

## **2009 Project Abstract**

For the Period Ending June 30, 2012

**PROJECT TITLE:** State Trail Acquisitions (4a)  
**PROJECT MANAGER:** Jennifer Christie  
**AFFILIATION:** DNR Division of Parks and Trails  
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**FUNDING SOURCE:** Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund  
**LEGAL CITATION:** M.L. 2009, Chap. 143, Sec. 2, Subd. 4(a)

**APPROPRIATION AMOUNT: \$590,000**

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

The Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund funding allowed for the following:

- Ownership of approximately 1.25 miles of the Paul Bunyan State Trail. Acquisition of this property provided for the necessary connection to the Paul Bunyan State Trailhead on the southeastern corner of Lake Bemidji. The property is comprised entirely of former industrial property, located adjacent to the shoreline of Lake Bemidji. The 2009 Trust Fund appropriation amount partially funded this acquisition.
- Ownership of approximately 6 miles of the Browns Creek Segment of Munger State Trail. The property is comprised entirely of the right-of-way of the former Minnesota Zephyr Dinner Trail and traverses the margins of the St. Croix River floodplain adjacent to T.H. 95, the gently to steeply sloping bluffs of the river valley and gently rolling uplands that are interspersed with residential and commercial development. The 2009 Trust Fund appropriation amount partially funded this acquisition.

## Trust Fund 2009 Work Program Final Report

**Date of Report:** August 1, 2012

**Date of Work program Approval:** June 16, 2009

**Date of Work program Extension Approval:** July 1, 2011

**Project Completion Date:** June 30, 2012

### **I. PROJECT TITLE:** State Trail Acquisition

**Project Manager:** Jennifer Christie

**Affiliation:** Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Trails

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**Location:** Acquisitions include, but not limited to: (1) Northwest – Paul Bunyan State Trail – in the City of Bemidji. (2) Central – Browns Creek Segment of the Munger State Trail. See attached map for locations.

<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:** Carry forward ML 2011, Chap. 2, Sec. 2, Subd.18a.

**Legal Citation:** ML 2009, Chap.143, Sec.2, Subd.4b.

**Appropriation Language:** State Trail Acquisition

State Trails Acquisition has been extended to June 30, 2012

\$1,000,000 is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to assist in the acquisition of the Brown's Creek segment of the Willard Munger Trail in Washington County and Paul Bunyan State Trail in the City of Bemidji.

### **II. PROJECT SUMMARY AND RESULTS:** Trust Fund funding allowed for the following:

- Ownership of approximately 1.25 miles of the Paul Bunyan State Trail. Acquisition of this property provided for the necessary connection to the Paul Bunyan State Trailhead on the southeastern corner of Lake Bemidji. The property is comprised entirely of former industrial property, located

adjacent to the shoreline of Lake Bemidji. The 2009 Trust Fund appropriation amount partially funded this acquisition.

- Ownership of approximately 6 miles of the Browns Creek Segment of Munger State Trail. The property is comprised entirely of the right-of-way of the former Minnesota Zephyr Dinner Trail and traverses the margins of the St. Croix River floodplain adjacent to T.H. 95, the gently to steeply sloping bluffs of the river valley and gently rolling uplands that are interspersed with residential and commercial development. The 2009 Trust Fund appropriation amount partially funded this acquisition.

Parcels in this work program may be revised during the course of this funding cycle due to an inability to complete the negotiations or other factors.

### III. FINAL REPORT SUMMARY:

The 1.25 miles of the Paul Bunyan State Trail was acquired on January 7, 2010.

The 64-acre, approximately 6 miles of Browns Creek Segment of Munger State Trail was acquired on February 16, 2012.

