

## **2008 Project Abstract**

For the Period Ending June 30, 2010

**PROJECT TITLE:** 4C: Critical Lands Protection Program – The Trust for Public Land

**PROJECT MANAGER:** Robert McGillivray

**AFFILIATION:** The Trust for Public Land

**MAILING ADDRESS:** 2610 University Ave, #300

**CITY/STATE/ZIP:** St. Paul, MN 55114

**PHONE:** 651-999-5307

**E-MAIL:** rjm@tpl.org

**WEBSITE:** www.tpl.org

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

**LEGAL CITATION:** ML 2008 First Special Session, Ch. 376, Sec. 2, Subd. 3(c)

**APPROPRIATION AMOUNT: \$350,000**

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

On March 30, 2010, The Trust for Public Land (TPL) acquired 440 acres on Lester Lake in Hubbard County, Minnesota from Bieloh Brothers Investments, LLC for \$1,450,000 (its appraised fair market value) and conveyed it to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The \$350,000 appropriation of Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) money that TPL used on this acquisition purchased 106 of those acres. Other funding for this acquisition included a \$350,000 Conservation Partners Legacy Grant, \$100,000 in ENRTF money appropriated to DNR SNA, \$390,000 in State Bonding money appropriated to DNR SNA, \$183,800 in Outdoor Heritage Fund money appropriated to DNR Fisheries, \$16,200 in RIM Critical Habitat Match, and \$60,000 in private funds.

The Lester Lake acquisition creates a new DNR SNA/AMA protecting a sensitive natural resource and providing outstanding opportunities for public fishing, hunting, and nature observation. The 440-acre parcel contains all of the shoreline of a 75 acre undeveloped lake and half a mile of a small creek that previously had no public access. The site hosts a full spectrum of plant communities and several species of special concern. The Minnesota County Biological Survey recognized it as a site of high biodiversity significance meriting consideration for "the highest level of protection available." This diverse habitat also links a number of parcels of land already in public ownership ensuring a large landscape for wildlife to roam. Water quality of Lester Lake, the creek running through the property, and surrounding water bodies has also been protected by conservation of this resource.

The land is close to Walker and Park Rapids in an area under great development pressure and the owners had decided to sell. The threat of development to this important natural resource made this acquisition a priority for the DNR, the Kabekona Lake Association, the Leech Lake Area Watershed Foundation, and other stakeholders. The DNR had previously attempted to acquire the property but was unsuccessful. Although the property was listed for sale, TPL was able to quickly secure the property for its appraised fair market value, complete the due diligence process, and work together with its partners to assemble a funding package to protect this important resource for fish, wildlife, and future generations. There was strong public support for this conservation effort that ultimately received unanimous approval from the Hubbard County Board.

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

The Leech Lake Area Watershed encompasses nearly 800,000 acres of land and water critical to the water quality of Minnesota's lakes and rivers. It is under intense development pressure as more and more people seek to have second homes in the heart of Minnesota's Northwoods. TPL is working with the Minnesota DNR and interested stakeholders, such as the Leech Lake Area Watershed Foundation, the U.S. Forest Service and the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe to protect the most sensitive lands in this area. TPL will use the Lester Lake project as an example of how various organizations can work together to conserve more resources than they could working separately. TPL will disseminate information about this

project on its website. There have also been several news articles about this project that have been separately submitted.

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

**4C: Critical Lands Protection Program - The Trust for Public Land**

<b>Project Manager:</b>	Robert McGillivray	<b>Fund:</b> Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund
<b>Affiliation:</b>	The Trust for Public Land	
<b>Address:</b>	2610 University Ave St. Paul, MN 55114	
<b>Phone:</b>	651-999-5307	<b>Legal Citation:</b> ML 2008 First Special Section, Ch. 367, Sec. 2 Subd. 3(c).
<b>Fax:</b>	651-917-2248	
<b>E-mail:</b>	Bob.McGillivray@tpl.org	

**Total Biennial Project Budget**

Result	ENTF Allocation	ENTF Funds Spent	ENTF Balance	Other Funds * Proposed	Other Funds * Spent
<b>Acquisition</b>	\$350,000	\$350,000	\$0	\$350,000	\$60,000
<b>Total</b>	\$350,000	\$350,000	\$0	\$350,000	\$60,000

\*Other Funds are classified as 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). Please note, however, that this work program has spent the following amounts not shown in the above table:

State Funds: \$1,040,000.00

See the tables and funding type definitions at the end of this report for further explanation.

