

## **2007 Project Abstract**

For the Period Ending June 30, 2009

**PROJECT TITLE:** Nonmetropolitan Regional Parks and Natural and Scenic Area Acquisitions

**PROJECT MANAGER:** Wayne Sames

**AFFILIATION:** Department of Natural Resources

**MAILING ADDRESS:** OMBS, Box 10, 500 Lafayette Road

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**WEBSITE:** [www.dnr.state.mn.us](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us)

**FUNDING SOURCE:** Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

**LEGAL CITATION:** ML 2007, Chap. 30, Sec. 2, Subd. 2(g)

**APPROPRIATION AMOUNT:** \$1,000,000

### **Overall Project Outcome and Results**

These programs provide competitive state matching grants to help and encourage local governments to acquire non-metropolitan regional parks and natural areas to meet current and future needs. For the regional park project, every \$3 of state grants was matched with \$2 of local funds. For the natural and scenic area projects, every dollar of state grants was matched by a dollar of local funds. Three acquisition grants were completed: one Regional Park Grant and two Natural And Scenic Area Grant. The total acreage acquired through all three projects was 310 acres. Approximately one mile of lake shore line was protected.

**Regional Park Grant:** One Regional Park Grant totaling \$548,000 was made to Stearns County for the acquisition of 265 acres for a new regional park on Kraemer Lake near St. Joseph. Acquisition of this land provides the only publicly owned access to the lake. Much of the property was identified by the County Biological Survey as a significant native plant community. This land, part of the Avon Hills area, was acquired by the county in November, 2007.

**Scenic and Natural Area Grant:** Two grants were made for natural and scenic areas. In November 2007 the City of Prior Lake acquired 30 acres on Pike Lake for a new city park and natural area with a state grant of \$230,000. This acquisition protects one of the largest remaining areas of undeveloped shoreline in the city. In 2008 the City of Red Wing acquired 15 acres for an addition to an existing 72 acre Bluff Land Conservation Area with a state grant of \$156,000.

The remaining \$66,000 covered DNR administrative/personnel costs for the program.

### **Project Results, Use and Dissemination**

Profiles and photos of these projects are available on the DNR web site at [www.mndnr.gov](http://www.mndnr.gov). Click on "Grants" and then "Land Conservation" to find the links to the Regional Park Grants and Natural and Scenic Areas programs. Click on "Park Profiles" or "Project Profiles". Then go to the individual project profiles for a photo of the site, brief summary and links to local web pages.

## Trust Fund 2007 Work Program Final Report

**Date of Report:** August, 2008

**Trust Fund 2007 Work Program Final Report**

**Date of Work program Approval:** June 5, 2007

**Project Completion Date:** June 30, 2009

**I. PROJECT TITLE:** Nonmetropolitan Regional Parks and Natural and Scenic Area Acquisitions

**Project Manager:** Wayne Sames

**Affiliation:** Department of Natural Resources

**Mailing Address:** OMBS, Box 10, 500 Lafayette Road

**City / State / Zip :** St. Paul, MN 55155-4010

**Telephone Number:** (651) 259-5559

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**FAX Number:** (651)296-6047

**Web Page address:** <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us>

**Location:** Natural and Scenic Area grants are available statewide. Regional Park Grants are available for eligible regional park projects outside the Twin Cities Metro Area. Projects will be in various locations throughout the state.

<b>Total Trust Fund Project Budget:</b>	<b>Trust Fund Appropriation:</b>	<b>\$1,000,000</b>
	<b>Minus Amount Spent:</b>	<b>\$1,000,000</b>
	<b>Equal Balance:</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**Legal Citation:** ML 2007, Chap. 30, Sec. 2 , Subd. 2(g)

**Appropriation Language:** "\$1,000,000 is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to provide matching grants to local governments for acquisition of natural and scenic areas, as provided in Minnesota Statutes, section 85.019, subdivision 4a, and regional parks outside of the metropolitan area, as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 473.121, subdivision 2. The local match required for a grant to acquire a regional park or regional outdoor recreation area is \$2 of nonstate money for each \$3 of state money. For the purposes of this paragraph, the match may be either cash or a qualifying land donation. Recipients may receive funding for more than one project in any given grant period. Subdivision 12 applies to grants awarded in the approved work program."