### IV. OUTLINE OF PROJECT RESULTS:

**Result 1:** Acquire approximately 1.25 miles of the Paul Bunyan State Trail.

**Description:** The DNR proposed to acquire a single narrow linear parcel located along the southeastern shoreline of Lake Bemidji, and which containing 13.5 acres extending over approximately 1.25 miles. The property to be acquired is comprised entirely of former industrial property, located adjacent to the shoreline of Lake Bemidji. This proposed acquisition will provide partial funding for the necessary connection Paul Bunyan State Trailhead on the southeastern corner of Lake Bemidji and the segment of the State Trail currently beginning acquired through the City of Bemidji. Funding provided through Capital Bonding (2005 and 2008) will also be used for this project.

<b>Summary Budget Information for Result 1:</b>	<b>Trust Fund Budget:</b>	<b>\$300,000</b>
	<b>Amount Spent:</b>	<b>\$300,000</b>
	<b>Balance:</b>	<b>\$ -0-</b>

<b>Deliverable</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Status</b>
<b>1. 1.25 miles Acquired</b>	<b>June 30, 2010</b>	<b>\$300,000</b>	<b>Completed</b>

#### **Final Report Summary:**

In December 30, 2009, the approximately 1.25 miles of the Paul Bunyan State Trail purchase option was encumbered on December 30, 2009. Closing date was

scheduled for the first week of January. Professional services costs were provided under other funding sources.

The approximately 1.25 miles of the Paul Bunyan State Trail was acquired on January 7, 2010.

**Result 2:** Acquire approximately 6 miles of the Browns Creek Segment of Munger State Trail.

**Description:** The DNR proposed to acquire 64 acres, 6 miles, of the Browns Creek Segment of the Willard Munger State Trail. This funding partially funded the acquisition of approximately 64 acres, 6 miles, of the Brown’s Creek Segment of the Willard Munger State Trail located in Washington County. The acquisition is of a single narrow linear property between the existing Gateway State Trail Corridor and Downtown Stillwater. The property is comprised entirely of the right-of-way of the former Minnesota Zephyr Dinner Trail and traverses the margins of the St. Croix River floodplain adjacent to T.H. 95, the gently to steeply sloping bluffs of the river valley and gently rolling uplands that are interspersed with residential and commercial development. Once developed, this will become a heavily travelled trail corridor in the Minneapolis/St. Paul metropolitan area. The acquisition contains the entire Browns Creek Trail corridor as Legislatively Authorized. No additional acquisition would be required to complete the entire Browns Creek Segment of Willard Munger State Trail. The allocated funds will require an extension request to supplement the 2011-2012 LCCMR funding amount of \$1,500,000 and funds offered by Washington County. Approximately \$1 million additional funds will be sought from other sources.

DNR Option Agreement	2009 LCCMR Work Plan Amount (Extension Required)	2011-2012 LCCMR Proposal Amount	Washington Co. Offered Amount	Total Funding Amount	Amount of Funding -TBD
\$4,235,000	\$700,000	\$1,500,000	\$1,000,000	\$3,300,000	\$1,035,000

**Summary Budget Information for Result 2:** Trust Fund Budget: \$ 700,000  
Amount Spent: \$ 700,000  
Balance: \$ -0-

Deliverable	Completion Date	Budget
1. 6 miles of trail corridor acquired	June 30, 2012	\$700,000

**Final Report Summary:**

In December 2009, the 6 miles of the Browns Creek Segment of the Munger State Trail was in the acquisition process. The appraisal’s anticipated to be completed

within the next 60 days. Current funding amount expended was for professional services.

In February 2010, the 6 miles of the Browns Creek segment of the Willard Munger State Trail was in the acquisition process. The appraisal was anticipated to be completed within the next 60 days. Current amount expended was for professional services. The total amount of the acquisition is anticipated to exceed the ENTRF budget and the DNR is working on securing additional funding sources.

In October 2010, an appraisal was completed and an option was signed with the landowner to acquire 6 miles of the Browns Creek Segment of Munger State Trail.

In December 2010, the landowner had entered into an option agreement with the DNR for the acquisition of the 6 miles of the Browns Creek segment of the Willard Munger State Trail.

