Minus Amount Spent: | <u>\$52,681</u> |
| | Equal Balance: | \$12,319 |

Legal Citation: ML 2007, Chap. 30, Sec. 2, Subd. 4c (2.6).

Appropriation Language: (c) Metro Conservation Corridors- Phase III \$2,500,000 is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for acceleration of agency programs and cooperative agreements with The Trust for Public Land; Friends of the Mississippi River; Great River Greening; Minnesota Land Trust; Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Trust, Inc.; Trout Unlimited; and Friends of the Minnesota Valley for the purposes of planning, restoring, 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. Expenditures are limited to the identified project corridor 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. All conservation easements must be perpetual and have a natural resource management plan. 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.

II & III. FINAL PROJECT SUMMARY: Although stream restoration projects that stabilize eroding banks and incorporate habitat for adult trout are common projects in the southeast part of the state few projects have been undertaken in the Metro area; this project was initiated to ramp up the number of projects in the Metro area and build the capacity of various groups to do them. One successful example was the Twin Cities Trout Unlimited Chapter, with over 3000 members, had never taken the lead on a major stream restoration project. Over the course of this grant several of their members attended workshops, symposiums and other projects so that they too could do a project. Funding from the Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund helped sponsor educational workshops, field days, symposiums, displays and eventually two major projects organized by the Twin Cities TU on Hay Creek.

The goal of this project was to restore over 1.5 miles of stream corridor over a two year period, unfortunately time ran out and two projects were not completed; permits, funding, weather, contractor and rock availability, and other factors all have to been timed perfectly to complete a project on time. However, over 1.25 miles were completed involving a number of federal, state, county and private groups and over 2000 hours of volunteer labor.

The project was successful in that: (1) a number of groups completed successful projects; (2) several groups obtained the skills to complete a stream project; (3) the public was better informed on what is involved in a stream restoration project; (4) and four projects totaling over 1.25 miles were completed in the Metro area.

IV. OUTLINE OF PROJECT RESULTS:

- Restore over 1.5 miles of stream corridor
- Display stream restoration display at Great Waters Fly Fishing Expo in Minneapolis.
- Meet with conservation field offices in Metro area to develop skills for implementing stream restoration projects.
- Develop various Media (radio, newspaper & web) on Metro area stream restoration projects.
- Develop display on stream restoration projects completed in Metro Area
- Contact partners (Trout Unlimited Chapters, Minnesota Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Natural Resources Conservation Service and MN Department of Natural Resources) to develop joint projects.

Final Result 1: 1.26 miles of stream restoration (on several different sections of stream)

Description: Improved 1.26 miles of streams in the Metro area by stabilizing streambanks and incorporating habitat for trout. First, the banks of the incised channels were reshaped to reconnect the stream to their floodplains, usually to a 3:1 slope or better. Future streambank erosion is prevented by using a combination of rock riprap and vegetation. In some areas the steep gradient and the highly erosive glacial loess soils require us of riprap at the stream toe to maintain bank stability. Structures are installed to provide overhead bank cover, help restore pool depth or recreate the natural meander patterns. Deflectors were also used to redirect flow along stable stream banks or to protect steep banks from erosion.

Summary Budget Information for Result 1: Trust Fund Budget: **\$61,000**
Amount Spent: **\$48,710**
Balance: **\$12,290**

| Deliverable | Completion Date | Budget | Status |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. 1.26 miles restored | June 30, 2009 | \$61,000 | \$48,710 |
| | | Matching Contributions | \$76,058 |

Final Completion Date: 6/30/2009

Progress Summary: 6650 of streams restored (1.26 miles)

- **Hay Creek, Goodhue County –**

Twin Cities Trout Unlimited, TU completed two projects on Hay Creek, one in 2008 and one in 2009.

- The project in 2009 was Twin Cities TU Chapters first major project. Hiawatha TU and MN DNR also assisted with the project to restore 3,000 feet on Hay Creek. Over 945 hours of volunteer work for seeding, mulching, constructing and installing 22 habitat structures for trout. Volunteers were from the following Trout Unlimited Chapters – Hiawatha, Twin Cities, Wisconsin Clear Waters, and Kiap-TU-Wish. We also had volunteers from the surrounding area. Stabilizing streambanks and incorporating deep pools and overhead cover has been shown to increase the carrying capacity of the stream for trout by as much as 900 percent. (LCCMR cost \$8,428 – Match \$32,010 from a grant from the National Fish Habitat Action Plan \$15,000 and volunteer labor)
- In 2009 Twin Cities TU completed another 2200 feet with the assistance of the Hiawatha chapter and MN DNR. All banks were stabilized, 32 habitat structures for adult trout were installed and 1 vortex weir (create permanent deep pool). The chapter and its members worked four days building structures, seeding, mulching and installing structures; over the course of four days they volunteered over 680 hours. (LCCMR cost \$22,651 – Match \$30,263)

- **Vermillion River, Dakota County –** This was a great collaborative effort between Twin Cities TU, MN DNR, Dakota Soil & Water Conservation District & the City of Farmington. Project was to stabilize approx. 40 of eroding bank

and at the same time installed overhead cover for trout. Over 100 hours in volunteer time to build the trout habitat structures, seed and mulch exposed areas, and donated equipment time – (LCCMR costs \$1,745 match/contribution approx. \$4,200)

- **Brown's Creek, Washington County** – This was another joint project between the City of Stillwater, DNR Fisheries, Trout Unlimited, Brown's Creek Watershed District & Resident Volunteers, Washington Conservation District and Critical Connections Ecological Services, Inc. Brown Creek has been listed as impaired for biota. The main stressors have been identified as high total suspended solids, high temperatures and high copper concentrations. To projects were conducted to address both the total suspended solids loading and high temperatures. Fisheries Biologist Brian Nerbonne developed a course of action with the Brown's Creek Watershed District:
 - The first project was to remove the invasive Reed Canary Grasses from 3.5 acres of adjacent land. This non-native grass has a shallow root system and allows the banks to erode easily causing erosion into Brown's Creek. The native vegetation that was seeded with its deep roots will stabilize the banks, reduce the potential for reintroduction of the Reed Canary Grass and the tall native grasses adjacent to the stream will provide additional overhead cover.
 - The second part of the project was the addition of 55 native floodplain trees to the south side of Brown's Creek to increase shading and additional bank stabilization. (LCCMR dollars spent \$5,551 – Match \$11,585)

Final Report Summary: 6/30/2009

Result 2: Promote Stream restoration in the Metro Area.

Description: The streams and riparian areas of the Metro Area suffer from a history of erosion as a result of agricultural land use and runoff off of urban areas. Across the region, hundreds of miles of spring creeks have been inundated with soils and fine sediment, which has degraded water quality, increased stream temperatures, damaged aquatic habitat, and altered watershed hydrology. Trout Unlimited's initiative with this proposal was to address these impacts and restore the waters and riparian habitat of this area by developing partnerships. By educating our partners and providing technical assistance we were successful in stabilizing eroding streambanks, decreasing stream temperatures and overall improving the fisheries and wildlife. Our trained project manager, with over 25 years experience in watershed and stream restoration worked one-on-one with a host of partners to restore over 1.26 miles in the Metro area, creating showcase projects to demonstrate integrated conservation projects, focus resources for maximum conservation benefit, and raise public awareness and support.

Summary Budget Information for Result 2: Trust Fund Budget: **\$4,000**
Amount Spent: **\$3,971**
Balance: **\$ 29**

| Deliverable | Completion Date | Budget | Status |
|---|-----------------|-------------|---------|
| 1. 100 hrs. Technical assistance | 6/30/09 | \$2,700 | \$2,700 |
| 2. Stream Restoration Display | 1/30/08 | \$800 | \$ 771 |
| 3. 3 news releases on showcase projects | 6/30/09 | \$0 | |
| 4. Display at Great Waters Expo | 4/30/08 | \$0 | |
| 5. Meet with 1 NGO, 3 County, State DNR | 6/30/08 | \$500 (mi.) | \$ 500 |

Final Completion Date: 6/30/2009

Progress Summary

- **Contacts:** Since the beginning of the project in the summer of 2007 I have made numerous contacts to promote stream restoration in the Metro Area,
 - I have been in contact with Area Resource Conservationist, staff from Chisago, Dakota, Goodhue, Rice, Scott, and Washington;
 - NRCS Area Engineers, Regional Fish Biologists,
 - Hiawatha and the Twin Cities Trout Unlimited Chapters.
 - Washington and Brown Creek Watershed project managers.
 - Parks & Recreation Director Farmington
- **Newsletters:** 4 newsletters were electronically sent out to our partners in the Metro Area.
- **Presentations:**
 - Two stream restoration presentations at the Great Waters Fly Fishing Expo at the Renaissance Schaumburg Hotel and Convention Center, Minneapolis.
 - Presentation to the Southeastern District Conservationists (includes Goodhue and Dakota Counties), and another presentation to the County Administrators.
 - Presentations to both the Twin Cities and Hiawatha T.U. Chapters.
 - Presentation to Basin Alliance for the Lower Mississippi in Minnesota and the Blufflands Alliance (includes Minnesota Land Trust).
 - Finally, I lead the third Partnership for River Restoration and Science in the Upper Midwest (PRRSUM) monthly forum, at the St. Anthony Falls Laboratory, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN. The April forum topic was Stream restoration of incised channels in the Driftless Area. I presented a historical overview of the long record of restoration in the Driftless area, beginning with 1930s era Civilian Conservation Corps efforts. I also covered the impacts of agricultural land-use on both the geomorphology and riparian vegetation of the incised channels. Viewers online were able to view photographs and diagrams.

- **Displays:** Displays were created (with partial funding from the LCCMR) and displayed at the Great River Fly-Fishing Expos and the Healthy Waters & Heritage Fair at the William O'Brian state park in Washington Co.
- **Workshops:**
 - At the 2008 stream restoration project on Hay Creek I organized a "hands-on" stream restoration training. Close to 40 participants attended one or both days of this workshop. The workshop was developed to attract conservationists that have not done stream restoration in the past and create additional interest for local citizens and future Trout Unlimited members. All participants received a 3-ring binder packed with standard designs, graphs, pictures and tables of materials I have gathered over the past 15 years of working with streams.
 - I also organized a Stream Restoration Project Planning Workshop in 2008 & 2009 that was attended by members of both Hiawatha and Twin Cities TU.
- **Handouts:**
 - Trout Unlimited Driftless Area Restoration Effort – tri-fold with information about the project & contact information.
 - Trout Unlimited completed "The Economic Impact of Recreational Trout Angling in the Driftless Area", and there was a press conference and news releases sent out. The publication had broad coverage and several newspapers, TV and radio aired the results in Minnesota.
 - The Driftless Area – map/fold out with information on who to contact to help manage your land.
 - Driftless Riparian Habitat Guide – information on both game and non-game species, plus standard designs on 12 habitat practices.
- **Symposium:** Driftless Area Restoration Effort Symposium. *A forum for sharing results of management and research experiments related to stream habitat and fishery restoration in the Driftless region.* Organized and coordinated Driftless Symposium near Lanesboro Minnesota. Approximately 20 presentations were delivered by Professors, Fish Biologists and conservationists to participants from throughout the Driftless Area. The two day event attracted university staff, biologists, conservationist, nonprofit groups, and private restoration specialists from the Metro area. (No funding from the Metro Conservation Corridors (MeCC)– Phase III was used to fund this symposium; however there was partial funding utilized from the "Southeast Minnesota Showcase Stream Restoration Projects" grant)
- **News Releases:**
 - News Release on the 2008 Hay Creek project.

