

Trust Fund 2009 Work Program

Date of Report: June 19, 2009
Date of Next Status Report: December 1, 2009
Date of Work Program Approval:
Project Completion Date: June 30, 2011

I. PROJECT TITLE: Fish and Wildlife Habitat Restoration (2.9)/ Fish and Wildlife Land Acquisition (3.5) Metropolitan Conservation Corridors- Phase V

Project Manager: Mike Halverson
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Location: Projects may occur anywhere within mapped corridor area including, but not limited to, Dakota County (Vermillion River), Scott County (Eagle Creek), and Washington County (Browns Creek) depending on priorities, risk of development, and potential partners.

Total Trust Fund Project Budget:	Trust Fund Appropriation:	\$	500,000
	Minus Amount Spent:	\$	<u>0</u>
	Equal Balance:	\$	500,000

Legal Citation: M.L. 2009, Chap. 143, Sec. 2, Subd. 4f2.9/3.5

Appropriation Language:

\$3,375,000 is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for the fifth appropriation for acceleration of agency programs and cooperative agreements. Of this appropriation, \$2,185,000 is for Department of Natural Resources agency programs and \$1,190,000 is for agreements as follows: \$380,000 with the Trust for Public Land; \$90,000 with Friends of the Mississippi River; \$155,000 with Great River Greening; \$250,000 with Minnesota Land Trust; \$225,000 with Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Trust, Inc.; and \$90,000 with Friends of the Minnesota Valley for the purposes of planning, restoring, and protecting important natural areas in the metropolitan area, as defined under Minnesota Statutes, section 473.121, subdivision 2, and portions of the surrounding counties, through grants, contracted services, technical assistance, conservation easements, and fee title acquisition. Land acquired with this appropriation must be sufficiently improved to

meet at least minimum management standards as determined by the commissioner of natural resources. Expenditures are limited to the identified project corridor areas as defined in the work program. 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: This project will 1) provide funding to restore stream habitat on approximately 0.3 mile of designated trout stream and 2) secure fee title or easements on approximately 60 acres of natural habitat and/or 1.0 miles of shoreline. Priority will be given to acquiring regionally significant fish and wildlife habitat that will build on the existing habitat and provide angler access and restoring regionally significant fish and wildlife habitat where land has previously been acquired in fee title or easement as Aquatic Management Areas (AMA).

III. PROGRESS SUMMARY AS OF *(date)*:

IV. OUTLINE OF PROJECT RESULTS:

Result 1: Fish and Wildlife Stream Habitat Restoration

Fish & Wildlife will focus on trout stream habitat restoration projects that have the following characteristics: stream channel has been altered due to ditching or some other manmade influence, affected area allows angler access through either fee title or a permanent easement, and affected area allows access for DNR personnel and constituent cooperators to do habitat improvement projects. Ultimately projects will be dependent on first obtaining fee title or permanent easement for angler access and habitat management.

Project money will provide funding to restore stream habitat on approximately 0.3 mile of designated trout stream, and leverage restoration of another 0.3 mile of designated trout stream through partner funds. Projects will take place on one or more of the following sites: Vermillion River, Dakota County, Eagle Creek, Scott County, and Browns Creek, Washington County, depending on priorities and potential partners. Collaborative partnerships will be promoted in order to restore key reaches of trout streams. Project money is expected to generate additional funded restoration, for a grand total of 0.6 miles of restored stream habitat.

Summary Budget Information for Result 1: Trust Fund Budget: \$150,000
Amount Spent: \$ 0
Balance: \$150,000

Deliverable	Completion Date	Budget
1. 0.6 miles of restored stream habitat	6/30/11	\$150,000

Completion Date: June 30, 2011

Result Status: February 1, 2010

Result Status: August 1, 2010

Result Status: February 1, 2011

Final Report Summary:

Result 2: Fish and Wildlife Land Acquisition

Fish & Wildlife will focus on habitat linkage projects that have the following characteristics: high risk of development, angler access, environmental protection of the shoreline and riparian zone, and access for DNR personnel and constituent cooperators to do habitat improvement projects. These acquisitions would be from willing landowners for long-term stewardship; final acreage protection as part of this project will ultimately depend on landowner willingness to sell key parcels. Parcels will be managed as Aquatic Management Areas (AMAs). Any shoreline easements acquired will provide environmental protection of the shoreline and riparian zone as well as public angler access

Project money will secure fee title or easements on approximately 40 acres (0.7 miles of shoreline). Priority will be given to acquiring regionally significant fish and wildlife habitat that will both build on the existing shoreline habitat and provide angler access. Project money is expected to generate additional non-state funded acres and shoreline miles, for a grand total of 60 acres and 1.0 miles of critical shoreline habitat. Collaborative partnerships will be promoted in order to acquire key lands. Projects will take place on one or more of the following sites: Vermillion River, Dakota County, Eagle Creek, Scott County, and Browns Creek, Washington County, depending on priorities, risk of development, and potential partners.

