

Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) 2010 Work Program

Date of Report: November 19, 2009
Date of Next Progress Report: April 15, 2011
Date of Work Program Approval:
Project Completion Date: June 30, 2012

I. PROJECT TITLE: **Connecting Youth with Nature**

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Location: Statewide. Workshop sites to be provided on map as workshops are planned.

Total ENRTF Project Budget:	ENRTF Appropriation	\$ 160,000
	Minus Amount Spent:	\$ 0
	Equal Balance:	\$ 160,000

Legal Citation: ML 2010, Chap.[____], Sec.[____], Subd._____.

Appropriation Language:

II. PROJECT SUMMARY AND RESULTS:

Digital Photography Bridge to Nature addresses the problem that young people are losing interest in nature, and that their involvement in outdoor recreation is declining. This project responds to the need for outdoor-based curricula identified by the Outdoor Education Working Group in January 2009. It will allow children to experience positive photography experiences in the outdoors by planning and presenting 80 digital photography training workshops for 1000 elementary and middle school teachers, park naturalists, and nature center naturalists.

Two coordinators would train and supervise eight workshop facilitators who have a background in nature, digital nature photography, and teaching. These coordinators and facilitators would plan and carry out teacher workshops on how to use digital photography in the outdoors to enhance traditional classroom curricula. Teachers would receive continuing education units (CEUs) and be provided with curriculum guides and free loan of learning trunks with cameras and field guides.

Teachers would return to their classroom, state park, or nature center and carry out digital photo safaris with their students. These activities would meet state academic standards as they relate to science, art, language arts, and math. The photo safari sessions would involve the use of volunteers who would serve as mentors.

The goal of this project is to reach at least 1000 teachers and naturalists with nature photography outdoor workshops over a two-year period. It is estimated that they will introduce

30,000 students to the opportunities for discovering Minnesota's outdoors through digital photography.

III. PROGRESS SUMMARY AS OF APRIL 15, 2011:

IV. OUTLINE OF PROJECT RESULTS:

RESULT 1: 80 Digital Photography Bridge to Nature teacher workshops

Description: Eighty Digital Photography Bridge to Nature workshops will be held for 1000 teachers and naturalists during the biennium. A total of 30 photography learning trunks will be created that include teacher curriculum materials, wildlife field guides, and 12 digital cameras each. The cameras will be obtained from other funding sources. Teachers will subsequently be able to check out these photography learning trunks for use by students for photo safaris in natural areas, wildlife lands, and parks near their schools. The resulting photos will be used to enhance curriculum studies in math, science, geography, arts, and language arts.

Summary Budget Information for Result 1:	ENRTF Budget:	\$ 160,000
	Amount Spent:	\$ 0
	Balance:	\$ 160,000

Deliverable	Completion Date	Budget
1. Develop workshop curriculum, create learning trunks, and carry out 35 Digital Bridge workshops.	June 30, 2011	\$ 72,000
2. Carry out 45 Digital Bridge workshops	June 30, 2012	\$ 72,000
3. Supplies: Create 30 photo trunks, including field guides & teacher workshop supplies (cameras are not included in supply expenses)	June 30, 2011	\$ 16,000

Result Completion Date: June 30, 2012

Result Status as of April 15, 2011:

Result Status as of September 15, 2011:

Result Status as of April 15, 2012:

Result Status as of September 15: 2012:

Final Report Summary:

V. TOTAL ENRTF PROJECT BUDGET:

Personnel: 0

Contracts: \$ 144,000

Contract with two persons to administer 80 statewide photo workshops for teachers and with eight persons to provide services as workshop facilitators.

Supplies: \$ 16,000

Purchase workshop supplies for teachers including portable learning trunks, curriculum materials, and field guides to place in the photography learning trunks.

Acquisition: 0
Travel: 0
Additional Items: 0

TOTAL ENRTF PROJECT BUDGET: \$ 160,000

Explanation of Capital Expenditures Greater Than \$3,500: None

VI. PROJECT STRATEGY:

A. Project Partners: DNR Divisions of Ecological Resources, State Parks and Trails, Fisheries, and Enforcement; Master Naturalists' Program, MN Pollution Control Agency; Watchable Wildlife Inc.; MN Nature Photography Club; MN Extension Service; Minnesota 4-H, White Earth Indian Band; Minnesota National Wildlife Refuges; and Lee and Rose Warner Nature Center.

B. Project Impact and Long-term Strategy: It is the goal of this project to reach 1000 teachers and naturalists in the first two years. These teachers should consequently reach 30,000 students with the opportunity to explore Minnesota's outdoors with a camera and use their nature photos to enhance their learning experiences. It is the long term intention to carry this project forward for at least the next six years to institutionalize this strategy into Minnesota's school curricula.

C. Other Funds Proposed to be Spent during the Project Period:

Camera donations:	\$ 45,000
DNR staff time:	75,000
In-kind Mentor time:	175,000
In-kind Watchable Wildlife time:	12,000
<u>DNR workshop supplies:</u>	<u>8,000</u>
Total:	\$ 315,000

D. Spending History: No funds have been allocated for this project in the past.

VII. DISSEMINATION:

VIII. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS: Periodic work program progress reports will be submitted not later than April 15, 2011, September 15, 2011, and April 15, 2012. A final work program report and associated products will be submitted by September 15, 2012 as requested by the LCCMR.

IX. RESEARCH PROJECTS: N/A

Attachment A: Budget Detail for 2010 Projects					
Project Title: Connecting Youth with Nature					
Project Manager Name: Carrol L. Henderson					
Trust Fund Appropriation: \$160,000					
2010 Trust Fund Budget	<u>Result 1 Budget:</u>	Amount Spent	Balance (date)	TOTAL BUDGET	TOTAL BALANCE
	80 teacher workshops				
BUDGET ITEM					
PERSONNEL: wages and benefits	0	0	0	0	0
Contracts					
Professional/technical. Contracts for two workshop coordinators-greater MN and metro area. \$20,000/year/person for 2 years	80,000	0	80,000	80,000	80,000
Other contracts: Contracts for 8 workshop facilitators @ \$4,000/year for 2 years.	64,000	0	64,000	64,000	64,000
Supplies for workshops/learning trunks:reference materials, CDs, trunks	16,000	0	16,000	16,000	16,000
COLUMN TOTAL	\$160,000	\$0	\$160,000	\$160,000	\$160,000