- The Red Wing Republican Eagle
 - News Release on the 2009 Hay Creek project
 - Hmong Times, KSTP-TV 6 p.m. newscast.
- **Signage:** Signs will be constructed by the end of the summer on both the Hay Creek and Browns Creek project, acknowledging the Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund contributions.

Final Report Summary:

V. TOTAL TRUST FUND PROJECT BUDGET:

Staff or Contract Services: \$3,200

Equipment: n/a

Development: \$ n/a

Restoration: \$61,000

Other: \$800

Acquisition, including easements: \$ n/a

TOTAL TRUST FUND PROJECT BUDGET: \$65,000

Explanation of Capital Expenditures Greater Than \$3,500: n/a

VI. OTHER FUNDS & PARTNERS:

A. Project Partners: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Hiawatha, Twin Cities, Wisconsin Clear Waters, Kiap-tu-Wish Trout Unlimited Chapters, Greater Metro Area Soil and Water Conservation Districts and Natural Resources Conservation Service Offices. Washington Conservation District and Brown Creek Watershed Districts, staff University of Minnesota, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, City of Farmington, Tom Helgeson – Great Waters Fly fishing Expo, St. Anthony's Lab, Critical Connections Ecological Services, Inc., Volunteers,

B. Other Funds Proposed to be Spent during the Project Period: Trout Unlimited Chapter Dollars, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Volunteer hours, Conservation Districts, Watershed Districts,

C. Past Spending: This was a new initiative for the Metro Conservation Corridor. However, similar restoration projects have been completed throughout the Driftless area.

D. Time: 2 years

VII. DISSEMINATION: Project results were disseminated both locally and nationally. Project updates were emailed quarterly to all the partners and anyone that has requested to be informed of current happenings. To help facilitate an email

newsletter Trout Unlimited created a signup sheet on their website allowing easy access to anyone interested in finding out more about projects. Local and state media were also used to raise awareness of the importance of stream resources and benefits of local restoration projects in the Metro Area. Signs will be posted later this summer at both the Hay Creek and Brown Creek projects. Finally, each fall a display was developed and exhibited at the Great Waters Fly Fishing Expo in Minneapolis.

VIII. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:

Periodic work program progress reports were submitted not later than February 1st and August 1st each year starting with February 1, 2008. A final work program report and associated products was submitted August 17th, 2009 as requested by the LCCMR

IX. RESEARCH PROJECTS: *n/a*

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|---|-------------------------------|---|---|-------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Attachment A: Budget Detail for 2009 Projects | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| Project Title: Metro Conservation Corridors - Phase III - (Trout Unlimited) | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| Project Manager Name: Jeff Hastings | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| Trust Fund Appropriation: \$ 65,000 | | | | | | | | |
| 1) See list of non-eligible expenses, do not include any of these items in your budget sheet | | | | | | | | |
| 2) Remove any budget item lines not applicable | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| 2007 Trust Fund Budget | <u>Result 1 Budget:</u> | Amount Spent June 30, 09 | Unspent Allocation | <u>Result 2 Budget:</u> | Amount Spent June 30, 09 | Unspent Allocation | TOTAL BUDGET | TOTAL BALANCE |
| | <i>Restore & Enhance 1.5 miles of stream</i> | | | <i>Promote Stream Restoration in the Metro Area</i> | | | | |
| PERSONNEL: wages and benefits | | | | 2,700 | 2,700 | 0 | 2,700 | 0 |
| Equipment / Tools Hourly rate for bulldozers, excavators and dump trucks | 35,000 | 31,079 | 3,921 | | | 0 | 35,000 | 3,921 |
| Other Supplies limestone rock for stabilizing banks | 26,000 | 17,631 | 8,369 | | | 0 | 26,000 | 8,369 |
| Travel expenses in Minnesota | | | | 500 | 500 | 0 | 500 | 0 |
| Other Display to promote stream restoration projects | | | | 800 | 771 | 29 | 800 | 29 |
| COLUMN TOTAL | \$61,000 | \$48,710 | \$12,290 | \$4,000 | \$3,971 | \$29 | \$65,000 | \$12,319 |

2007 Project Abstract- amended 12/16/09

For the Period Ending June 30, 2009

PROJECT TITLE: Metro Conservation Corridors (MeCC) Phase III – The Trust for Public Land Critical Lands Protection Program (3.1)

Project Manager: Becca Nash

Affiliation: The Trust for Public Land

Mailing Address: 2610 University Avenue West, Suite 300

City / State / Zip: Saint Paul, MN 55114

Telephone Number: 651-999-5325 **FAX:** 651-917-2248

E-MAIL: Becca.Nash@tpl.org **WEBSITE:** www.tpl.org

FUNDING SOURCE: Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

LEGAL CITATION: ML 2007, [Chap.30], Sec.[2], Subd.4c 3.1.

APPROPRIATION AMOUNT: \$420,000

Overall Project Outcome and Results*

In its Critical Lands Protection Program, the Trust for Public Land (TPL) secured fee title on a total of **118 acres** worth \$4,735,000 and conveyed them to public agencies for permanent protection. Individual protection successes include the following:

- TPL purchased 48 acres of land adjacent to the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway (Chisago County), containing sensitive slopes and native maple basswood forest known to support numerous rare species in Minnesota, and conveyed them to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources to create a new Scientific and Natural Area (**Franconia Bluffs SNA**). TPL spent \$10,000 2007 ENRTF on this effort to protect 0.9 (pro-rated) acres of land.
- TPL purchased 70 acres of one of the highest quality natural resources sites in Chisago County, including 1/2 mile of shoreline on Green Lake and oak forests, meadows, and wetlands. TPL conveyed the property to Chisago City for protection and creation of a new regional park (**Ojiketa Regional Park**). TPL spent \$410,000 2007 ENRTF on this effort to protect 6.8 (pro-rated) acres of land.

TPL leveraged \$420,000 in TPL Metro Conservation Corridor (MeCC) 2007 funding on these projects with **\$2,320,000** in non-state funding to protect 46.4 (pro-rated) acres of land. \$1,510,000 of this was non-state public funds and \$810,000 of this was private (\$650,000 in land and \$160,00 in cash donated). Additionally, \$1,000,000 in state bonding funds were used to protect 16.7 (pro-rated) acres and \$995,000 in other ENRTF funds were used to protect 47.3 (pro-rated) acres out of 118 total acres.

*Please note, since two years of ENRTF funding was used for both projects, a portion of these results was also reflected in TPL's 2005 MeCC Phase II Final Report and will be reflected in TPL's 2008 MeCC Phase IV reports.

Project Results Use and Dissemination

TPL posted project information on the TPL website, www.tpl.org, in addition to DNR's posting at its web site, and the Camp Ojiketa Preservation Society posting on its website. TPL included project descriptions in its newsletters, which are mailed to about 6,600 people, and worked with project partners to create and disseminate press releases for each of the projects. Articles were published in the *South Washington County Bulletin*, *North Branch Post Review*, the *Pioneer Press*, the *Star Tribune*, the *Wall Street Journal* and *USA Today*. TPL also sent an e-mail announcement to the Minnesota "TPL Near You" mailing list of approximately 1,200 email addresses, and provided information to Embrace Open Space for inclusion in its monthly e-newsletter (approximately 800 recipients). TPL worked with a nationally recognized photographer to take photographs at Franconia. Land acquired has been or will be posted. Sample media materials are attached.

Trust Fund 2007 Work Program Final Report

Date of Report: 9/11/09- amended 12/16/09
Trust Fund 2007 Work Program Final Report

Date of Work Program Approval: 6/20/07
Project Completion Date: 6/30/09

I. PROJECT TITLE: Metro Conservation Corridors (MeCC) Phase III – The Trust for Public Land Critical Lands Protection Program (3.1)

Project Manager: Becca Nash
Affiliation: The Trust for Public Land
Mailing Address: 2610 University Avenue West, Suite 300
City / State / Zip: Saint Paul, MN 55114
Telephone Number: 651-999-5325
E-mail Address: Becca.Nash@tpl.org
FAX Number: 651-917-2248
Web Page address: www.tpl.org

Location: Within mapped Focus Area in the counties of Anoka, Carver, Chisago, Dakota, Goodhue, Hennepin, Isanti, LeSueur, Nicollet, Ramsey, Rice, Scott, Sherburne, Sibley, Washington and Wright. See Figure 1.

| | | |
|--|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Total Biennial Trust Fund Project Budget: | Trust Fund Appropriation: | \$ 420,000 |
| | Minus Amount Spent: | \$ 420,000 |
| | Equal Balance: | \$ 0 |

Legal Citation: ML 2007, [Chap.30], Sec.[2], Subd.4c 3.1.

Appropriation Language:

Subd. 4(c) Metro Conservation Corridors- Phase III
\$2,500,000 is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for acceleration of agency programs and cooperative agreements with The Trust for Public Land; Friends of the Mississippi River; Great River Greening; Minnesota Land Trust; Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Trust, Inc.; Trout Unlimited; and Friends of the Minnesota Valley for the purposes of planning, restoring, 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. Expenditures are limited to the identified project corridor 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. All conservation easements must be perpetual and have a natural resource management plan. 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.

II. and III. FINAL PROJECT SUMMARY*:

In its Critical Lands Protection Program, the Trust for Public Land (TPL) secured fee title on a total of **118 acres** worth \$4,735,000 and conveyed them to public agencies for permanent protection. Individual protection successes include the following:

- TPL purchased 48 acres of land adjacent to the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway (Chisago County), containing sensitive slopes and native maple basswood forest known to support numerous rare species in Minnesota, and conveyed them to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources to create a new Scientific and Natural Area. (**Franconia Bluffs SNA**). TPL spent \$10,000 2007 ENRTF on this effort to protect 0.9 (pro-rated) acres of land.
- TPL purchased 70 acres of another of the highest quality natural resources sites in Chisago County, including 1/2 mile of shoreline on Green Lake and oak forests, meadows, and wetlands. TPL conveyed the property to Chisago City for protection and creation of a new regional park. (**Ojiketa Regional Park**). TPL spent \$410,000 2007 ENRTF on this effort to protect 6.8 (pro-rated) acres of land.

TPL leveraged \$420,000 in TPL Metro Conservation Corridor (MeCC) 2007 funding on these projects with **\$2,320,000** in non-state funding to protect 46.4 (pro-rated) acres of land. \$1,510,000 of this was non-state public funds and \$810,000 of this was private (\$650,000 in land and \$160,00 in cash donated). Additionally, \$1,000,000 in state bonding funds were used to protect 16.7 (pro-rated) acres and \$995,000 in other ENRTF funds were used to protect 47.3 (pro-rated) acres out of 118 total acres.

*Please note, since two years of ENRTF funding was used for both projects, a portion of these results was also reflected in TPL's 2005 MeCC Phase II Final Report and will be reflected in TPL's 2008 MeCC Phase IV reports.

IV. OUTLINE OF PROJECT RESULTS:

Result 1: Acquire Significant Habitat

Description: TPL secured fee title on 118 acres of high quality habitat in the Metro Conservation Corridors areas, which included 7.7 acres (pro-rated) protected with 2007 ENRTF funds. Both projects resulted from outreach and prioritizing based on resource mapping, stakeholder suggestions, and joint recommendations concerning the appropriate lead organization made by the coalition of groups involved in this overall effort. These projects also represent instances in which TPL's help was solicited because of challenges to the public agency in accomplishing the conservation acquisition alone. Some of these challenges included: large acreages; difficult and/or complex ownerships; a need for multiple funding sources; a high risk of development, and/or a short timeframe in which to work. TPL only worked with willing sellers, and it transferred fee to the appropriate, qualified public steward—in this case, the DNR (Franconia Bluffs SNA) and Chisago City (Ojiketa Regional Park). TPL donated to the land steward the land value of the MeCC-ENRTF funds.