In January 2012, the DNR elected to purchase the option agreement and encumbered the funds for this project on September 30, 2011. The title review is in progress and we are awaiting the title opinion.

The approximately 6 miles of the Browns Creek Segment of the Munger State Trail was acquired on February 16, 2012.

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

**Staff or Contract Services:** Appraisal Services and Professional Services from DNR, Division of Lands and Minerals and the Attorney General's Office

**Equipment:** None

**Development:** \$ -0-

**Restoration:** \$ -0-

**Acquisition, including easements:** 7.25 Miles, The State of Minnesota (DNR)

**TOTAL TRUST FUND PROJECT BUDGET: \$1,000,000.00**

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

#### **VI. OTHER FUNDS & PARTNERS:**

**A. Project Partners:** The City of Bemidji will assist the DNR in trail corridor acquisition planning for the Paul Bunyan State Trail. It is currently anticipated that both the City of Stillwater and Washington County will assist the DNR, Division of Parks and Trails in the acquisition of former Minnesota Zephyr railroad corridor. It is anticipated that the Parks and Trails Council of Minnesota will play a critical role in the negotiation and timely acquisition of many of the individual properties prior to State acquisition.

**B. Other Funds:** Proposed to be spent during the Project Period: Washington County has committed up to \$1,000,000 for the acquisition of the former Minnesota Zephyr railroad corridor for use as the Browns Creek Segment of the Willard Munger State Trail.

**C. Past Spending:**

Land Acquisition for the Division of Parks and Trails State Trail property acquisition efforts have been supported by legislative appropriations through Capital Bonding, Dedicated User Accounts, the General Fund, the Legislative Commission of Minnesota Resources and Federal appropriations through the Federal Highway Administration.

**D. Time:** To acquire by June 2012

**VII. DISSEMINATION:** No projected news releases at this time

**VIII. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:**

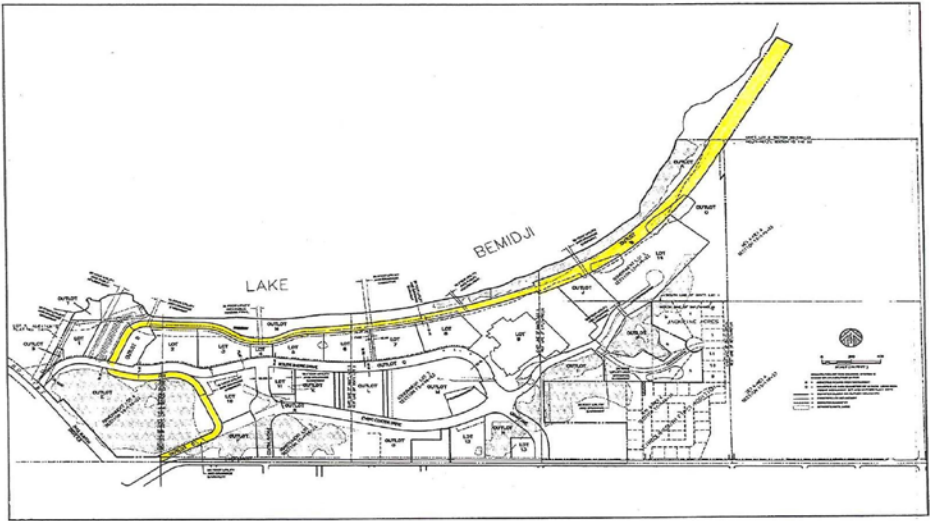
**Periodic work program progress reports will be submitted not later than September 30, 2009, April 30, 2010, and September 2010. A final work program report and associated products will be submitted on April 30, 2011 as requested by the LCCMR**

**IX. RESEARCH PROJECTS: NA**

# 2009 Proposed Trail Acquisition Paul Bunyan State Trail - Corridor through Bemidji



Locator



# Willard Munger State Trail-Browns Creek Segment