**Work Program Summary**

**Overall Project Outcome and Results**

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**Acquisition Activities**

<b>Project Name:</b>	Lester Lake SNA/AMA							
<b>Tract:</b>	1							
<b>Project Area:</b>	1 - Aspen Parklands Township: 142, Range: 32, Section: 5							
<b>Acquisition Holder:</b>	DNR-SNA							
<b>Description:</b>	Acquisition of 440 acre Lester Lake SNA/AMA. Note that State Funds listed below includes \$100,000 of 2008 ENRTF funds appropriated to DNR SNA.							
<b>Acquisition reported via LCCMR website:</b>	Yes							
<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funds Use</i>	<i>Funding Amount</i>	<i>Prorated Acres</i>	<i>Grassland Acres</i>	<i>Woodland Acres</i>	<i>Wetland Acres</i>	<i>Shoreline Feet</i>	<i>Riparian Feet</i>
ENTF	Fee-Title Acquisition Costs	\$350,000.00	106.21	0.00	57.93	48.28	1,448.28	482.76
Other Funds	Fee-Title Acquisition Costs	\$60,000.00	18.21	0.00	9.93	8.28	248.28	82.76
State Funds	Fee-Title Acquisition Costs	\$1,040,000.00	315.59	0.00	172.14	143.45	4,303.45	1,434.48
<b>Lester Lake SNA/AMA Total</b>		<b>\$1,450,000.00</b>	<b>440.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>240.00</b>	<b>200.00</b>	<b>6,000.00</b>	<b>2,000.00</b>

**Acquisition Totals (By Funding Type)**

<i>Funding Type:</i>	<i>Funding Amount</i>	<i>Prorated Acres</i>	<i>Grassland Acres</i>	<i>Woodland Acres</i>	<i>Wetland Acres</i>	<i>Shoreline Feet</i>	<i>Riparian Feet</i>
ENTF:	\$350,000.00	106.21	0.00	57.93	48.28	1,448.28	482.76
Other Funds:	\$60,000.00	18.21	0.00	9.93	8.28	248.28	82.76
State Funds:	\$1,040,000.00	315.59	0.00	172.14	143.45	4,303.45	1,434.48
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$1,450,000.00</b>	<b>440.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>240.00</b>	<b>200.00</b>	<b>6,000.00</b>	<b>2,000.00</b>