FRANCONIA ST. CROIX BLUFFS SCIENTIFIC AND NATURAL AREA (SNA):

TPL acquired +/- 48 acres above the St. Croix River in Chisago County, and conveyed it to the DNR for management as an SNA. The land adjoins St. Croix National Scenic Riverway lands on the St. Croix River owned by the National Park Service.

This property falls within a six-mile corridor of land that was formally evaluated by the DNR's Natural Heritage Program in November, 2005 and approved for SNA status by the DNR's Commissioner's Advisory Committee in December, 2005. The area, known as Franconia-Scandia project area, contains a rich diversity of native plant communities, from cliffs and seepage swamps, to prairies and pine forests. Half of the corridor, primarily floodplain next to the river, is owned by the National Park Service as part of the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway. The approximate "other half" of the corridor is a high priority for protection by the SNA Program. The corridor supports numerous rare species in Minnesota, such as the Coopers Hawk and cerulean warbler. Located at the edge of a rapidly growing metropolitan region, the area is becoming increasingly vulnerable to over-development, habitat fragmentation, erosion, and invasive species.

In March 2007, The DNR requested assistance from TPL to conduct landowner outreach in the Franconia-Scandia Corridor. Additionally, TPL had been meeting with the National Park Service to understand their priorities for protection along the St. Croix Scenic Riverway. TPL has been interested in conservation along the nationally significant St. Croix River and has been eager to help implement conservation objectives articulated and supported by both the DNR and the National Park Service.

Near the time of a public meeting DNR hosted in Franconia last spring, at which TPL was a speaker, TPL was contacted by a Franconia resident, who was seeking help in conserving a neighboring property that he knew was for sale. After a number of conversations with the Franconia resident, the National Park Service, and DNR's SNA program, including a number of site visits, TPL understood protection of this property was a high priority of both public agencies. At that point, TPL pursued purchase of the property with the intent that we would make it available to the DNR for purchase from us.

The project involved working through a number of complicated issues including the participation of a number of neighbors of the property with various interests in the outcome, securing access to the property from a third party living in Alaska, and convincing interested parties to forego a subdivision of the property into 4 parcels with 3 housing sites.

The property was eventually purchased by TPL for \$105,000 less than the property's fair market value of \$535,000, and then donated in full to the DNR. The following summarizes the full funding package for the project:

| Partner on Franconia St. Croix Bluffs SNA project | Funding Source | Funding for land acquisition costs | Allocated Acreage | Notes |
|--|---|---|--------------------------|--------------|
| TPL | Metro Wildlife Corridors Phase II 2005 | \$420,000 | 37.7 | Lead |
| TPL | Metro Wildlife Corridors Phase III 2007 | \$10,000 | .9 | |
| | Land Value | \$105,000 | 9.4 | |

| | | | | |
|--------------|----------|------------------|-----------|--|
| | Donation | | | |
| TOTAL | | \$535,000 | 48 | |

GREEN LAKE – CAMP OJIKETA

Located in a recognized corridor of significance for wildlife, Camp Ojiketa features over 1/2 mile of shoreline on Green Lake and is one of the highest quality natural resources sites in Chisago County because of its oak forests, meadows, wetlands, and lakeshore.

Protection of Camp Ojiketa now ensures that critical habitat remains intact for a variety of wildlife & fish, including a number of Species of Greatest Conservation Need such as Bald Eagles, Canada Warblers, and Common Loons, as well as Barred Owls, Downy Woodpeckers, and Red Fox. The property's shoreline can continue to provide important spawning habitat for walleye, northern pike, black crappie and other fish species found in Green Lake.

The site's location in a high growth area less than 30 miles from downtown St. Paul makes it an excellent place for people to enjoy nature through hiking, biking, fishing, canoeing, and environmental education close to home. (See two maps attached.)

For over 80 years, thousands of young people learned about nature and stewardship at Camp Ojiketa on the beautiful shores of Green Lake in Chisago County. There they truly experienced the "sweetness of life" as the name means in Ojibwa. However, to meet financial obligations and reflect changing priorities, Camp Fire USA announced in 2006 that it was putting the property up for sale.

This news, and subsequent news of a proposed commercial or residential development, caused a group of Camp Fire alumni to organize to save the land. Chisago City and the alumni initially attempted to make the land a park, but were unsuccessful. They then turned to TPL for help structuring and funding a deal that would preserve the land for the benefit of the public.

After many months of negotiations, in early 2008, TPL secured an option good through December 31, 2008 to purchase the land.

During the one-year option period, TPL performed all of the necessary due diligence on the property including having the property appraised, having several environmental assessments conducted, causing Camp Fire to clean up a number of items at the site, conducting title investigation, and working with Camp Fire to cure a number of title issues. TPL led efforts to identify and secure the funds for the purchase of this property, which included applying for public grants, applying for private grants, working with local legislators to seek funding from the legislature, and private fundraising from individuals. TPL also worked with the City to help develop its vision and commitment to the preservation of this site. TPL further worked with the City, camp alumni and local legislators to inform the public about this project, including organizing the support needed for grant-making purposes.

The project received wide publicity in the *Pioneer Press*, the *Star Tribune*, local papers and even the *Wall Street Journal* and *USA Today*. Formal supporters included Wild River Audubon, Chisago Soil and Water Conservation District, Green Lake Association, Chisago City, Chisago County, Ojiketa Preservation Society, DNR Fisheries Division, Sen. Rick Olseen, and Rep. Jeremy Kalin. Ultimately, funding came from a variety of sources as is detailed below.

Camp Ojiketa Acquisition, Chisago City MN

| Funding Source** | Partner on Camp Ojiketa project | Amount of funding for land acquisition costs | Allocated Acreage | Recipient of Grant Funds (if applicable) |
|---|------------------------------------|--|-------------------|--|
| State Funds | | | | |
| State Bonding - DNR Non-Metro Regional Park Grant Program | DNR | \$1,000,000 | 16.7 | Chisago City |
| ENTF - Metro Wildlife Corridors Phase IV 2008 (TPL) | TPL | \$475,000 | 7.9 | TPL |
| ENTF Metro Wildlife Corridors Phase III 2007 (TPL) | TPL | \$410,000 | 6.8 | TPL |
| ENTF - Metro Greenways (DNR) | DNR | \$100,000 | 1.7 | Chisago City |
| | Sub Total | \$1,985,000 | | |
| Local Government Funds | | | | |
| City Bonding | Chisago City | \$1,500,000 | 25.0 | |
| Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District | TPL | \$10,000 | 0.2 | Chisago City |
| | Sub Total | \$1,510,000 | | |
| Private Funds | | | | |
| Private Fundraised, received directly by TPL* | TPL | \$94,800 | 1.6 | TPL |
| Private Fundraised, received directly by Chisago City* | TPL & Ojiketa Preservation Society | \$65,200 | 1.1 | Chisago City |
| Camp Fire USA- Negotiated reduction in sales price from appraised value | TPL | \$545,000 | 9.1 | NA |
| | Sub Total | \$705,000 | | |
| | TOTAL | \$4,200,000 | 70.0 | |

*Donors were given the option to send donations to either the City or TPL

** Please note that total Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund funding equals \$985,000, total other state (bond) funding is \$1M, total non-state public funding is \$1.510M, total private funding is \$705K

V. TOTAL TRUST FUND PROJECT BUDGET:

All Results: Staff or Contract Services: \$0

All Results: Equipment: \$0

All Results: Development: \$0

All Results: Acquisition, including easements: \$ 420,000 (capital costs)

TOTAL TRUST FUND PROJECT BUDGET: \$ 420,000

Explanation of Capital Expenditures Greater Than \$3,500: N/A

VI. OTHER FUNDS & PARTNERS:

A. Project Partners: TPL coordinates its work with other Metro Conservation Corridor partners (See Table A). In addition, project partners & cooperators included private landowners, local governments, regional agencies, state agencies, water-related agencies, federal agencies, and private nonprofit organizations and citizen groups (such as the Ojiketa Preservation Society). The Trust for Public Land transferred fee title to Chisago City and to the DNR. TPL contracted with entities providing real estate transaction services such as environmental consultants, appraisers and title companies.

B. Other Funds Spent during the Project Period: Local, regional, federal, and state units of government; non-profit organizations; and private donations were secured and spent. Please see funding charts in Section IV for specific sources and amounts. The Trust for Public Land leveraged **\$2,320,000** in non-state funding (including \$1,510,000 in non-state public funds and \$810,000 in private land or cash donated) for the acquisitions included in this project period. \$1,000,000 in state bonding dollars and \$995,000 in other ENRTF funds were also used toward these land acquisitions.

C. Past Spending: From 2002 until Phase 1 initiation in July 2003, TPL provided a significant in-kind contribution to development of the project, including shaping the initial proposal, facilitating partner and stakeholder communications, arranging stakeholder meetings held in October 2002, printing maps and producing project descriptions for stakeholder participation, organizing proposed focus area meetings held in March 2003, soliciting land acquisition project proposals, and laying the groundwork for project initiation in July 2003. Total in-kind contribution by July 2003 is equivalent to ¼ FTE. TPL also invested land acquisition capital of \$50,000 to help the DNR purchase land in Dec. 2002 in the Lower Mississippi focus area for the new Pine Bend Bluffs Scientific and Natural Area, where restoration funds from other partners for this project are being invested.

For Phases 1 – 3, the Trust for Public Land provided a significant in-kind contribution to development of the project, including serving on the Executive Committee, helping shape the initial proposals, contributing to partner and stakeholder communications, participating in stakeholder meetings held in June 2004 and September - October 2004, helping organize stakeholder meetings in November 2006 in Wright and Sherburne counties, soliciting land acquisition project proposals, and helping lay the groundwork for project initiation in July 2007. Total in-kind contribution from July 2003 to date is equivalent to 1/8 FTE.

During the Phase 1 project term (July 2003 – June 2006), the Trust for Public Land (TPL) protected and linked 40 acres of valuable, high quality habitat in the Twin Cities Metropolitan Region to meet habitat connectivity goals in Focus Areas 2 (Carlos Avery) – 144 acres at Gordie Mikkelsen WMA; 6 (Lower Mississippi) – 30 acres at Eagan Core Greenway and Patrick Eagan Park – Caponi Art Park, and 7 (Vermillion) – 475 acres at Vermillion River AMA/WMA. The Trust for Public Land leveraged approximately \$3,845,000 from local, federal and private funds for habitat protection work, compared to a target total of \$168,000. These funds would not have been available for use in Minnesota but for this Metropolitan Area Wildlife Corridors Phase I project. In addition, TPL covered and did not seek reimbursement for transaction costs and the substantial staff, phone, travel and office expenses associated with the land transaction work as well as all costs associated with Metropolitan Area Wildlife Corridors Phase I project partnership.

The Trust for Public Land provided technical assistance and private funding to add 17 acres to the Pine Bend Bluffs Scientific and Natural Area in the Lower Mississippi focus area, in partnership with DNR Scientific and Natural Area Program, Metro Greenways, and Friends of the Mississippi River.

