

2009 Project Abstract

For the Period Ending June 30, 2011

PROJECT TITLE: Minnesota's Habitat Conservation Partnership Phase VI – Shallow Lake Assessment (2d), DNR – Section of Wildlife

PROJECT MANAGER: Ray Norrgard
AFFILIATION: DNR – Division of Fish and Wildlife
MAILING ADDRESS: 500 Lafayette Rd, Box 20
CITY/STATE/ZIP: St Paul, 55155-4020
PHONE: 651-259-5227
E-MAIL: ray.norrgard@state.mn.us
FAX: 651-297-4961
WEBSITE: www.dnr.state.mn.us
PROJECT TITLE:
FUNDING SOURCE: Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund
LEGAL CITATION: M.L. 2009, Chp. 143, Sec. 2, Subd. 4(e)2d

APPROPRIATION AMOUNT: \$ 145,000

Overall Project Outcome and Results

DNR spent \$140,689 to continue on-site field investigations to accelerate management of shallow lakes and adjacent wetland complexes and support the accomplishments of Ducks Unlimited through HCP 2c and 3c. Temporary field personnel (1 full time and up to 6 temporary) documented shallow lake habitat occurrence and quality. Habitat surveys were conducted on 171 lakes within seven HCP project areas. The lakes surveyed totaled over 82,831 acres. The surveys were distributed more broadly than in the past with:

- 9 surveys conducted within Area 1,
- 9 surveys conducted within Area 2,
- 71 surveys conducted within Area 3,
- 15 surveys conducted within Area 4,
- 11 surveys conducted within Area 6,
- 30 surveys conducted within Area 9, and
- 26 surveys conducted within Area 10.

Data was entered into the DNR Shallow Lake Database, checked and verified.

Project Results Use and Dissemination

The habitat survey information was used to support DNR's shallow lake management efforts identified in the 2006 Duck Recovery Plan and Ducks Unlimited's efforts under Restoring Minnesota's Fish and Wildlife Habitat Corridors IV – Wildlife Shallow Lakes Enhancement 2(c). Dissemination of project accomplishments will be through the LCCMR reporting process and normal DNR budgeting and accomplishment reporting. Data collected on the habitat quality of shallow lakes will be available as part of the DNR shallow lakes database managed by Division of Fish and Wildlife staff in Brainerd.

Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund 2009 Work Program Final Report

Date of Report: August 31, 2011

Final Report

Date of Work Program Approval: June 16, 2009

Project Completion Date: June 30, 2011

I. PROJECT TITLE: Minnesota's Habitat Conservation Partnership Phase VI – Shallow Lake Assessment (2d), DNR – Section of Wildlife

Project Manager: Ray Norrgard
Affiliation: DNR – Division of Fish and Wildlife
Mailing Address: 500 Lafayette Rd, Box 20
City / State / Zip: St Paul, 55155-4020
Telephone Number: 651-259-5227
E-mail Address: ray.norrgard@state.mn.us
FAX Number: 651-297-4961
Web Site Address: www.dnr.state.mn.us

Location: The primary emphasis will be in Habitat Conservation Partnership project areas 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 9, 10 although some minor assessment work may occur in areas 5 and 11.

Total Trust Fund Project Budget:	Trust Fund Appropriation	\$	145,000
	Minus Amount Spent:	\$	<u>140,689</u>
	Equal Balance:	\$	4,311

Legal Citation: M.L. 2009, Chp. 143, Sec. 2, Subd. 4(e)2d

Appropriation Language:

\$3,375,000 is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for the sixth appropriation for acceleration of agency programs and cooperative agreements. Of this appropriation, \$770,000 is for the Department of Natural Resources agency programs and \$2,605,000 is for agreements as follows: \$450,000 with Pheasants Forever; \$50,000 with Minnesota Deer Hunters Association; \$895,000 with Ducks Unlimited, Inc.; \$85,000 with National Wild Turkey Federation; \$365,000 with the Nature Conservancy; \$210,000 with Minnesota Land Trust; \$350,000 with the Trust for Public Land; \$100,000 with Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Trust, Inc.; \$50,000 with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service; and \$50,000 with Friends of Detroit Lakes Watershed Management District to plan, restore, and acquire fragmented landscape corridors that connect areas of quality habitat to sustain fish, wildlife, and plants. The United States Department of Agriculture-Natural Resources Conservation Service is a cooperating partner in the appropriation. Expenditures are limited to the project corridor areas as defined in the work program. Land acquired with this appropriation must be sufficiently

improved to meet at least minimum habitat and facility management standards as determined by the commissioner of natural resources. 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 as an outdoor recreation unit under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.07. The commissioner may similarly designate any lands acquired in less than fee title. A list of proposed restorations and fee title and easement acquisitions must be provided as part of the required work program. All funding for conservation easements must include a long-term stewardship plan and funding for monitoring and enforcing the agreement. To the maximum extent practical, consistent with contractual easement or fee acquisition obligations, the recipients shall utilize staff resources to identify future projects and shall maximize the implementation of biodiverse, quality restoration projects in the project proposal into the first half of the 2010 fiscal year.