**II. and III. FINAL PROJECT SUMMARY:**

### **Overall Project Outcome and Results**

These programs provide competitive state matching grants to help and encourage local governments to acquire non-metropolitan regional parks and natural areas to

meet current and future needs. For the regional park project, every \$3 of state grants was matched with \$2 of local funds. For the natural and scenic area projects, every dollar of state grants was matched by a dollar of local funds. Three acquisition grants were completed: one Regional Park Grant and two Natural And Scenic Area Grant. The total acreage acquired through all three projects was 310 acres. Approximately one mile of lake shore line was protected.

**Regional Park Grant:** One Regional Park Grant totaling \$548,000 was made to Stearns County for the acquisition of 265 acres for a new regional park on Kraemer Lake near St. Joseph. Acquisition of this land provides the only publicly owned access to the lake. Much of the property was identified by the County Biological Survey as a significant native plant community. This land, part of the Avon Hills area, was acquired by the county in November, 2007.

**Scenic and Natural Area Grant:** Two grants were made for natural and scenic areas. In November 2007 the City of Prior Lake acquired 30 acres on Pike Lake for a new city park and natural area with a state grant of \$230,000. This acquisition protects one of the largest remaining areas of undeveloped shoreline in the city. In 2008 the City of Red Wing acquired 15 acres for an addition to an existing 72 acre Bluff Land Conservation Area with a state grant of \$156,000.

The remaining \$66,000 covered DNR administrative/personnel costs for the program.

**Project Results, Use and Dissemination**

Profiles and photos of these projects are available on the DNR web site at [www.mndnr.gov](http://www.mndnr.gov). Click on “Grants” and then “Land Conservation” to find the links to the Regional Park Grants and Natural and Scenic Areas programs. Click on “Park Profiles” or “Project Profiles”. Then go to the individual project profiles for a photo of the site, brief summary and links to local web pages.

**IV. OUTLINE OF PROJECT RESULTS:**

**Result 1: Nonmetropolitan Regional Parks**

**Description:** One grant of \$548,000 was made to Stearns County for acquisition of 265 acres for a new regional park on Kraemer Lake. The property was acquired in November 2007. About one-half mile of shore land was protected, along with a large area of woods that is identified by the County Biological Survey as a significant native plant community. The land is part of the Avon Hills area. The county match exceeded \$1 million.

**Summary Budget Information for Result 1:** Trust Fund Budget: \$548,000  
 Amount Spent: \$548,000  
 Balance: \$0

<b>Deliverable</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Status</b>
1. Grant to Stearns County for acquisition	November 2007	548,000	Done

of 265 acres for a new regional park on Kraemer Lake.

**Completion Date:** November 2007

**Final Report Summary:** See Description above.

**Result 2: Natural and Scenic Areas**

**Description:** Two grants were made for natural and scenic areas. In November 2007 the City of prior lake acquired 30 acres on Pike Lake for a new city park and natural area with a state grant of \$230,000. This acquisition protects one of the largest remaining areas of undeveloped shoreline in the city, about one-half mile of frontage. In 2008 the City of Red Wing acquired 15 acres for an addition to an existing 72 acre Bluff Land Conservation Area with a state grant of \$156,000. The local match for both projects exceeded the state contribution.

**Summary Budget Information for Result 2:**

<b>Trust Fund Budget:</b>	<b>\$386,000</b>
<b>Amount Spent:</b>	<b>\$386,000</b>
<b>Balance:</b>	<b>\$0</b>

<b>Deliverable</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Status</b>
1. Two grants for acquisition of 45 acres of natural and scenic areas in Prior Lake and Red Wing.	2008	\$386,000	Done

**Completion Date:** 2008

**Final Report Summary:** See Description above.

**Result 3: Administrative/Personnel Costs**

**Description:** The requested funding was used to support personnel costs for administering the grant programs. Grants staff were involved in grant solicitation, evaluation and ranking, grant agreement management, project billings, project inspections, and compliance monitoring.

As shown in Attachment A, work program approval was requested for personnel expenses incurred by three DNR classified staff involved in administering these grant programs. Payment of classified staff with Trust Fund money did not result in supplanting of the regular budget. A cost coding system was used to document the hours spent by each staff person in administering the program. The total Full Time Equivalent (FTE) staff contribution was about 3/4 FTE over the biennium, or about 3/8 FTE per year.