In Phase 2 to February 2007, the Trust for Public Land leveraged \$303,000 in Wildlife Management Area bond funds to protect +/- 670 acres on East Rush Lake in Chisago County, to be conveyed to the Department of Natural Resources Division of Fisheries and Wildlife for protection as a Wildlife Management Area and Aquatic Management Area.

D. Time: 2 years, until June 30, 2009.

VII. DISSEMINATION:

TPL posted project information on the TPL website, www.tpl.org, in addition to DNR's posting at its web site, and the Camp Ojiketa Preservation Society posting on its website. TPL included project descriptions in its newsletters, which are mailed to about 6,600 people, and worked with project partners to create and disseminate press releases for each of the projects. Articles were published in the *South Washington County Bulletin*, *North Branch Post Review*, the *Pioneer Press*, the *Star Tribune*, the *Wall Street Journal* and *USA Today*. TPL also sent an e-mail announcement to the Minnesota "TPL Near You" mailing list of approximately 1,200 email addresses, and provided information to Embrace Open Space for inclusion in its monthly e-newsletter (approximately 800 recipients). TPL worked with a nationally recognized photographer to take photographs at Franconia. Land acquired has been or will be posted. Sample media materials are attached.

VIII. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS: Periodic work program progress reports were submitted twice a year, with an additional amendment request in November 2008, and with this report serving as the final work program report.

Attachment A: Budget Detail for 2007 Metro Corridors Project

Date: September 11, 2009

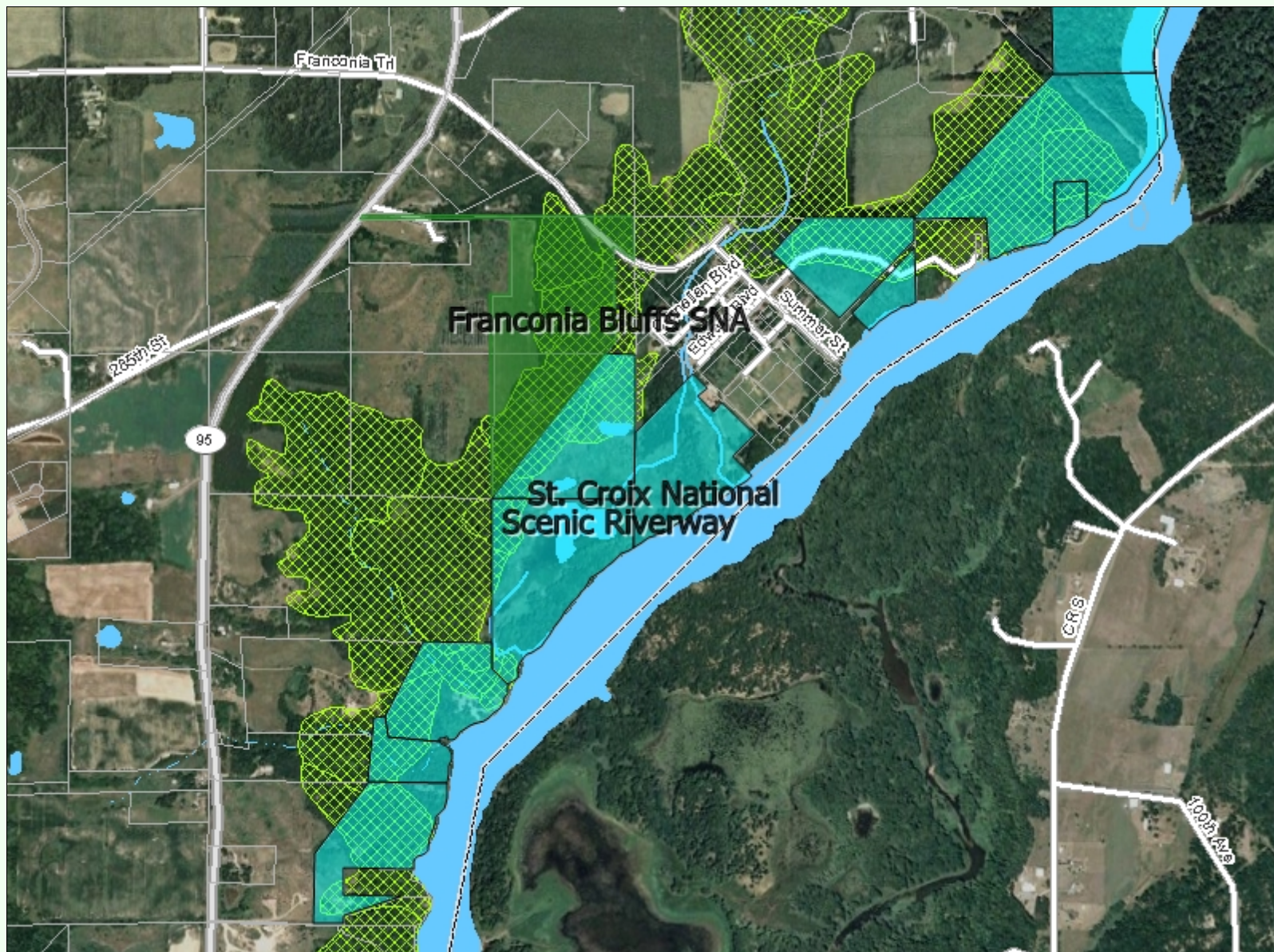
Title: Metropolitan Area Wildlife Corridors Phase III – The Trust for Public Land Critical Lands Protection Program (3.1)

Partner Project Manager Name: Becca Nash

LCMR Dollars: \$420,000

| BUDGET ITEM | Amount Budgeted (\$) | Amount Spent (\$) | Balance (\$) | Comments |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------|--------------|--|
| ACQUISITION | | | | |
| Land acquisition (<i>fee title & conservation easement</i>) | \$420,000 | \$420,000 | \$0 | To protect 48 acres at Franconia St. Croix Bluffs/Franconia Bluffs SNA, a project that also used the balance of TPL's Phase II 2005 MeCC funding; and to protect 70 acres on Green Lake/ Camp Ojiketa, a project that also used the balance of TPL's Phase IV 2008 MeCC funding. |
| TOTAL LCMR Funding | \$420,000 | \$420,000 | \$0 | |

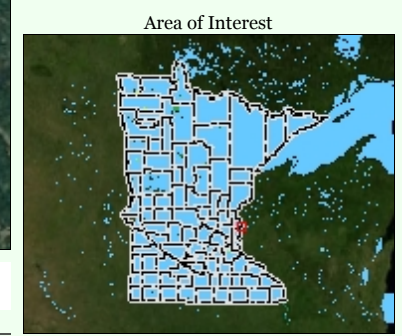
Franconia Bluffs Scientific and Natural Area



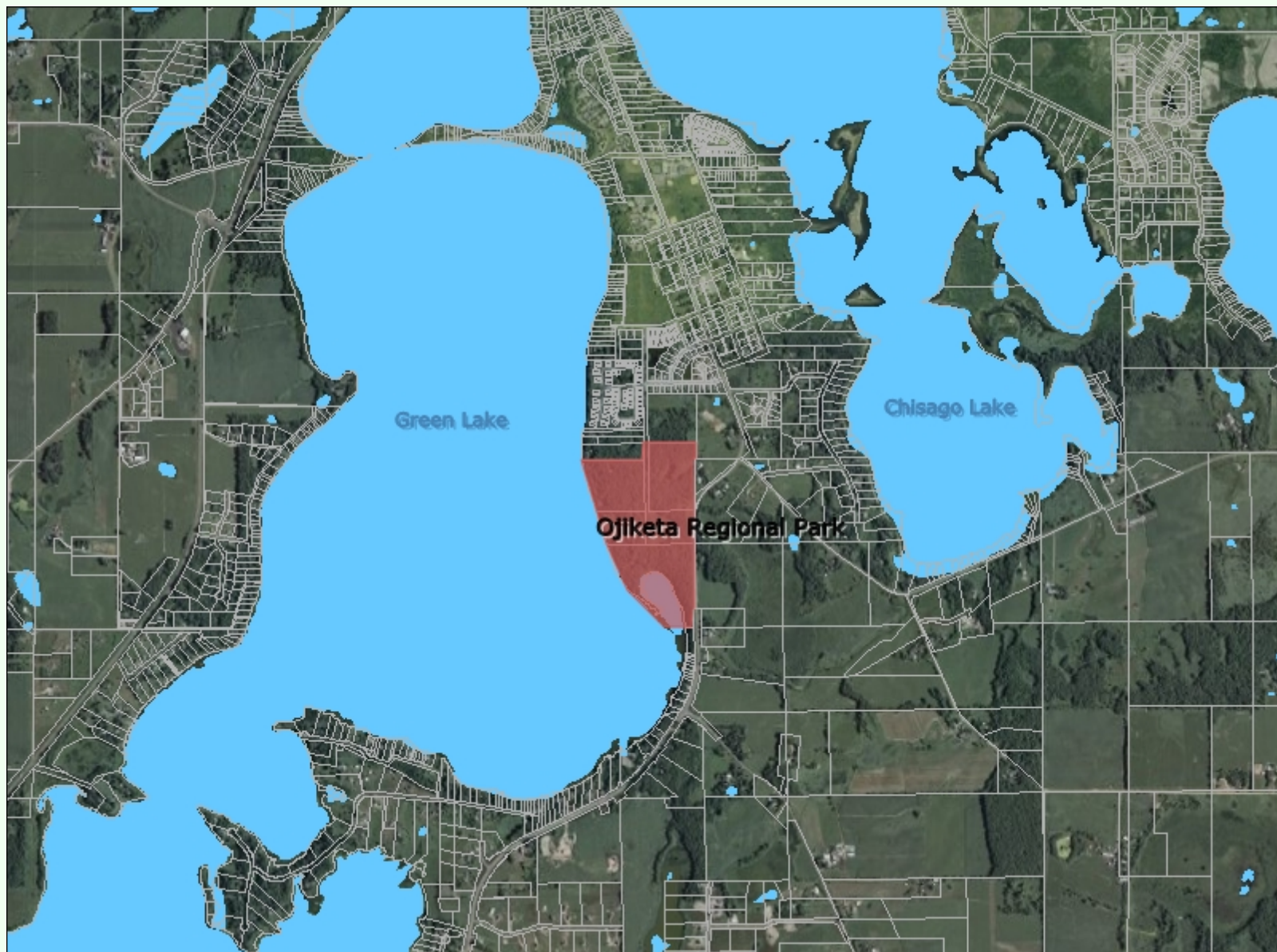
- Legend**
- County Boundary
 - Chisago County Parcels
 - Transportation (18k to 0)
 - Interstate
 - Highway
 - Major Road
 - Local Road
 - Ramp
 - Major Rivers
 - Streams
 - - - Intermittent Streams
 - Major Waterbodies
 - All Waterbodies
 - MCBS Native Plant Communities
 - State Forests
 - Wildlife Management Areas
 - Scientific and Natural Areas
 - NWR-NFWS
 - USA Prime Imagery

0 0.30 0.6 Miles

Map Notes: Showing MCBS Native Plant Communities



Ojiketa Regional Park



Legend

- Chisago County Parcels
- Major Rivers
- Major Waterbodies
- All Waterbodies
- Metro Parks
- State Forests
- Wildlife Management Areas
- Scientific and Natural Areas
- NWR-NFWS
- National Forests

0 0.50 1.0 Miles

Map Notes: Est. December 17, 2008



Information on this map is provided for purposes of discussion and visualization only.

