

Trust Fund 2009 Work Program

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

I. PROJECT TITLE: *Critical Lands Protection Program, The Trust for Public Land*
Minnesota's Habitat Conservation Partnership Phase VI www.mnhabitatcorridors.org

Project Manager: Robert McGillivray
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Location: All Habitat Conservation Partnership work will be completed within the Project Area boundaries identified in the attached map.

Total Trust Fund Project Budget:	Trust Fund Appropriation	\$350,000
	Minus Amount Spent:	\$ 0
	Equal Balance:	\$350,000

Legal Citation: ML 2009, Chap. 143, Sec. 2, Subd. 4e4c

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:

The Trust for Public Land (TPL) will acquire approximately 50 acres, protecting and linking valuable, high quality habitat in Minnesota. TPL will use \$350,000 of Trust Fund dollars and \$350,000 in other public and private sources for this acquisition work. No TPL transaction or personnel costs are included in this request. Acquired land will be conveyed or donated to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources or other partner agency for long-term stewardship. Potential land protection projects will be identified by TPL and/or identified and referred to TPL as part of the overall HCP focus area outreach based on the priorities of the public agencies with which we work. Priority will be given to lands that compliment and conserve existing critical habitat to facilitate plant/animal population sustainability. TPL will leverage and capture funds that would not otherwise be spent in these areas and catalyze others' conservation efforts. TPL will continue to further the overall HCP partnership goals as demonstrated by contributions here-to-date in outreach, government and public relations, collaboration, planning, communications, coordination and executive committee participation.

III. PROGRESS SUMMARY: 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: Acquisition

Description: TPL may work in any one of the designated HCP project areas. Currently projects are underway in Cass, Crow Wing, Hubbard, Kandiyohi, Le Sueur, Olmsted, Otter Tail, Rice, and Wabasha Counties involving shoreline, wetlands, grasslands and woodlands. TPL will focus on habitat linkage projects that have the following characteristics: large, difficult and/or complex; multiple owners and multiple funding sources; proximity to regional growth centers; and/or, high risk of development. Priority will be given to lands with high quality natural resources, especially shoreland and other lands that provide natural buffers to water resources.

The Statewide Conservation and Preservation Plan will be used to help identify such lands. Final acreage protection will ultimately be affected by landowner willingness to sell key parcels. Because TPL is focusing on lands buffering water resources, the per acre cost is higher than that of non-riparian land.

See attached project list.

Summary Budget Information for Result 1: Trust Fund Budget: **\$350,000**
 Amount Spent: **\$ 0**
 Balance: **\$350,000**

Deliverable	Completion Date	Budget
1. Acquire approximately 50 acres of habitat in designated project areas. See attached potential project list.	June 30, 2011	\$350,000

Result Completion Date: June 30, 2011

Result Status as of: 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: NA
Contracts: NA
Equipment/Tools/Supplies: NA
Acquisition, including easements: \$ 350,000
Travel: NA
Other: NA

TOTAL TRUST FUND PROJECT BUDGET: \$350,000

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

VI. PROJECT STRATEGY:

A. Project Partners: We are part of the Habitat Conservation Partnership Phase VI proposal. Please see main proposal for complete partner list. The Trust for Public Land will transfer land to the DNR or another appropriate public or nonprofit entity for long term stewardship.

B. Project Impact and Long-term Strategy: TPL believes that the success of conservation in Minnesota will depend on effective partnerships amongst nonprofit organizations and with public agencies. Through these public/private partnerships, greater conservation can be achieved with each partner bringing their own particular strengths to bear on the critical issues of protection, restoration, and long term stewardship and management. We believe that working within the Habitat Conservation Partnership allows us to better conserve, restore, enhance and manage habitat for the purpose of sustaining fish, wildlife and native plant communities for all generations. We seek to do this with an emphasis on high quality natural resource lands buffering water resources that will provide outstanding access to nature for the public.

C. Other Funds Proposed to be Spent during the Project Period: The \$350,000 in other funds may come from a variety of sources including federal (LWCF, forest legacy, ACUB, NAWCA, transportation), local (dedication, bonds or other), and private dollars (donations including land value donation).

D. Spending History: ENTF Spending: 2001: \$900,000; 2003: \$328,030; 2005: \$425,000; 2007: \$480,000. **Other Funds Spending:** 2001: \$371,000; 2003: \$202,000; 2005: \$677,270; 2007: \$0 "Other Funds," (but \$355,000 in other state funds, \$190,000 in partner ENTF funds and \$175,000 in RIM leveraged land value donations).

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, 2009, June 1, 2010 and December 1, 2010. A final work program report and associated products will be submitted between June 30 and August 1, 2011 as requested by the LCCMR. All reports will be generated using the HCP online reporting system.

IX. RESEARCH PROJECTS: NA

Potential Project List*
Habitat Conservation Partnership Phase 6
May 8, 2009

TPL's Critical Lands Protection Program

Project Name	Type of work	Estimated Acres	County	Project Area	Notes
1. Reid Woods	Acquisition	650	Kandyiohi	3, 7, 8	Approximately 650 acres of wetlands, prairie and forest on the shores of a chain of shallow lakes in Kandyiohi County containing many SNA quality features.
2. Haverhill	Acquisition	215	Olmsted	11	Approximately 215 acres of prairie in Olmsted County next to an existing WMA.
3. Root River II	Acquisition	35	Olmsted	11	Approximately 35 acres of bluff land along the Root River in Olmsted County connecting approximately 300 acres of public land.
4. Dead Lake WMA II	Acquisition	200	Otter Tail	3, 7, 8	A 200 acre peninsula with 3.6 miles of shoreline on Dead Lake in Otter Tail County next to an existing WMA on a shallow bay providing habitat for bald eagles and other species.
5. Plantagenet Lake	Acquisition	100	Hubbard	2	Approximately 100 acres on a deep lake in Hubbard County containing wetlands and a designated trout stream connecting existing public land to the lake.
6. McCarthy Lake	Acquisition	500	Wabasha	11	Approximately 500 acres next to an existing WMA and SNA in Wabasha County.
7. Cannon River	Acquisition	1,000	Rice, LeSueur	10	Approximately 1000 acres on the headwaters of the Cannon River in Rice and Le Sueur Counties with MCBS mapped areas.
8. Leech Lake	Acquisition	50	Cass	2	Approximately 50 acres on Leech Lake in Cass County containing significant forested shoreline habitat for fish and wildlife.

*Please note that these are potential projects & just because a project is listed, does not mean it will be completed.

All projects are done on public lands or in cooperation with willing private landowners

Projects not on this list that meet the strategic objectives of the Partnership may be added at any time via submittal of a project list amendment

Attachment A: Budget Detail for 2009 Projects			
Project Title: TPL's Critical Lands Protection Program			
Minnesota's Habitat Conservation Partnership (VI)			
Project Manager Name: Robert McGillivray			
Trust Fund Appropriation: \$ 350,000			
2009 Trust Fund Budget	<u>Result 1 Budget:</u>	Amount Spent	Balance (date)
	<i>Acquisition</i>		
BUDGET ITEM			0
Land acquisition	350,000		350,000
COLUMN TOTAL	\$350,000	\$0	\$350,000

Habitat Conservation Partnership Proposed Phase VI Project Areas

-Restoring Minnesota's Fish and Wildlife Habitat Corridors-