**Summary Budget Information for Result 3: Trust Fund Budget: \$66,000**  
**Amount Spent: \$66,000**  
**Balance: \$0**

<b>Deliverable</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Status</b>
1. Solicitation/evaluation/ranking	June, 2008	20,000	Done
2. Grant agreements	Fall, 2007	10,000	Done
3. Reimbursements/closeouts	June, 2009	20,000	Done
4. Pre and post completion inspections	June, 2009	16,000	Done

**Completion Date:** June 2009

**Final Report Summary:** Se Description above.

**V. TOTAL TRUST FUND PROJECT BUDGET:**

**Staff or Contract Services:** \$66,000

**Equipment:** \$0

**Development:** \$0

**Restoration:** \$0

**Acquisition:** \$934,000 (310 acres acquired; local government grant recipients hold the title to the land)

**TOTAL TRUST FUND PROJECT BUDGET: \$1,000,000**

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

**VI. OTHER FUNDS & PARTNERS:**

**A. Project Partners:** Partners were Stearns County and the cities of Prior lake and Red Wing. They provided match dollars as well as covering in-kind costs of appraisals, any required archeological/historical surveys, permits, etc. Appraisal and survey costs alone could total approximately 5,000-10,000 per project. They also assumed all ongoing operations and maintenance costs.

**B. Other Funds Proposed to be Spent during the Project Period:** The local government recipients provided a match well in excess of the required minimum of \$751,333.

**C. Past Spending:** The 2005 Trust Fund appropriation for these two grant programs was \$1.1 million. The local match exceeded \$700,000. The 2006 bonding for these programs totaled \$2 million and the 2006 federal Land and Water Conservation Fund dollars totaled over \$260,000. The local match exceeded \$1.9 million.

**D. Time:** The projects were completed within the authorized project period.

**VII. DISSEMINATION:** Information about completed projects is included in the respective grant program sections of the DNR web site at [dnr.state.mn.us](http://dnr.state.mn.us).

**VIII. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:** Completed as required.

**IX. RESEARCH PROJECTS:**

## 2007 ETF Project Descriptions OMB / Local Grants Unit

Year	Proj_#	Title - Recipient	Scope	Acres Acquired
2008	LW27-01378	<b>Pike Lake Nature Area</b> City of Prior Lake	Acquire two parcels totaling 30.14 acres with 2,790 feet of shoreline on Pike Lake in the City of Prior Lake in northern Scott County to protect and preserve habitat for native species of fish and wildlife and to provide natural resource-based outdoor recreation and nature study. This acquisition project adds to the existing 14-acre park owned by the City.	30.14
2008	NS08-001	<b>Billings-Tomfohr Blufflands</b> City of Red Wing	Acquisition of 15 acres of additional land in the Billings-Tomfohr Blufflands Conservation Area.	15
2008	RP08-001	<b>Kraemer Lake Regional Park</b> County of Stearns	Acquire fee title to approximately 262 acres of forested land with 3/4 miles of lake shore on Kraemer Lake near the city of St. Joseph, MN.  2005 ETF \$500,000 2007 ETF \$598,000	263
<b>Total</b>		3 Projects		308

Attachment A: Budget Detail for 2007 Projects											
Project Title: Nonmetropolitan Regional Parks and Natural and Scenic Areas			ML 2007, Chap. 30, Sec. 2, Subd. 2(g)								
Project Manager Name: Wayne Sames											
Trust Fund Appropriation: \$1,000,000											
2007 Trust Fund Budget	Result 1 Budget:	Amount Spent 8/2008	Balance 8/2008	Result 2 Budget:	Amount Spent 8/2008	Balance 8/2008	Result 3 Budget:	Amount Spent 8/2008	Balance 8/2008	TOTAL BUDGET	TOTAL BALANCE
	Regional Park Grants			Natural and Scenic Area Grants			Administrative Costs				
BUDGET ITEM											0
PERSONNEL: wages and benefits							66,000	66,000	0	66,000	0
Land acquisition	548,000	548,000	0	386,000	386,000	0			0	934,000	0
<b>COLUMN TOTAL</b>	<b>\$548,000</b>	<b>\$548,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$386,000</b>	<b>\$386,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$66,000</b>	<b>\$66,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$1,000,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>