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Area of Interest



This map was created on:
August 3, 2009

2007 Project Abstract

For the Period Ending June 30, 2009

TITLE: Metro Conservation Corridors – Phase III
Protecting Significant Habitat by Acquiring Conservation Easements - 3.2

PROJECT MANAGER: Jane Prohaska, President

ORGANIZATION: Minnesota Land Trust

ADDRESS: 2356 University Avenue West, Suite 240
St. Paul, MN 55114

WEB SITE ADDRESS: www.mnland.org

FUND: Environmental and Natural Resources Trust Fund

LEGAL CITATION: Minnesota Laws 2007, Chapter 30, Section 2, Subdivision 4(c)

APPROPRIATION AMOUNT: \$134,000

OVERALL PROJECT OUTCOME AND RESULTS

During the third phase of the Metro Corridors project, the Minnesota Land Trust continued to work with landowners throughout the greater metropolitan area to permanently protect lands that are key components of Minnesota's remaining natural areas in the region. Contact was initiated with approximately 39 landowners, and 9 perpetual conservation easements were completed. Collectively, these conservation easements protect 519 acres of land and more than 15,000 feet of shoreline. Two easements were purchased, both at a bargain price. The remaining 7 easements were donated. The general locations of our completed projects are identified on the attached map.

These conservation easements have a known value of \$2,768,500, with a known donated value of \$2,399,500. The cost to the State of Minnesota under this grant to complete these projects was just over \$976 per acre (other State funds came from the Metro Greenways program to purchase two easements).

Additionally, the Land Trust prepared baseline property reports for each easement, detailing the condition of the property for future monitoring and enforcement. To fund this required perpetual obligation, the Land Trust dedicated funds to its segregated Stewardship and Enforcement Fund for several completed projects. For these projects, we estimated the anticipated annual expenses of each project and the investment needed in order to generate annual income sufficient to cover these expenses in perpetuity – all in accordance with our internal policies and procedures as approved by LCCMR. We also have provided LCCMR with a letter documenting our commitment to protect the conservation values of these projects in perpetuity and will report to LCCMR annually on the status of the Stewardship and Enforcement Fund and the easements acquired with funds from this grant.

The Land Trust's work on this project demonstrates the cost effectiveness of working with conservation easements to protect natural and scenic resources within developed and developing areas, as the cost to the State was well below the cost to purchase land in the Twin Cities region. This grant continued to generate interest among landowners, and therefore, ongoing funding will be important to sustained success. Additionally, our experiences during this phase of the grant continue to indicate that funds to purchase easements will be necessary in the future if work becomes more targeted, selective, and focused on building complexes of protected land.

PROJECT RESULTS USE AND DISSEMINATION

The Land Trust continued to gain more experience with conservation easements, easement management, and issues unique to protecting land in a metropolitan area. This experience and information was shared with our partner organizations, other easement holders, local communities, as well as policy makers. The Land Trust also disseminated information about the specific land protection projects completed under this grant through our newsletter, annual report, web site, and press releases.

Trust Fund 2007 Work Program Final Report

Date of Report: June 15, 2009

Trust Fund 2007 Work Program Final Report

I. PROJECT TITLE: Metro Conservation Corridors - Phase III
Acquire Significant Habitat by Acquiring Conservation Easements (3.2)

Project Manager: Jane Prohaska, President and Executive Director
Affiliation: Minnesota Land Trust
Mailing Address: 2356 University Avenue West, Suite 240
City / State / Zip : St. Paul, MN 55114
Telephone Number: 651-647-9590
E-mail Address: jprohaska@mnland.org
FAX Number: 651-647-9769
Web Page address: www.mnland.org

Location: Within mapped corridors (shown on the attached map) in the counties of Anoka, Carver, Chisago, Dakota, Goodhue, Hennepin, Isanti, LeSueur, Nicollet, Ramsey, Rice, Scott, Sherburne, Sibley, Washington and Wright.

| | | | |
|---|----------------------------------|-----------|---------|
| Total Trust Fund Project Budget: | Trust Fund Appropriation: | \$ | 134,000 |
| | Minus Amount Spent: | \$ | 134,000 |
| | Equal Balance: | \$ | 0 |

Legal Citation: ML 2007, Chapter 30, Section 2, Subd. 4(c)

Appropriation Language: 4 (c) Metro Conservation Corridors- Phase III
\$2,500,000 is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for acceleration of agency programs and cooperative agreements with The Trust for Public Land; Friends of the Mississippi River; Great River Greening; Minnesota Land Trust; Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Trust, Inc.; Trout Unlimited; and Friends of the Minnesota Valley for the purposes of planning, restoring, 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. Expenditures are limited to the identified project corridor 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. All conservation easements must be perpetual and have a natural resource management plan. 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.

II. and III. FINAL PROJECT SUMMARY:

During the third phase of the Metro Corridors project, the Minnesota Land Trust continued to work with landowners throughout the greater metropolitan area to permanently protect lands that are key components of Minnesota's remaining natural areas in the region. Contact was initiated with approximately 39 landowners, and 9 perpetual conservation easements were completed. Collectively, these conservation easements protect 519 acres of land and more than 15,000 feet of shoreline. Two easements were purchased, both at a bargain price. The remaining 7 easements were donated. The general locations of our completed projects are identified on the attached map.

These conservation easements have a known value of \$2,768,500, with a known donated value of \$2,399,500. The cost to the State of Minnesota under this grant to complete these projects was just over \$976 per acre (other State funds came from the Metro Greenways program to purchase two easements).

Additionally, the Land Trust prepared baseline property reports for each easement, detailing the condition of the property for future monitoring and enforcement. To fund this required perpetual obligation, the Land Trust dedicated funds to its segregated Stewardship and Enforcement Fund for several completed projects. For these projects, we estimated the anticipated annual expenses of each project and the investment needed in order to generate annual income sufficient to cover these expenses in perpetuity – all in accordance with our internal policies and procedures as approved by LCCMR. We also have provided LCCMR with a letter documenting our commitment to protect the conservation values of these projects in perpetuity and will report to LCCMR annually on the status of the Stewardship and Enforcement Fund and the easements acquired with funds from this grant.

The Land Trust's work on this project demonstrates the cost effectiveness of working with conservation easements to protect natural and scenic resources within developed and developing areas, as the cost to the State was well below the cost to purchase land in the Twin Cities region. This grant continued to generate interest among landowners, and therefore, ongoing funding will be important to sustained success. Additionally, our experiences during this phase of the grant continue to indicate that funds to purchase easements will be necessary in the future if work becomes more targeted, selective, and focused on building complexes of protected land.

IV. OUTLINE OF PROJECT RESULTS:

Result 1: Protect Significant Habitat by Acquiring Conservation Easements – 3.2

Description:

The Minnesota Land Trust protected critical habitat in several of the focus areas by 1) identifying and contacting interested landowners; 2) negotiating and completing 3-5 permanent conservation easements on up to 125 acres of land; and 3) dedicating funds for the perpetual monitoring, management and enforcement of the easements.

| | | |
|---|---------------------------|-------------------|
| Summary Budget Information for Result 1: | Trust Fund Budget: | \$ 134,000 |
| | Amount Spent: | \$ 134,000 |
| | Balance: | \$ 0 |

Deliverable

1. Identify and contact landowners
2. Negotiate, draft, and complete
3-5 easements, including completion
of baseline documentation
3. Dedicate funds for easement stewardship

Final Completion Date: June 30, 2009

Final Report Summary:

The Land Trust is pleased that we were able to far exceed our project goals by completing 9 conservation easements protecting 519 acres of land and more than 15,000 feet of shoreline. Four of the projects were located in the Northwest Area, four in the Central Area, and one in the East Area. No projects were completed in the Southwest or Southeast areas.

Our average parcel size was approximately 57 acres for parcels completed under this phase of this grant, which tracks similar to our accomplishments under the previous phase. It is important to note, however, that this average size of Metro projects is still half the size of average Minnesota Land Trust projects, meaning that it continues to be more expensive to protect land in the Metro area.

As noted in our Phase II Final Report, we continue to encounter a greater number of landowners who cannot afford to donate the value of the development rights they are willing to give up. Under this phase of the grant, two of our projects were bargain purchases, bringing up the cost to the State of Minnesota to just over \$976 per acre (compared to \$800 in the prior phase).

This means that while conservation easements remain an incredibly cost effective land protection tool, it also is increasingly important to have acquisition funding available to protect select and targeted sites.

All of the projects completed by the Land Trust under this project are discussed in detail below and also are summarized on the attached map.

Descriptions and Results by Areas:

Northwest Area: Wright, Sherburne, Isanti and Anoka Counties

Acres protected: 245

Easements completed: 4

Project: Rum River

Description: This 53-acre property is located along the Rum River in Isanti County. The property is relatively flat to gently rolling, with the exception of some steeper slopes near the Rum River. The property primarily contains a mixed hardwood forest, with white oak and maple as the two dominant tree types. This forested area on the property is contiguous with DNR-owned land to the south. There are several wetlands and some natural springs on the property. Additionally, the Marget Lake Wildlife Management Area is located about 1/10 of a mile north of the Hassel property.

The value of this easement is unknown. \$12,000 of LCCMR funds were used to cover stewardship on this project.

Project: Rum River

Description: This 32-acre project is located on the Rum River in Isanti County. The property is primarily forested with oaks, some mixed hardwoods, and a conifer planting. The Rum River flows along the eastern boundary of the property for about 1,500 feet, and there is a large pond on the property. A DNR Stewardship Plan identifies this property as a major link in a riparian buffer strip that borders the Rum River and serves as a wildlife corridor. The Minnesota Land Trust currently holds several easements on the Rum River.

The value of this easement is unknown. \$9,500 of LCCMR funds were used to cover stewardship on this project.

Project: Stanchfield Creek

Description: This project in Isanti County adds 20 acres of land to previously protected parcels and consolidates the easements into one easement covering all 467 acres of land. The 20-acre addition is composed of rolling terrain primarily covered with forest and wetlands. Stanchfield Creek runs through the middle of the property for nearly ¼ mile, and there are some natural springs in the vicinity of the creek. The Minnesota County Biological Survey has identified the property as a site of moderate biodiversity significance due to its large expanse of wetland, including floodplain forest, hardwood swamp, and emergent marsh. The amendment to the easement also prohibits any division of the property and eliminates a building right reserved in one of the original easements.

The value of this easement is unknown. \$9,500 of LCCMR funds were used

to cover stewardship on this project.

Project: Beckman Farm

Description: This 140-acre property in Isanti County consists of restored prairie, upland coniferous forest, wetland, and an unnamed pond. The prairie and forest are key habitats for a variety of species in greatest conservation need, and the wetlands and pond provide wildlife habitat as well as water filtration benefits. The Beckman farm plays a key role in connecting two extensive sites of biodiversity significance in this part of Isanti County, as noted by the Minnesota County Biological Survey. The property is located near several other conservation easements held by the Minnesota Land Trust.

The value of this easement is \$475,000. The Land Trust purchased the easement for \$315,000 using Metro Greenways grant dollars. \$15,000 of LCCMR funds were used to cover stewardship on this project. Additional detail is provided in the attached Summary of Purchased Easements.

Central Area: Hennepin and Ramsey Counties

Acres protected: 134

Easements completed: 4

Project: Gale Woods

Description: This project in Hennepin County consists of a 39-acre peninsula on the south shore of Whale Tail Lake. It lies directly west and across the lake from Gale Woods Park, which was protected by the same landowners in 2000 and is now a unit of the Three Rivers Park District. The protected property is primarily forested with maple-basswood and includes a large wetland area on the tip of the peninsula. The property also has over 6,500 feet of shoreline on Whale Tail Lake.

