

Trust Fund 2009 Work Program

Date of Report: May 8, 2009
Date of Next Progress Report: Dec. 1, 2009
Date of Work Program Approval:
Project Completion Date: June 30, 2011

I. PROJECT TITLE: Minnesota's Habitat Conservation Partnership Phase VI - Wildlife Areas Management (2g), DNR – Section of Wildlife

Project Manager: Suzann Willhite
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Location: All Habitat Conservation Partnership work will be completed within the nine Project Area boundaries identified in the attached map (please see the 1a Project Area Coordination and Mapping work plan).

Total Trust Fund Project Budget:	Trust Fund Appropriation	\$	50,000
	Minus Amount Spent:	\$	<u>0</u>
	Equal Balance:	\$	50,000

Legal Citation: M.L. 2009, Chap. 143, Sec. 2, Subd. 4e2g

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. PROJECT SUMMARY AND RESULTS: DNR, Section of Wildlife staff will administer and manage habitat restoration and development of infrastructure necessary for public access on lands acquired by partners for State Wildlife Management Areas (WMA). This project funding component (2g) ensures that the DNR will have funding available to complete the necessary initial site development for these newly acquired lands. Infrastructure management may include but is not limited to boundary surveys, boundary signing, professional services, public access, parking lots, user facilities, and clean up of old buildings or wells. Habitat restoration may include but is not limited to grassland development or improvement, wetland restoration or impoundment development, forest or woody cover development or improvement, brush land management, professional services, and food plot development. Temporary project staff or intermittent labor will be hired as needed to implement development on acquired lands. Cultural and environmental reviews in addition to necessary permits will be completed as required. Digital boundary, habitat inventory and facilities files will be developed as part of the management plans.

DNR cannot start work until the Partners have completed acquisition on each parcel. DNR and Partners have estimated that 200 acres will be acquired and turned over to DNR, but it is unknown how many final parcels will be acquired, or when the acquisitions will be completed. The work completed under this proposal is dependent on the acres, types, and condition of lands acquired by the partners. All work will be completed by June 30, 2011.

III. PROGRESS SUMMARY AS OF: May 8, 2009 All Habitat Conservation Partnership progress summaries (twice annually) will be generated by the Partnership online reporting system. This system provides an accomplishment, expenditure and narrative update to LCCMR for each individual work plan

IV. OUTLINE OF PROJECT RESULTS:

Result 1: Wildlife Areas Management

Description: DNR, Section of Wildlife staff will administer and manage habitat restoration and development of infrastructure necessary for public access on lands acquired by partners for State Wildlife Management Areas (WMA).

Summary Budget Information for Result 1: Trust Fund Budget: \$ 50,000
Amount Spent: \$ 0
Balance: \$ 50,000

Deliverable	Completion Date	Budget
1. Initial site development on 200 acres of partner acquired lands	June 30, 2011	\$ 50,000

Result Completion Date: June 30, 2011.

Result Status as of May 8, 2009: All Habitat Conservation Partnership progress summaries will be generated by the Partnership online reporting system. This system provides an accomplishment, expenditure and narrative update to LCCMR for each individual work plan.

Final Report Summary: The final report will be generated by the Partnership online reporting system and will include the project abstract, and detailed accounting of expenditures and accomplishments for individual work plans.

V. TOTAL TRUST FUND PROJECT BUDGET:

Personnel: \$ 5,000
Contracts: \$ 15,000
Equipment/Tools/Supplies: \$ 8,000
Acquisition, including easements: \$ 0
Travel: \$ 2,000
Other: \$ 20,000

TOTAL TRUST FUND PROJECT BUDGET: \$ 50,000

Explanation of Capital Expenditures Greater Than \$3,500:
Infrastructure facility development and restoration of an estimated 200 acres.

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:

The mission of the Habitat Conservation Partnership is to restore, enhance and conserve habitat for the purpose of sustaining fish, wildlife and plant communities for all generations. Minnesota's Habitat Conservation Partnership (Partnership), formerly the Habitat Corridors Partnership, was formed in 2000 to provide a framework for statewide land conservation in partnership with the Environmental Trust Fund. The work of the Partnership has three main objectives: 1) **Partnership:** working together to accelerate existing programs and identify new opportunities that build upon our existing investments in habitat. 2) **Focus:** The Phase VI proposal will work in nine project areas encompassing 27,442 mi². All work proposed will occur within the identified project areas. These areas were identified as focus areas where resource conservation priorities and opportunity overlap 3) **Leverage:** the objective of this partnership is to bring more resources to bear on Minnesota's conservation need by identifying non-state contributions to accelerate habitat conservation by maximizing the results from limited funding through the Environmental Trust Fund.

This proposal is directly tied to the land acquisition efforts of the Partners, and ensures the timely restoration and development of newly acquired lands to benefit wildlife and provide public access.

C. Other Funds Proposed to be Spent during the Project Period: The Section of Wildlife spends approximately 8 million from Game and Fish and Heritage funds to do wildlife management and habitat improvement projects around the state.

D. Spending History: Past ETF Spending: Phase I /2004: \$611,043; Phase II/2005: \$43,350; Phase III/2006: \$103,278; Phase IV/2007: \$11,944;

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 May 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: Budget Detail for 2009 Projects - Summary and a Budget page for each partner (if applicable)											
Project Title: <i>Wildlife Areas Management (2g), DNR – Section of Wildlife</i>											
Project Manager Name: <i>Suzann Willhite</i>											
Trust Fund Appropriation: \$											
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											
2009 Trust Fund Budget	Result 1 Budget:	Amount Spent (May 8, 2009)	Balance (May 8, 2009)	Result 2 Budget:	Amount Spent (date)	Balance (date)	Result 3 Budget:	Amount Spent (date)	Balance (date)	TOTAL BUDGET	TOTAL BALANCE
	Wildlife Area Mgmt			Fill in your result title here.			Fill in your result title here.				
BUDGET ITEM											
PERSONNEL: wages and benefits <i>(List individual names, amount budgeted and %FTE; add rows as needed)</i>	5,000	0	5,000								
Contracts											
Professional/technical <i>(with whom?, for what?) Permits, SHPO reviews, well sealing, boundary surveys, etc.</i>	5,000	0	5,000								
Other contracts <i>(with whom?, for what?) list out: personnel, equipment, etc. With private and non-profit organizations for land mgmt, site clean-up, site prep, planting, seeding, habitat mgmt, etc</i>	10,000	0	10,000								
Other direct operating costs <i>(for what? – be specific) Habitat development and restoration.</i>	20,000	0	20,000								
Non-capital Equipment / Tools <i>(what equipment? Give a general description and cost) Fleet and Infrastructure such as signs, posts, gravel, etc.</i>	8,000	0	8,000								
Office equipment & computers - NOT ALLOWED unless unique to the project	0	0	0								
Capital equipment over \$3,500 <i>(list specific items)</i>	0	0	0								
Land acquisition	0	0	0								
Easement acquisition	0	0	0								
Professional Services for Acq.	0	0	0								
Printing	0	0	0								
Supplies <i>(list specific categories)</i>	0	0	0								
Travel expenses in Minnesota	2,000	0	2,000								
Travel outside Minnesota <i>(where?, for what purpose?)</i>	0	0	0								
Other <i>(Describe the activity and cost) be specific</i>	0	0	0								
COLUMN TOTAL	\$50,000	\$0	\$50,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

