

2008 Project Abstract

For the Period Ending June 30, 2010

PROJECT TITLE: 2p Bluffland Restoration

PROJECT MANAGER: Dave Neu

AFFILIATION: National Wild Turkey Federation

MAILING ADDRESS: PO Box 83

CITY/STATE/ZIP: De Pere, WI 54115

PHONE: (920) 427-2335

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WEBSITE: www.nwtf.org

FUNDING SOURCE: Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

LEGAL CITATION: ML 2008 First Special Section, Ch.

367, Sec. 2 Subd. 3(c).

APPROPRIATION AMOUNT: \$70,000

Overall Project Outcome and Results

The Southeastern Minnesota bluffland is one of the 11 HCP project areas. The bluffland corridor runs along the Mississippi River across three counties, Wabasha, Winona, and Houston. Minnesota's Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy (Strategy for Tomorrow's Habitat for the Wild and Rare) identifies the Bluffland subsection of southeastern MN as having the highest percentage of species of greatest conservation need, particularly reptiles, with 11 of 15 species considered in great conservation need. This strategy further identifies bluff prairies and oak savannas as two of the most rare habitats remaining across Minnesota. The Timber rattlesnake is a state threatened species occurring exclusively in the southeastern Minnesota counties of Goodhue, Fillmore, Houston, Olmsted, Wabasha, and Winona. Since rattlesnake dens are central to their lives, protecting dens and enhancing surrounding habitat is critical to conserving this species. This project implemented habitat restoration activities directed at reducing the amount of canopy cover to 30% or less around the den sites by controlling invasive plant species such as Eastern red cedar, buckthorn, honeysuckle, and prickly ash. A multiple treatment approach was utilized that included hand cutting of red cedars and invasive brush species, prescribed burns, and exotic species control. Three sites were treated, for a total of 43.5 acres restored.

This project complimented the existing Landowner Incentive Program (LIP) Blufflands Landscape project. Approximately 60 acres of habitat were restored utilizing LIP funding. LIP assists eligible, private landowners, who wish to voluntarily manage their land to benefit listed species, with the development of habitat management plans and financial assistance for habitat enhancement and restoration. Through this project one of the most critical habitats in Minnesota was conserved and enhanced. The project focused on the population sustainability of the timber rattlesnake (*C. horridus*), three other at-risk snake species (racer, bullsnake, and hognose snake) and other numerous at-risk plant species in the Bluffland subsection of southeastern MN.

This project helped to take a more holistic restoration management approach to treating the entire bluff; thereby, safeguarding the long-term integrity of the work. Restoring cliff and bluffland habitats will positively impact habitat for the state listed timber rattlesnake. Maintaining viable populations of the species in the wild allows in-situ scientific research and enhances our

knowledge of the contributions the animal makes to the bluff prairie– forest ecosystems. This project is of great regional significance and has the potential for replication throughout the blufflands region.

Site selection and measurement was done by DNR personnel, based on known timber rattlesnake denning sites, and adjacent turkey habitat. NWTF worked with the contractors on site during the project, and performed follow-up site inspections.

Project Results Use and Dissemination

Accomplishment Reports and press releases will be made available at <http://www.mnhabitatcorridors.org>, as well as through NWTF publications.

LCCMR Work Program Final Report
Restoring Minnesota's Fish and Wildlife Habitat Corridors Phase 5
Habitat Conservation Partnership

2P:Bluffland Restoration - National Wild Turkey Federation

Project Manager:	Dave Neu	Fund: Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund
Affiliation:	National Wild Turkey Federation	
Address:	265 Lorrie Way De Pere, WI 54115	
Phone:	(920)347-0312	Legal Citation: ML 2008 First Special Section, Ch. 367, Sec. 2 Subd. 3(c).
Fax:	(920)427-2335	
E-mail:	neunwtf@sbcglobal.net	

Total Biennial Project Budget

Result	ENTF Allocation	ENTF Funds Spent	ENTF Balance	Other Funds Proposed	Other Funds Spent
Restoration	\$70,000	\$70,000	\$0	\$55,000	\$0
Total	\$70,000	\$70,000	\$0	\$55,000	\$0

Work Program Summary

Overall Project Outcome and Results

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Restoration Activities

Project Area - 11 - Mississippi Bluff Lands

Project Name:	Ken Visger property
Tract:	1 Township: 104, Range: 5, Section: 25
Activity:	Grassland Enhancement
Landtype:	Private - Land
Description:	Two sites were restored on this property by removing red cedar and other invasive species. This improves the site for timber rattlesnakes, wild turkeys and other wildlife species by opening up the canopy over the "goat prairie" habitat, allowing it to rejuvenate.