The donated value of this easement is \$1,500,000.

Project: Henry's Woods

Description: This 39-acre property in the Town of Hassan consists mostly of maple-basswood forest. The parcel has been identified by the Minnesota County Biological Survey as one of the highest quality remnants of the "Big Woods" in the state. The property provides habitat for a variety of animals and plants, including American ginseng, a state species of special concern. The property also features a creek and wetlands scattered throughout the woods. Henry's Woods is an important piece of the Township's park and open space network. A future trail is planned to connect the Henry's Woods property with nearby Elm Creek Park Reserve.

The value of this easement is unknown.

Project: Schendel Lake

Description: This 43-acre property in Hennepin County is a mix of wetlands, grasslands and forest with some small wildlife food plots. The protected land includes 1,368 feet of undeveloped shoreline along an intermittent stream that flows through the property. The wetlands on the property adjacent to Schendel Lake help to maintain the water quality and ecological integrity of the lake.

The value of this easement is unknown. \$8,000 of LCCMR funds were used to cover stewardship on this project.

Project: Rabe Woods

Description: This 13-acre property in Hennepin County is located in a generally rural residential/agricultural setting near the town of Corcoran. This property has been mapped and identified by Hennepin County as part of an important county-wide open space and habitat corridor. The wooded, undeveloped, and natural character of the property provides habitat to a variety of plants and animals common to maple-basswood forests and provides continuity with other forested land to the east.

The donated value of this easement is \$204,500. \$6,000 of LCCMR funds were used to cover stewardship on this project.

East Area: Chisago and Washington Counties

Acres protected: 140

Easements completed: 1

Project: Wild River State Park

Description: This 140-acre property in Chisago County borders Wild River State Park. The protected property features hardwood forested bluffs overlooking the St. Croix River Valley. The high quality forest, seeps, and springs on the protected property provide excellent habitat for resident and migratory wildlife. The property is also a component of the Chisago County Green Corridor, a locally significant natural habitat corridor project area as identified by Chisago County. The property represents the seventh project completed at the Wild River State Park site.

The value of this easement is \$589,000. The Land Trust purchased the easement for \$54,000 using Metro Greenways grant dollars. Additional detail is provided in the attached Summary of Purchased Easements.

V. TOTAL TRUST FUND PROJECT BUDGET:

Staff or Contract Services: \$44,589 to cover a portion of the salaries and benefits of staff working on projects funded under this grant, including approximately .50 FTE conservation program staff and .15 FTE conservation, legal and other support staff.

Acquisition, including easements: \$ 30,411 to acquire 9 conservation easements held by the Minnesota Land Trust. This includes transaction costs such as travel, appraisals, surveys, title work, and mapping to acquire donated easements or for easements purchased with funds provided by another partner or through another source.

Stewardship: \$59,000 to be dedicated to the Stewardship and Enforcement Fund. Actual amounts committed for stewardship were calculated on a project-by-project basis depending on the number and nature of specific projects and the availability of other funds. We did not need to use this grant to cover all stewardship costs for completed projects due to landowner and other contributions.

TOTAL TRUST FUND PROJECT BUDGET: \$ 134,000

Explanation of Capital Expenditures Greater Than \$3,500: N/A

VI. OTHER FUNDS & PARTNERS:

A. Project Partners: Metro Conservation Corridor partners (please see overall report for list of project partners) and private landowners, local governments, regional, state and federal agencies, nonprofit organizations and citizen groups.

B. Other Funds Spent during the Project Period: By working to acquire donated conservation easements, the Minnesota Land Trust was able to protect lands at a fraction of what it would cost to purchase comparable lands in fee. This funding leveraged millions of dollars of value in easements on lands protected through this grant. The known donated value of easements completed this phase is \$2,399,500. The DNR Metro Greenways program provided \$372,925 to purchase two easements, both at bargain prices. Additional funds were spent by the Minnesota Land Trust to cover costs associated with the project not covered by the grant.

C. Past Spending: The Minnesota Land Trust has received the following from past Metro Corridors grants: \$ 230,000 in 2003 and \$ 230,000 in 2005.

D. Time: July 1, 2007 - June 30, 2009. This is a continuation of the Minnesota Land Trust's existing Metro Conservation Corridors Partnership project. Components were designed to be overlapping so that activities could continue seamlessly. Some of the projects closed under this phase were initiated under previous phases. Similarly, landowner contacts made under this Phase III will not result in completed projects until a future phase.

VII. DISSEMINATION: The Land Trust continued to gain more experience with conservation easements, easement management, and issues unique to protecting land in a metropolitan area. This experience and information was shared with our partner organizations, other easement holders, local communities, as well as policy

makers. The Land Trust also disseminated information about the specific land protection projects completed under this grant through our newsletter, annual report, web site, and press releases.

VIII. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS: Periodic work program progress reports were submitted February 1st and August 1st of each year, starting with February 1, 2008. This is the final work program report.

IX. RESEARCH PROJECTS: N/A

Attachment A: Budget Detail for 2007 Projects

Project Title: Metro Conservation Corridors Phase III: Acquire Significant Habitat by Acquiring Conservation Easements (3.2)

Project Manager Name: Jane Prohaska

Trust Fund Appropriation: \$ 134,000

| | Result 1 Final Adjusted Budget: | Amount Spent as of 6/1/09 | Balance as of 6/1/09 |
|---|--|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| BUDGET ITEM | | | |
| PERSONNEL: wages and benefits (Includes approximately 0.5 FTE conservation director or land protection staff; 0.05 | \$ 44,589 | \$ 44,589 | \$ - |
| Land rights acquisition (<i>less than fee</i>) | | | |
| Land transaction costs (Costs associated with acquiring donated or purchased conservation easements including mapping, surveys, title work, appraisals, environmental assessments, recording fees, etc.) | \$28,657 | \$ 28,657 | \$ - |
| Travel expenses in Minnesota (Mileage and related travel expenses) | \$1,754 | \$ 1,754 | \$ - |
| Easement Stewardship (Funds dedicated to perpetually monitoring, managing and enforcing acquired easments.) | \$59,000 | \$ 59,000 | \$ - |
| COLUMN TOTAL | \$134,000 | \$ 134,000 | \$ - |

Minnesota Land Trust: Metro Conservation Corridors – 2007 (Phase 3)
Summary of Purchased Easements

| Project | Acres | Funding Type | Funds Use | Funding Amount |
|---|--------------|----------------------------------|---|-----------------------|
| Wild River State Park Chisago County | 140 | ENTF – 2005 Metro Greenways | Purchase price of conservation easement | \$54,000 |
| | | Landowner donation | Donation of easement value | \$535,000 |
| | | Landowner donation | Stewardship | \$10,000 |
| | | | | |
| Beckman Farm Isanti County | 140 | ENTF - 2007 Metro Greenways | Purchase price of conservation easement | \$315,000 |
| | | Landowner donation | Donation of easement value | \$160,000 |
| | | ENTF – 2007 Minnesota Land Trust | Stewardship | \$15,000 |

In addition to the expenses listed above, staff time and professional services expenses covering closing costs, title review, etc. were incurred and covered by the Land Trust's 2007 Metro Conservation Corridors allocation. The Land Trust does not allocate staff time or professional services expenses to specific conservation projects.

Minnesota Land Trust Completed Projects

LCCMR Metro Corridors Phase III

Beckman Farm: This 140-acre property in Isanti County consists of restored prairie, upland coniferous forest, wetland, and an unnamed pond. The prairie and forest are key habitats for a variety of species in greatest conservation need, and the wetlands and pond provide wildlife habitat and water filtration benefits.

Gale Woods: This project in Hennepin County consists of a 39-acre peninsula on the south shore of Whale Tail Lake, encompassing more than 6,500 feet of shoreline along the lake. The property lies directly across the lake from Gale Woods Park.

Henry's Woods: This 39-acre property in the Town of Hassan consists primarily of maple-basswood forest and has been identified by the Minnesota County Biological Survey as a high quality remnant of Big Woods. The property provides habitat for a variety of animals and plants, including American ginseng, a state species of special concern. Henry's Woods also is an important piece of the Township's park and open space network.

Rabe Woods: This 13-acre property in Hennepin County is a component of a larger county-wide open-space and habitat corridor. The property consists of mature maple-basswood forest and a small area of wetland. It also includes approximately 1,016 feet of shoreline along an unnamed creek.

Rum River: This 53-acre property in Isanti County is situated along the Rum River and feature approximately 1,800 feet of river shoreline. The property primarily contains a mixed hardwood forest, with white oak and maple the two dominant tree types. This forested area on the property is contiguous with DNR-owned land to the south. Additionally, there are several wetlands and some natural springs on the property.

Rum River: This 32-acre property in Isanti County is primarily forested with oaks, some mixed hardwoods, and conifers. The Rum River flows along the eastern boundary of the property for approximately 1,500 feet. This project builds upon prior work done by the Minnesota Land Trust at the Rum River site.

Schendel Lake: This 43-acre property in Hennepin County is a mix of wetlands, grasslands, and forest. The property protects 1,368 feet of shoreline along an intermittent stream that flows through the property as well as wetlands adjacent to Schendel Lake that provide important habitat and help maintain the ecological quality of the lake. This property also lies within a corridor that Hennepin County has prioritized for protection.

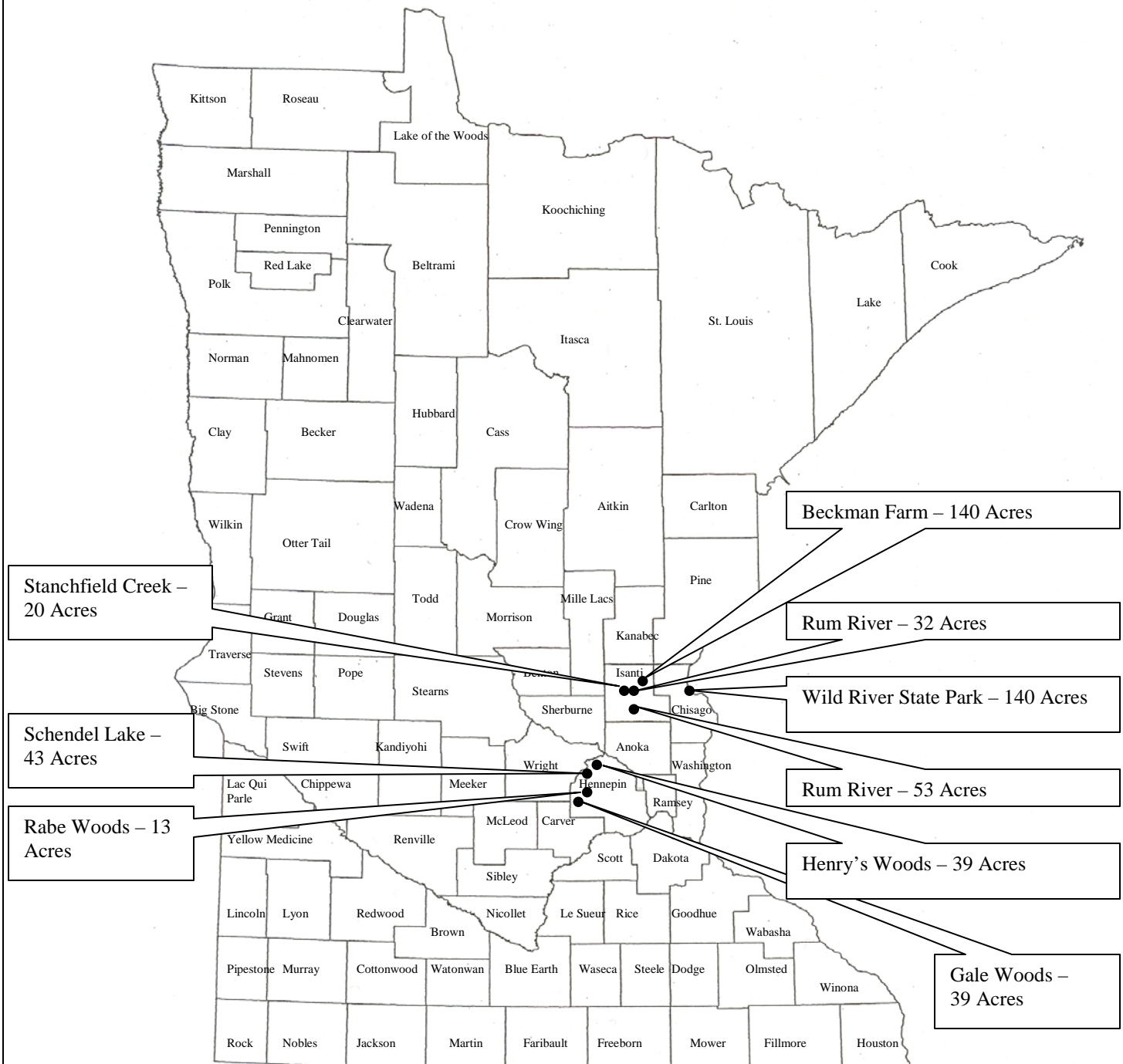
Stanchfield Creek: This project in Isanti County adds 20 acres of rolling forest and wetlands to two existing easements, protecting in total, 467 acres of land. Stanchfield Creek runs through the middle of the property for nearly ¼ mile, and there are some natural springs in the vicinity of the creek.