II. and III. FINAL PROJECT SUMMARY

Overall Project Outcome and Results

DNR spent \$140,689 to continue on-site field investigations to accelerate management of shallow lakes and adjacent wetland complexes and support the accomplishments of Ducks Unlimited through HCP 2c and 3c. Temporary field personnel (1 full time and up to 6 temporary) documented shallow lake habitat occurrence and quality. Habitat surveys were conducted on 171 lakes within seven HCP project areas. The lakes surveyed totaled over 82,831 acres. The surveys were distributed more broadly than in the past with:

- 9 surveys conducted within Area 1,
- 9 surveys conducted within Area 2,
- 71 surveys conducted within Area 3,
- 15 surveys conducted within Area 4,
- 11 surveys conducted within Area 6,
- 30 surveys conducted within Area 9, and
- 26 surveys conducted within Area 10.

Data was entered into the DNR Shallow Lake Database, checked and verified.

IV. OUTLINE OF PROJECT RESULTS:

Result 1: Complete 100 shallow lake surveys

DESCRIPTION: 171 shallow lake assessments, including both pre and post project lake monitoring, were completed to provide the information necessary to design and implement lake management strategies including DU lake structure enhancements and DNR accelerated management activities.

Summary Budget Information for Result 1:	Trust Fund Budget:	\$ 145,000
	Amount Spent:	\$ 140,689
	Balance:	\$ 4,311

Deliverable	Completion Date	Budget	Status
--------------------	------------------------	---------------	---------------

1.171 lake surveys June 30, 2011 \$145,000 Completed

Completion Date: June 30, 2011

Final Report Summary: Habitat surveys were conducted on 171 lakes within seven HCP project areas. The lakes surveyed totaled 82,831 acres. The surveys were distributed more broadly than in the past with 9 surveys conducted within Area 1, 9 surveys conducted within Area 2, 71 surveys conducted within Area 3, 15 surveys conducted within Area 4, 11 surveys conducted within Area 6, 30 surveys conducted within Area 9, and 9 surveys conducted within Area 10. Data was entered into the DNR Shallow Lake Database, checked and verified.

V. TOTAL TRUST FUND PROJECT BUDGET:

Personnel: \$ 121,730 (actual \$125,707)

Equipment/Tools/Supplies: \$ 3,000 (actual \$38)

Travel: \$ 5,000 (actual \$1,720)

Other (fleet and survey supplies): \$ 16,000 (actual \$1,322)

TOTAL TRUST FUND PROJECT BUDGET: \$ 145,000

Salaries were shifted from interns to full-time temporary to accommodate workloads. Fleet payments were slightly more than predicted but were more than offset by savings in equipment and travel. Although actual accomplishments were 71% higher than the result objective there was an overall savings of \$4,311.

Explanation of Capital Expenditures Greater Than \$3,500: Not applicable

VI. PROJECT STRATEGY:

A. Project Partners:

This proposal is part of the Habitat Conservation Partnership Phase VI Proposal. Please see the main proposal for a complete list of partners involved.

B. Project Impact and Long-term Strategy:

This proposal is directly tied to the Shallow lakes that are a critical component of the wetland habitat complexes once common to Minnesota. These lakes provide the migration, brood rearing, and hibernacula critical for shorebirds, waterfowl, water birds, turtles and amphibians. Although these lakes physically remain on the landscape their ecological condition has been degraded by watershed changes and invasive species. However, many of these lakes can be restored with management investments. The shallow lake assessments completed with this grant are the first step towards restoration and meet the requirements for post project monitoring.

C. Other Funds Proposed to be Spent during the Project Period: The Section of Wildlife spends approximately \$300,000 from Game and Fish Fund annually to provide technical assistance and assessment to support shallow lake management projects around the state.

D. Spending History: Past ETF Spending: Phase I /2004: \$350,000; Phase II/2005: \$98,300; Phase III/2006: \$98,000; Phase IV/2007: \$98,000; Phase V/2008: 73,339.

VII. DISSEMINATION: Accomplishment Reports and press releases will be made available at <http://www.mnhabitatcorridors.org>

VIII. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:

Periodic work program progress reports will be submitted not later than December 1 and June 1 of each year. A final work program report and associated products will be submitted between June 30 and August 1, 2011 as requested by the LCCMR.

IX. RESEARCH PROJECTS: N/A

Attachment A: Final Budget Detail for 2009 Projects					
Project Title: Shallow Lake Assessment (2d)					
Project Manager Name: Ray Norrgard					
Trust Fund Appropriation: \$ 145,000					
2009 Trust Fund Budget	<u>Result 1 Budget:</u>	Amount Spent	Balance	TOTAL BUDGET	TOTAL BALANCE
	Shallow Lake Assessments				
BUDGET ITEM					
PERSONNEL: wages and benefits					
1 fte fulltime temporary specialist	45,730	62,744	-16,776	45,730	-16,776
3 fte (8) seasonal interns	75,270	62,963	15,428	75,270	15,428
Other direct operating costs: Vehicle fleet payments	12,000	13,040	-1,040	12,000	-1,040
Non-capital Equipment: Repair and replacement of lake suvey equipment as needed	3,000	38	2,962	3,000	2,962
Survey supplies	4,000	184	3,816	4,000	3,816
Travel expenses in Minnesota	5,000	1,720	3,280	5,000	3,280
COLUMN TOTAL	\$145,000	\$140,689	\$4,311	\$145,000	\$4,311