Collaborative partnerships will be promoted in order to acquire key lands. Easements are currently monitored by Area Fisheries Staff during yearly management activities such as stocking, creel survey, electrofishing, and habitat improvement. Anglers also keep close watch and report unusual activities. Our current monitoring activities will include a monitoring form, which will be kept at area offices.

Enforcement and stewardship requirements become part of the regular workload and are funded with Fisheries project dollars.

Summary Budget Information for Result 2: Trust Fund Budget: \$350,000
Amount Spent: \$ 0
Balance: \$350,000

Deliverable	Completion Date	Budget
1. 60 acres acquired & designated AMA	6/30/11	\$350,000

Completion Date: June 30, 2011

Result Status: February 1, 2010

Result Status: August 1, 2010

Result Status: February 1, 2011

Final Report Summary:

V. TOTAL TRUST FUND PROJECT BUDGET:

Contracts: \$150,000 (Stream Habitat Restoration: towards introducing new in-stream cover and to restore the original sinuosity of streams). Approximately \$5,000 will be spent on professional services such as wetland delineation. The remaining \$145,000 will be included in a contract to restore sinuosity to channeled trout streams. The contract will include labor, machinery, and materials necessary to complete the project.

Acquisition, including easements: \$350,000 (\$325,000 towards fee acquisition of about 60 acres, \$25,000 of related real estate transaction costs).

TOTAL TRUST FUND PROJECT BUDGET: \$500,000

VI. PROJECT STRATEGY:

A. Project Partners:

B. Project Impact and Long-term Strategy: Project Impacts will be increased stream health and to provide additional angling opportunities in a natural setting. Long-term strategy is to return sinuosity to the few remaining troutstreams in the metropolitan area whenever easements are obtained. Minnesota’s AMA Acquisition Plan 2008-2033 calls for shoreline acquisition to ensure shoreline habitat protection, water quality maintenance, and angler access for present and future generations. This plan envisions acquisition of 3,428 miles of lake and stream habitat during the next 25 years. This funding proposal would further that goal.

C. Other Funds Proposed to be Spent during the Project Period: Restoration efforts are expected to leverage approximately \$150,000 towards restoration of another 0.3 miles of stream. Acquisition projects are estimated to leverage

approximately \$150,000 (including donated lands/easements, local, other state (eg. bonding), and federal funding).

D. Spending History

Resoration:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Funding Source</u>	<u>Fisheries</u>
2007	ENRTF – Metro	\$ 65,000

Acquisition:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Funding Source</u>	<u>Fisheries</u>
2006	ENRTF - Bonding	\$2,000,000
2007	ENRTF – Outstate	\$ 500,000
2007	ENRTF – Metro	\$ 172,000
2008	ENRTF – Outstate	\$ 250,000
2008	ENRTF – Metro	\$ 400,000
2008	ENRTF – Bonding	\$ 1,000,000

VII. DISSEMINATION: Accomplishment Reports and press releases will be made available through DNR press releases.

VIII. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:

Periodic work program progress reports will be submitted not later than February 1, 2010, August 1, 2010, and February 1, 2011. 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: NA

Attachment A: Budget Detail for 2009 Projects - Summary and a Budget page for each partner								
Project Title: Fish and Wildlife Habitat Restoration (2.9) and Acquisition (3.5)								
Metropolitan Conservation Corridors (V)								
Project Manager Name: Mike Halverson								
Trust Fund Appropriation: \$ 500,000								
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								
2008 Trust Fund Budget	Result 1 Budget:	Amount Spent (date)	Balance 5/14/09	Result 2 Budget	Amount Spent (date)	Balance (date)	TOTAL BUDGET	TOTAL BALANCE
	Stream Habitat Restoration			Land Acquisition				
BUDGET ITEM			0				0	0
PERSONNEL: wages and benefits			0				0	0
Contracts			0				0	0
Professional/technical	5,000		5,000				5,000	5,000
Other contracts (for construction services)	145,000		145,000				145,000	145,000
Other direct operating costs			0				0	0
Equipment / Tools			0				0	0
Office equipment & computers			0				0	0
Other Capital equipment			0				0	0
Land acquisition		0	0	325,000		325,000	325,000	325,000
Land rights acquisition			0				0	0
Professional Services for Acq.			0	25,000		25,000	25,000	25,000
Printing			0				0	0
Other Supplies			0				0	0
Travel expenses in Minnesota			0				0	0
Travel outside Minnesota			0				0	0
Other land improvement			0				0	0
Other			0				0	0
COLUMN TOTAL	\$150,000	\$0	\$150,000	\$350,000		\$350,000	500,000	500,000