Wild River State Park: This 140-acre property in Chisago County features forested bluffs overlooking the St. Croix River Valley. The property's high quality forest, seeps, and springs provide important habitat for resident and migratory wildlife. The property also lies adjacent to Wild River State Park, thereby adding to a larger continuous block of habitat and helping to buffer the park from surrounding development.

Minnesota Land Trust

Completed Projects

LCCMR Metro Corridors Phase III



June 2009

2007 Project Abstract

For the Period Ending June 30, 2009

TITLE: Metro Conservation Corridors Phase III (3.3) – Fee Acquisition for Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge

PROJECT MANAGER: Deborah Loon

ORGANIZATION: Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Trust, Inc.

ADDRESS: 2312 Seabury Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55406

WEB SITE ADDRESS: www.mnvalleytrust.org

FUND: Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

LEGAL CITATION: ML 2007, Ch. 30, Sec. 2, Subd. 4c (3.3)

APPROPRIATION AMOUNT: \$210,000

Overall Project Outcome and Results

The Minnesota Valley Trust acquired fee title to 69.13 acres of significant habitat in the Minnesota River Valley in Jessenland Township of Sibley County. Of that acreage, the grant from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund covered 49.1 acres and MN Valley Trust (other non-state funds) covered 20 acres.

In addition, the Minnesota Valley Trust acquired fee title to 80 acres of significant habitat in the Minnesota River Valley in Faxon Township of Sibley County, completing and exceeding the match commitment of this work program.

After restoration of these parcels, they will be donated to the US Fish and Wildlife Service for perpetual management as part of the Jessenland Unit of the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge.

Project Results Use and Dissemination

The Minnesota Valley Trust will publicize the completion of this acquisition and plans for the lands through its website and news releases to the local media. After restoration is completed, the land will be donated to the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge and Wetland Management District. All funding partners will be acknowledged on Refuge kiosks, including the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund, as recommended by the Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources.

Trust Fund 2007 Work Program Final Report

Date of Report: June 19, 2008

Trust Fund 2007 Work Program Final Report

Project Completion Date: May 21, 2008

I. PROJECT TITLE: Metro Conservation Corridors Phase III - Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Trust – 3.3

Project Manager: Deborah Loon

Affiliation: Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Trust, Inc.

Mailing Address: 2312 Seabury Avenue

City / State / Zip: Minneapolis, MN 55406

Telephone Number: 612-801-1935 (mobile)

E-mail Address: DebLoon@comcast.net

FAX Number: 612-728-0700

Web Page address: www.mnvalleytrust.org

Location: Within project area 10 of the Metro Conservation Corridors, specifically Carver, LeSueur, Scott and/or Sibley Counties.

| | | |
|---|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Total Trust Fund Project Budget: | Trust Fund Appropriation: | \$ 210,000 |
| | Minus Amount Spent: | \$ 210,000 |
| | Equal Balance: | \$ 0 |

Legal Citation: ML 2007, Chapter 30, Section 2, Subdivision 4c (3.3).

Appropriation Language: (c) Metro Conservation Corridors- Phase III \$2,500,000 is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for acceleration of agency programs and cooperative agreements with The Trust for Public Land; Friends of the Mississippi River; Great River Greening; Minnesota Land Trust; Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Trust, Inc.; Trout Unlimited; and Friends of the Minnesota Valley for the purposes of planning, restoring, 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. Expenditures are limited to the identified project corridor 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. All conservation easements must be perpetual and have a natural resource management plan. 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.

II. and III. FINAL PROJECT SUMMARY: The Minnesota Valley Trust acquired fee title to 69.13 acres of significant habitat in the Minnesota River Valley in Jessenland Township of Sibley County. Of that acreage, the grant from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund covered 49.1 acres and MN Valley Trust (other non-state funds) covered 20 acres.

In addition, the Minnesota Valley Trust acquired fee title to 80 acres of significant habitat in the Minnesota River Valley in Faxon Township of Sibley County, completing and exceeding the match commitment of this work program.

After restoration of these parcels, they will be donated to the US Fish and Wildlife Service for perpetual management as part of the Jessenland Unit of the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge.

IV. OUTLINE OF PROJECT RESULTS:

Result 1: Acquire significant habitat.

| | | |
|---|---------------------------|-------------------|
| Summary Budget Information for Result 1: | Trust Fund Budget: | \$ 210,000 |
| | Amount Spent: | \$ 210,000 |
| | Balance: | \$ 0 |

| Deliverable | Completion Date | Budget | Status |
|----------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Acquire 42 acres | June 30, 2009 | \$ 210,000 | Complete |

Final Completion Date: 5/21/2008

Final Report Status: The Minnesota Valley Trust acquired fee title to 69.13 acres of significant habitat in the Minnesota River Valley in Jessenland Township of Sibley County. Of that acreage, the Trust Fund grant covered 49.1 acres and MN Valley Trust (other non-state funds) covered 20 acres.

In addition, the Minnesota Valley Tust acquired fee title to 80 acres of significant habitat in the Minnesota River Valley in Faxon Township of Sibley County, completing and exceeding the match commitment of this work program.

After restoration of these parcels, they will be donated to the US Fish and Wildlife Service for perpetual management as part of the Jessenland Unit of the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge.

V. TOTAL TRUST FUND PROJECT BUDGET: \$ 210,000

Staff or Contract Services: \$ 0

Equipment: \$ 0

Development: \$ 0 (improvement to land or building)

Restoration: \$ 0 (how many acres)

Acquisition, including easements: \$ 210,000 – 49.1 acres were acquired with Trust Fund grant by the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Trust, Inc. Another 20 acres of this parcel and 80 acres of another parcel were acquired by the MN Valley Trust to complete the match commitment (total nonprofit, non-state funds of \$375,519).

TOTAL TRUST FUND PROJECT BUDGET: \$ 210,000

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

VI. OTHER FUNDS & PARTNERS: The Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Trust, Inc. spent \$375,719 to complete this acquisition and the additional acquisition of 80 acres for the match.

A. Project Partners: US Fish and Wildlife Service, Metro Conservation Corridors partners

B. Other Funds Spent during the Project Period: \$375,719

C. Past Spending: None on this specific project.

D. Time: 2 years. No additional time beyond June 30, 2009 will be needed.

VII. DISSEMINATION: As projects are completed, the Minnesota Valley Trust will announce its accomplishments through press releases and the Trust's newsletter.

VIII. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:

Periodic work program progress reports will be submitted not later than February 8, 2008, October 10, 2008 and February 1, 2009. A final work program report and associated products will be submitted between June 30 and August 1, 2009 as requested by the LCCMR.

IX. RESEARCH PROJECTS: na

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|------------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------------|-------------------|--------------|---------------|
| Attachment A: Budget Detail for 2007 Projects | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Project Title: Metro Conservation Corridors Phase III - Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Trust - 3.3 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Project Manager Name: Deborah Loon, Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Trust. | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Trust Fund Appropriation: \$ 210,000 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1) See list of non-eligible expenses, do not include any of these items in your budget sheet | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2) Remove any budget item lines not applicable | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2007 Trust Fund Budget | Result 1 Budget: | Amount Spent (date) | Balance (date) | Result 2 Budget: | Amount Spent (date) | Balance (date) | Result 3 Budget: | Amount Spent (date) | Balance (date) | TOTAL BUDGET | TOTAL BALANCE |
| | Acquire 42 acres of significant habitat in project area 10 of Metro Conservation Corridors. | | | na | | | na | | | | |
| BUDGET ITEM | | | 0 | | | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Land acquisition | 210,000 | 210,000 | 0 | | | 0 | | | 0 | 210,000 | 0 |
| COLUMN TOTAL | \$210,000 | \$210,000 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$210,000 | \$0 |

2007 Project Abstract

For the Period Ending June 30, 2009

PROJECT TITLE: Metropolitan Area Wildlife Corridors – Phase III: DNR Fish & Wildlife Acquisition & Development (3.5)

PROJECT MANAGER: Mike Halverson

AFFILIATION: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources – Division of Fish & Wildlife

MAILING ADDRESS: Box 20, 500 Lafayette Road

CITY/STATE/ZIP: St. Paul, MN 55155

PHONE: (651) 259-5209

FAX: (651) 297-4916

E-MAIL: Mike.Halverson@dnr.state.mn.us

WEBSITE: www.dnr.state.mn.us

FUNDING SOURCE: Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

LEGAL CITATION: ML 2007, Chap. 30, Sec. 2, Subd. 4C.

APPROPRIATION AMOUNT: \$172,000

Overall Project Outcome and Results

The project goal was for Fish & Wildlife to acquire Aquatic Management Areas (AMAs) adjacent to lakes and streams to ensure the protection of critical riparian habitat, angler access, and management access. Specific goals were to secure fee title or permanent easements on approximately 32 acres and/or 0.4 miles of lakeshore and stream shoreline including sensitive watershed, riparian, or headwaters areas.

This project resulted in the completion of two fee title acquisition parcels on the Vermillion River in Dakota County. Totals for the two acquisitions equal 46.9 acres, including 0.89 total miles of shoreline. One of the parcels on the Vermillion River was also paid for with Phase II acquisition dollars, resulting in both acres and miles being divided proportionately between the two phases. As part of this project, Environmental and Natural Resources Trust dollars (\$160,000) directly acquired approximately 33.2 acres of the total, including 0.62 miles of stream. Other state dollars (\$60,250) acquired approximately 13.7 acres, including 0.27 miles of stream.