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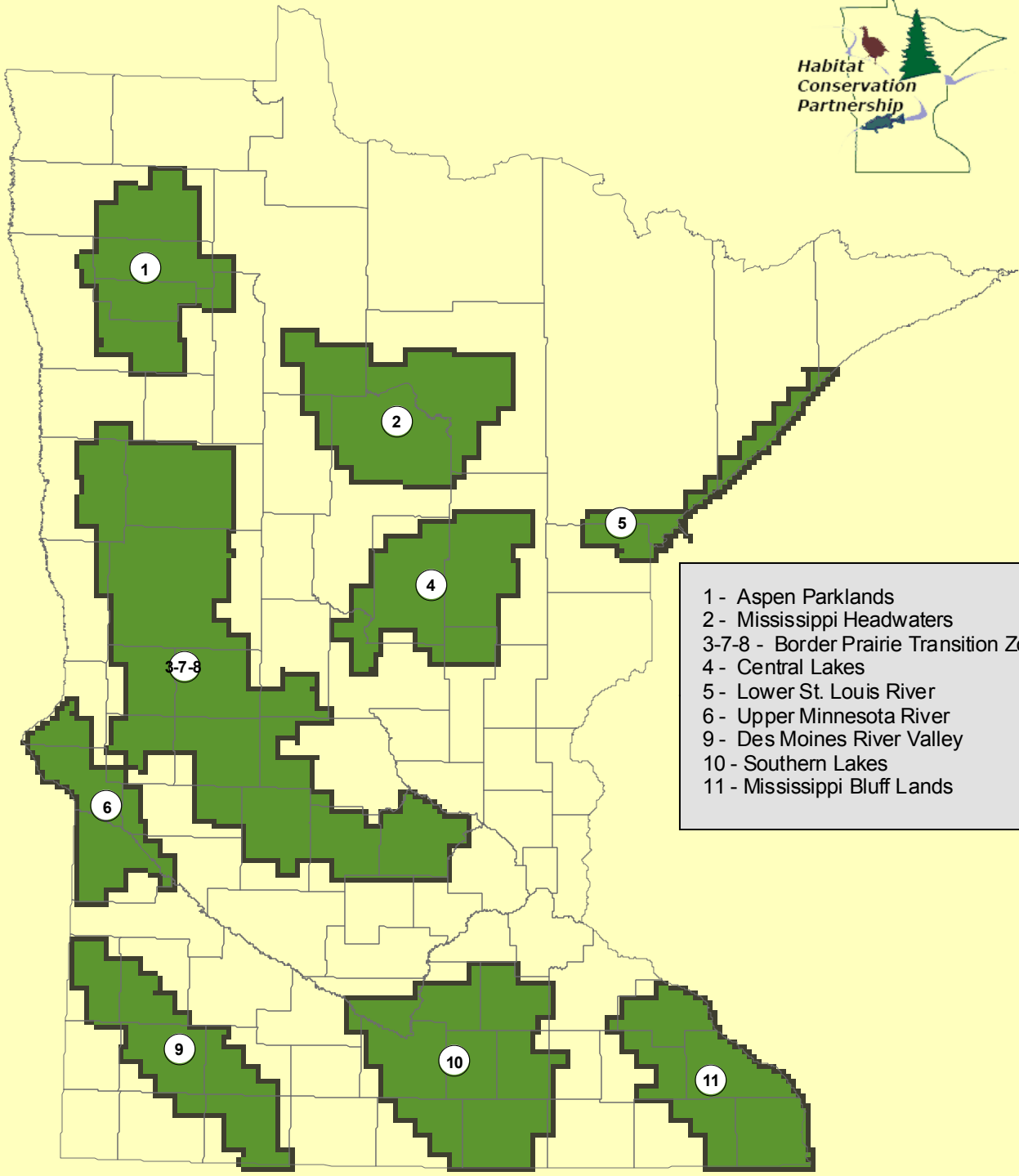
**Funding Type Definitions**

<b>ENTF:</b>	Grant dollars provided through the Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund
<b>Other Funds:</b>	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)
<b>State Funds:</b>	State Funds expended on HCP projects (not eligible for use as Other Funds commitment)
<b>Partner's State Leveraged Funds:</b>	Non State Funds that have leveraged State Funds as part of an HCP project (not eligible for use as Other Funds commitment)
<b>Other:</b>	Any other expenditures (e.g. grant income funds)




<b>Attachment A: Budget Detail for 2008 Projects</b>				
<b>Project Title: TPL's Critical Lands Protection Program</b>				
<b>Minnesota's Habitat Conservation Partnership (V)</b>				
<b>Project Manager Name: Robert McGillivray</b>				
<b>Trust Fund Appropriation: \$ 350,000</b>				
<b>2008 Trust Fund Budget</b>	<b><u>Result 1 Budget:</u></b>	<b>Amount Spent 5-1-10</b>	<b>Balance 5-1-10</b>	
	<i>Acquisition</i>			
<b>BUDGET ITEM</b>			0	
<b>Land acquisition</b>	350,000	350,000	0	
<b>COLUMN TOTAL</b>	<b>\$350,000</b>	<b>\$350,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	

# Habitat Conservation Partnership Critical Lands Protection Program

4C



- 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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<b>Project Manager Name: Robert McGillivray</b>			
<b>Trust Fund Appropriation: \$ 350,000</b>			
<b>2008 Trust Fund Budget</b>	<b><u>Result 1 Budget:</u></b>	<b>Amount Spent</b>	<b>Balance</b>
		<b>5-1-10</b>	<b>5-1-10</b>
	<i>Acquisition</i>		
<b>BUDGET ITEM</b>			0
<b>Land acquisition</b>	350,000	350,000	0
<b>COLUMN TOTAL</b>	<b>\$350,000</b>	<b>\$350,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>