<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funds Use</i>	<i>Funding Amount</i>	<i>Prorated Acres</i>	<i>Prorated Shoreline</i>
ENTF	Restoration	\$36,700.00	29.50	0.00

Project Name:	Gray/Breitenbach property
Tract:	1 Township: 102, Range: 7, Section: 7
Activity:	Grassland Enhancement
Landtype:	Private - Land
Description:	Work was completed in the winter of 2009-10 after being partially completed in early 2009.

<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funds Use</i>	<i>Funding Amount</i>	<i>Prorated Acres</i>	<i>Prorated Shoreline</i>
ENTF	Restoration	\$23,750.00	12.50	0.00

Project Name:	Laschenski
Tract:	1 Township: 103, Range: 7, Section: 35
Activity:	Grassland Enhancement
Landtype:	Private - Land
Description:	Restored 1.65 acres of bluff prairie by removing red cedar and other invasive species.

<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funds Use</i>	<i>Funding Amount</i>	<i>Prorated Acres</i>	<i>Prorated Shoreline</i>
ENTF	Restoration	\$2,550.00	1.50	0.00

Restoration Project Totals (By Funding Type)

Funding Type	Funding Amount	Acres	Shoreline Feet
ENTF:	\$63,000.00	43.50	0.00
Total:	\$63,000.00	43.50	0.00

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Work Program Expenditures - Not Attributable to Specific Projects

<i>FundingType</i>	<i>Category</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Description</i>
ENTF	Personnel Expenditures	\$7,000.00	Hours and expenses for NWTf Regional Wildlife Biologist
Total:		\$7,000.00	

Work Program Expenditures (Not Attributable to Specific Projects) By Funding Type

Funding Type	Amount
ENTF	\$7,000.00
Total	\$7,000.00

Work Program Expenditures Breakdown

Funding Type:	Restoration Projects	Not Attributable to Specific Projects	Total
ENTF	\$63,000.00	\$7,000.00	\$70,000.00
State Funds	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total	\$63,000.00	\$7,000.00	\$70,000.00

Funding Type Definitions

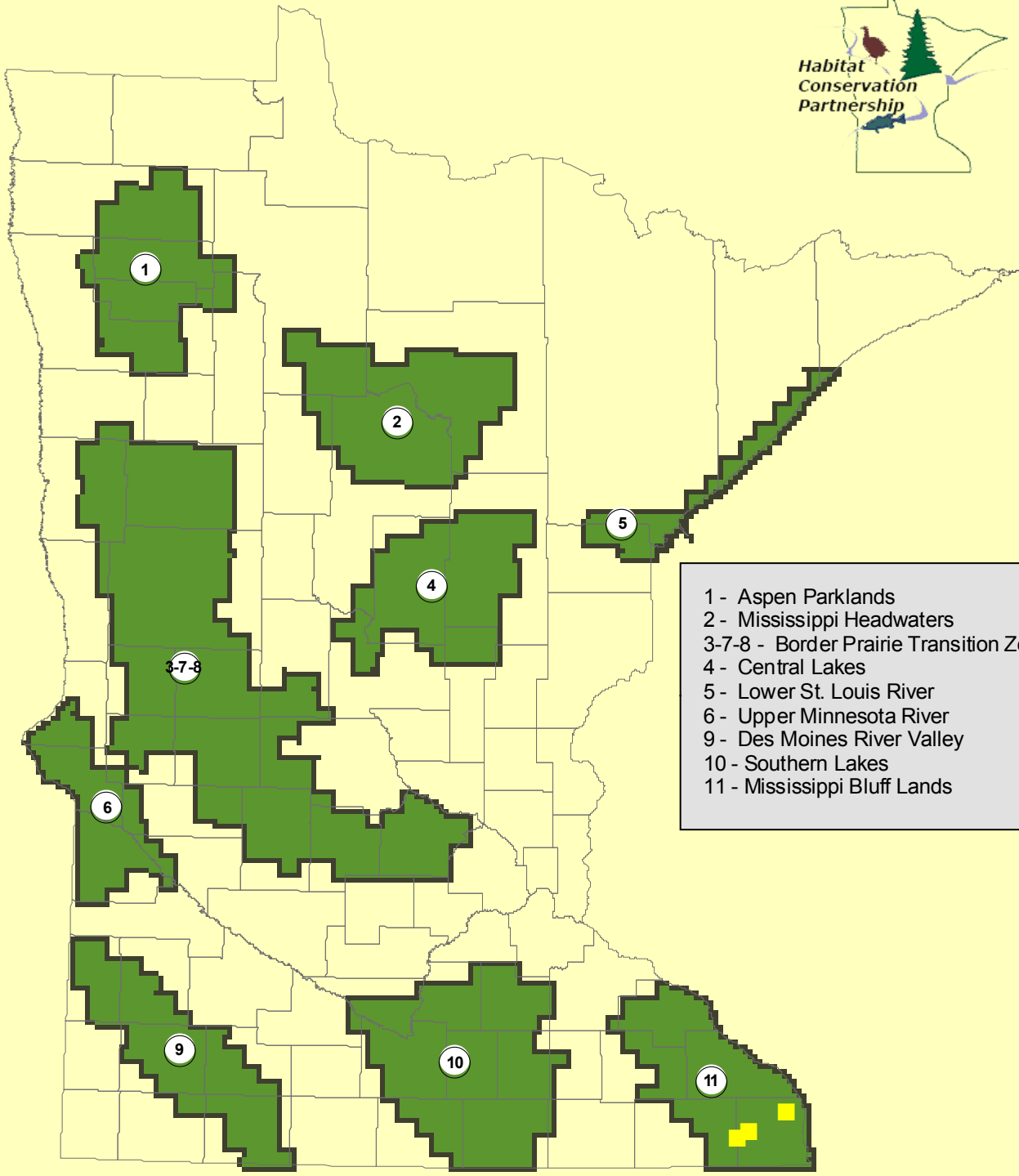
ENTF:	Grant dollars provided through the Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund
Other Funds:	Non-state, non-state leveraged dollars (if partner funds are leveraging State Funds (e.g. RIM) they are not eligible to be considered Other Funds)
State Funds:	State Funds expended on HCP projects (not eligible for use as Other Funds commitment)
Partner's State Leveraged Funds:	Non State Funds that have leveraged State Funds as part of an HCP project (not eligible for use as Other Funds commitment)
Other:	Any other expenditures (e.g. grant income funds)