Vermillion River, Parcel 2, Dakota County

| Trust Acres | Trust Miles | Trust \$ | Other St. \$ | Other \$ | Other St. Acres | Other St. Miles | Other Acres | Other Miles | Total Acres | Total Miles |
|-------------|-------------|-----------|--------------|----------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 29.5 | 0.59 | \$130,000 | \$60,250 | \$0 | 13.7 | 0.27 | 0 | 0 | 43.2 | 0.86 |

Vermillion River, Parcel 4, Dakota County

| Trust Acres | Trust Miles | Trust \$ | Other St. \$ | Other \$ | Other St. Acres | Other St. Miles | Other Acres | Other Miles | Total Acres | Total Miles |
|-------------|-------------|----------|--------------|----------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 3.7 | 0.03 | \$30,000 | \$0 | \$0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3.7 | 0.03 |

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------|------|-----------|----------|-----|------|------|---|---|------|------|
| Total | | | | | | | | | | |
| 33.2 | 0.62 | \$160,000 | \$60,250 | \$0 | 13.7 | 0.27 | 0 | 0 | 46.9 | 0.89 |

Project Results Use and Dissemination

Information about these sites will be disseminated through the DNR's network of information systems. These Aquatic Management Areas will be included on DNR PRIM maps, indicating that they are open for public use.

LCCMR Final Work Program Report – 2007 Metropolitan Area Wildlife Corridors – Phase III

Date of Report: February 12, 2009
LCCMR Work Program Update Report : NA
Date of Next Status Report: NA
Date of Work program Approval: July 1, 2007
Project Completion Date: June 30, 2009

I. PROJECT TITLE: Metropolitan Area Wildlife Corridors – Phase III: DNR Fish & Wildlife Acquisition & Development (3.5)

Project Manager: Mike Halverson
Affiliation: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources – Division of Fish & Wildlife
Mailing Address: Box 20, 500 Lafayette Road
City / State / Zip : St. Paul, MN 55155
Telephone Number: (651) 259-5209
E-mail Address: Mike.Halverson@dnr.state.mn.us
FAX Number: (651) 297-4916
Web Page address: www.dnr.state.mn.us

Location: Greater Metro Region (targeted portions of 15 counties – see map)

| | | |
|---|-----------------------------|------------------|
| Total Biennial LCCMR Project Budget: | LCCMR Appropriation: | \$172,000 |
| | Minus Amount Spent: | \$172,000 |
| | Equal Balance: | \$ 0 |

Legal Citation: ML 2007, Chap. 30, Sec. 2, Subd. 4C.

Appropriation Language: Metropolitan Area Wildlife Corridors – Phase III.
\$2,500,000 is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for acceleration of agency programs and cooperative agreements with The Trust for Public Land; Friends of the Mississippi River; Great River Greening; Minnesota Land Trust; Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Trust, Inc.; Trout Unlimited; and Friends of the Minnesota Valley for the purposes of planning, restoring, 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. Expenditures are limited to the identified project corridor 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. All conservation easements must be perpetual and have a natural resource management plan. 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.

II. & III. FINAL PROJECT SUMMARY:

This project resulted in the completion of two fee title acquisition parcels on the Vermillion River in Dakota County. Totals for the two acquisitions equal 46.9 acres, including 0.89 total miles of shoreline. One of the parcels on the Vermillion River was also paid for with Phase II acquisition dollars, resulting in both acres and miles being divided proportionately between the two phases. As part of this project, Environmental and Natural Resources Trust dollars (\$160,000) directly acquired approximately 33.2 acres of the total, including 0.62 miles of stream. Other state dollars (\$60,250) acquired approximately 13.7 acres, including 0.27 miles of stream.

As part of this project, Environmental and Natural Resources Trust dollars (\$10,000) were allocated for site development. Development is being accomplished with other state dollars (Heritage and Game & Fish), so this \$10,000 was directed towards acquisition.

Professional Services costs for Phase III acquisitions totaled \$12,000

IV. OUTLINE OF PROJECT RESULTS: Acquisition will focus on linkages that provide both fish and wildlife habitat values. The acquired lands will be designated and managed as Aquatic Management Areas (AMA) or Wildlife Management Areas (WMA) or a combination of both. Any shoreline easements acquired will provide environmental protection of the shoreline and riparian zone as well as public angler access.

Result 1: Fish and Wildlife Land Acquisition

Allocation \$172,000 Balance \$0

Within the Focus Areas, DNR Fish & Wildlife will acquire AMAs and WMAs adjacent to lakes and streams to ensure the protection of critical riparian habitat, angler access, and management access. The monies will be used to secure fee title or permanent easements on approximately 32 acres and/or 0.4 miles of lakeshore and stream shoreline including sensitive watershed, riparian, or headwaters areas. These lands will be used for angler access and protection of critical habitats. Spending of trust monies and parcel information will be reported as it occurs under each result.

| <u>Program Area/Result</u> | <u>Trust Dollars Spent</u> | <u>Trust Accomplishments</u> |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| | <u>\$ 172,000</u> | <u>47 acres with .09</u> miles of shoreline |

Professional services in the amount of \$12,000 related to land acquisition is included.

Completion Date: June 30, 2009

Description: Within the Focus Areas, DNR Fish & Wildlife will acquire AMAs and WMAs adjacent to lakes and streams to ensure the protection of critical riparian habitat, angler access, and management access. The monies will be used to secure fee title or permanent easements on approximately 32 acres and/or 0.4 miles of lakeshore and stream shoreline including sensitive watershed, riparian, or headwaters areas. These lands will be used for angler access and protection of critical habitats.

Vermillion River, Parcel 2, Dakota County

| Trust | Trust | | Other | | Other | Other | Other | | Total | Total |
|-------|-------|-----------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Acres | Miles | Trust \$ | St. \$ | Other \$ | St. Acres | St. Miles | Acres | Miles | Acres | Miles |
| 29.5 | 0.59 | \$130,000 | \$60,250 | \$0 | 13.7 | 0.27 | 0 | 0 | 43.2 | 0.86 |

Vermillion River, Parcel 4, Dakota County

| Trust | Trust | | Other | | Other | Other | Other | | Total | Total |
|-------|-------|----------|--------|----------|-----------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Acres | Miles | Trust \$ | St. \$ | Other \$ | St. Acres | St. Miles | Acres | Miles | Acres | Miles |
| 3.7 | 0.03 | \$30,000 | \$0 | \$0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3.7 | 0.03 |

Total

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|------|------|-----------|----------|-----|------|------|---|---|------|------|
| 33.2 | 0.62 | \$160,000 | \$60,250 | \$0 | 13.7 | 0.27 | 0 | 0 | 46.9 | 0.89 |
|------|------|-----------|----------|-----|------|------|---|---|------|------|

Professional Services Total:

Grand Total (Trust only: professional + trust \$): \$ 12,000

**Summary Budget Information for Result 1: LCMR Budget \$ 172,000
Balance \$ 0**

**Result 2: Fish and Wildlife Land Acquisition Development
Allocation \$10,000 Balance \$ 0**

This project will bring lands purchased with Metropolitan Area Wildlife Corridors dollars up to minimum management standards. Dollars will be used for improvements such as site clean-up, access, parking areas, gates, and habitat improvement. Development will be conducted on lands acquired with both Metropolitan Area Wildlife Corridors Phase I and Phase II dollars.

Completion Date: June 30, 2009

Description Acquisition improvements, including signage of parcel, parking, clean-up, building removal, plantings, etc.

**Summary Budget Information for Result 1: LCMR Budget \$ 10,000
Balance \$ 0**

Result Status as of February 8, 2008

None of our monies have been spent to date.

Result Status as of August 1, 2008:

Result Status as of February 1, 2009

\$10,000 was shifted to acquisition

Final Report Summary: \$10,000 was shifted to acquisition

TOTAL LCMR PROJECT BUDGET: SEE ATTACHMENT A

All Results: Personnel: \$

All Results: Equipment: \$

All Results: Development: \$ 0

All Results: Acquisition: \$ 172,000

All Results: Other:

TOTAL LCMR PROJECT BUDGET: \$172,000

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

V. OTHER FUNDS & PARTNERS: Other Fish & Wildlife funds may be used to compliment LCMR monies, including, Trout Stamp, Heritage, RIM, or Fish & Wildlife Bonding.

A. Project Partners: See Table 1.

B. Other Funds being spent during the Project Period:

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Funding Source</u> | <u>Fisheries</u> | <u>Wildlife</u> |
|-------------|-----------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 2006 | Bonding | \$2,000,000 | \$14,000,000 |
| Total | | \$2,000,000 | \$14,000,000 |

C. Required Match (if applicable): NA

D. Past Spending:

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Funding Source</u> | <u>Fisheries</u> | <u>Wildlife</u> |
|-------------|-----------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 1995 | ETF* | \$ 300,000 | \$ 510,000 |
| 1995 | ERF** | | \$ 140,000 |
| 1997 | ETF | \$ 567,000 | \$ 500,000 |
| 2001 | ETF | \$2,000,000 | |
| 2003 | ETF – Metro | \$ 384,000 | \$ 240,000 |
| 2003 | ETF – Outstate | \$ 600,000 | |
| 2005 | ETF - Metro | \$ 290,000 | |
| 2005 | ETF - Outstate | \$ 280,000 | |

Total \$4,421,000 \$1,390,000

*Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

**Future Resources Fund

E. Time: 2 years, until June 30, 2009.

VII. DISSEMINATION: Metro Corridors will periodically distribute information about the program through the widely broadcasted emails to people on the Regional Greenways Collaborative (RGC) database, through the RGC quarterly meetings, and jointly held county meetings. As projects are completed, Counties will be notified and acquisitions will be published in the State Register.

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, 2008. A final work program report will be submitted by July 1st, 2009.

IX. RESEARCH PROJECTS: NA

Project Manager Name: Mike Halverson

LCMR Requested Dollars: \$ 172,000

| BUDGET ITEM | Result 1: Acquisition | | | Result 2: Development | | | TOTAL | | | Comments |
|---|-----------------------|-------------------|--------------|-----------------------|-------------------|--------------|----------------------|-------------------|--------------|---|
| | Amount Budgeted (\$) | Amount Spent (\$) | Balance (\$) | Amount Budgeted (\$) | Amount Spent (\$) | Balance (\$) | Amount Budgeted (\$) | Amount Spent (\$) | Balance (\$) | |
| PERSONNEL | | | | | | | | | | |
| Staff expenses, wages, salaries, & benefits | | | \$ - | | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | <i>[list here names &/or titles of staff budgeted, what they will do, their FTE pd w/LMCR \$s, & % fringe paid]</i> |
| DEVELOPMENT | | | | | | | | | | |
| Land improvement | | | \$ - | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | Parking and signs |
| DEVELOPMENT - SUBTOTAL | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | |
| ACQUISITION | | | | | | | | | | |
| Land acquisition <i>(fee title & conservation easement)</i> | \$ 160,000 | \$ 160,000 | \$ - | | | \$ - | \$ 160,000.00 | \$ 160,000.00 | \$ - | Fee Title |
| Land transaction costs <i>(e.g. survey, title, appraisal, environmental, & legal)</i> | \$ 12,000 | \$ 12,000 | \$ - | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 12,000.00 | \$ 12,000.00 | \$ - | |
| ACQUISITION - SUBTOTAL | \$ 172,000 | \$ 172,000 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 172,000.00 | \$ 172,000.00 | \$ - | |
| OTHER | | | | | | | | | | |
| Travel expenses in Minnesota | | | \$ - | | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | |
| OTHER - SUBTOTAL | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | |
| TOTAL LCMR Funding | \$ 172,000 | \$ 172,000 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 172,000.00 | \$ 172,000.00 | \$ - | |