Attachment A: Budget Detail for 2008 Projects - Summary and a Budget page for each partner




Project Title: <i>Bluffland Restorartion</i>											
Minnesota's Habitat Conservation Partnership (V)											
Project Manager Name: <i>Dave Neu - NWTF Senior Regional Biologist</i>											
Trust Fund Appropriation: \$ 70,000											
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											
2008 Trust Fund Budget	Result 1 Budget:	Amount Spent <i>(date)</i>	Balance <i>(date)</i>	Result 2 Budget:	Amount Spent <i>(date)</i>	Balance <i>(date)</i>	Result 3 Budget:	Amount Spent <i>(date)</i>	Balance <i>(date)</i>	TOTAL BUDGET	TOTAL BALANCE
	<i>Restore 120 acres of Bluffland habitat</i>			<i>Fill in your result title here.</i>			<i>Fill in your result title here.</i>				
BUDGET ITEM			0			0			0		0
PERSONNEL: wages and benefits	7,000	7,000	7,000			0			0	7,000	0
Contracts			0			0			0	0	0
Professional/technical <i>(with whom?, for what?)</i>	63,000	63,000	0			0			0	63,000	0
COLUMN TOTAL	\$70,000	\$70,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$70,000	\$0

Habitat Conservation Partnership Bluffland Restoration

2P



- 1 - Aspen Parklands
- 2 - Mississippi Headwaters
- 3-7-8 - Border Prairie Transition Zone
- 4 - Central Lakes
- 5 - Lower St. Louis River
- 6 - Upper Minnesota River
- 9 - Des Moines River Valley
- 10 - Southern Lakes
- 11 - Mississippi Bluff Lands

 Restorations  Easements  Acquisitions

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Project Title: <i>Bluffland Restoration</i>											
Minnesota's Habitat Conservation Partnership (V)											
Project Manager Name: <i>Dave Neu - NWTF Senior Regional Biologist</i>											
Trust Fund Appropriation: \$ 70,000											
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											
2008 Trust Fund Budget	<u>Result 1 Budget:</u>	Amount Spent <i>(date)</i>	Balance <i>(date)</i>	<u>Result 2 Budget:</u>	Amount Spent <i>(date)</i>	Balance <i>(date)</i>	<u>Result 3 Budget:</u>	Amount Spent <i>(date)</i>	Balance <i>(date)</i>	TOTAL BUDGET	TOTAL BALANCE
	<i>Restore 120 acres of Bluffland habitat</i>			<i>Fill in your result title here.</i>			<i>Fill in your result title here.</i>				
BUDGET ITEM			0			0			0		0
PERSONNEL: wages and benefits	7,000	7,000	7,000			0			0	7,000	0
Contracts			0			0			0	0	0
Chimney Rock Forestry, LLC, and Driftless Land Stewardship, LLC for removal of red cedar and other invasive species.	63,000	63,000	0			0			0	63,000	0
COLUMN TOTAL	\$70,000	\$70,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$70,000	\$0

