



**Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)  
M.L. 2011 Work Plan**

**Date of Status Update:**

**Date of Next Status Update:** 2/1/2012

**Date of Work Plan Approval:** 6/23/2011

**Project Completion Date:** 6/30/2014

**Is this an amendment request?** \_\_\_\_\_

**Project Title: MeCC VI - Coord., Mapping & Outreach & Mapping & Database Work (1.1/1.2)**

**Project Manager:** Sarah Strommen

**Affiliation:** Minnesota Land Trust

**Address:** 2356 University Ave W, Ste 240

**City:** St Paul **State:** MN **Zipcode:** 55114

**Telephone Number:** (651) 647-9590

**Email Address:** sstrommen@mnland.org

**Web Address:** http://www.mnland.org

**Location:**

**Counties Impacted:** Anoka, Carver, Chisago, Dakota, Goodhue, Hennepin, Isanti, Le Sueur, Nicollet, Ramsey, Rice, Scott, Sherburne, Sibley, Washington, Wright

**Ecological Section Impacted:** Minnesota and Northeast Iowa Morainal (222M)

<b>Total ENRTF Project Budget:</b>	<b>ENRTF Appropriation \$:</b>	40,000
	<b>Amount Spent \$:</b>	0
	<b>Balance \$:</b>	40,000

**Legal Citation:** M.L. 2011, First Special Session, Chp. 2, Art.3, Sec. 2, Subd. 04i1.1/1.2

**Appropriation Language:**

\$1,737,000 the first year and \$1,738,000 the second year are from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for the acceleration of agency programs and cooperative agreements. Of this appropriation, \$150,000 the first year and \$150,000 the second year are to the commissioner of natural resources for agency programs and \$3,175,000 is for the agreements as follows: \$100,000 the first year and \$100,000 the second year with Friends of the Mississippi River; \$517,000 the first year and \$518,000 the second year with Dakota County; \$200,000 the first year and \$200,000 the second year with Great River Greening; \$220,000 the first year and \$220,000 the second year with Minnesota Land Trust; \$300,000 the first year and \$300,000 the second year with Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Trust, Inc.; and \$250,000 the first year and \$250,000 the second year with The Trust for Public Land for planning, restoring, and protecting priority natural areas in the metropolitan area, as defined under Minnesota Statutes, section 473.121, subdivision 2, and portions of the surrounding counties, through 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 habitable 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. An entity that acquires a conservation easement with appropriations from the trust fund must have a long-term stewardship plan for the easement and a fund established for monitoring and enforcing the agreement. Money appropriated from the trust fund for easement acquisition may be used to establish a monitoring, management, and enforcement fund as approved in the work program. An annual financial report is required for any monitoring, management, and enforcement fund established, including expenditures from the fund. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2014, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

**I. PROJECT TITLE:** MeCC VI – 1.1 Coordination, Mapping and Outreach and  
1.2 Mapping and Database Work

**II. PROJECT SUMMARY:**

The Metro Conservation Corridors (MeCC) Partnership accelerates protection and restoration of remaining high-quality natural lands in the greater Twin Cities metropolitan area by strategically coordinating and focusing conservation efforts within a connected network of critical lands. This corridor network stretches from the area’s urban core to its rural perimeter, including portions of 16 counties.

Our projects and activities take place within science-based corridors and are guided by the Minnesota Statewide Conservation and Preservation Plan, Minnesota’s Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy, as well as numerous local and resource-specific plans. This project addresses several recommendations of the Statewide Conservation and Preservation Plan:

- Protect priority land habitats
- Protect critical shorelands of streams and lakes
- Restore land, wetlands, and wetland-associated watersheds
- Improve connectivity and access to outdoor recreation

Activity 1 of this project provides coordination and leadership for the partnership by Minnesota Land Trust staff. Activity 2 of the project brings improved prioritization through enhanced data base development and mapping of the corridors by DNR staff.

**III. PROJECT STATUS UPDATES:**

**Project Status as of February 1, 2012:**

**Project Status as of August 1, 2012:**

**Project Status as of February 1, 2013:**

**IV. PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES:**

**ACTIVITY 1:** Partnership Coordination, Mapping and Outreach

**Description:**

The Minnesota Land Trust will provide coordination and leadership by convening and facilitating meetings, providing support to partners, compiling overall reports and accomplishments, and guiding strategic outreach and implementation efforts.

**Summary Budget Information for Activity 1:**

**ENRTF Budget: \$ 20,000**  
**Amount Spent: \$ 0**  
**Balance: \$ 20,000**

**Activity Completion Date:**

<b>Outcome</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>	<b>Budget</b>
1. Convene and facilitate quarterly meetings of the partnership to share information and coordinate work	June 30, 2013	\$ 7,500
2. Compile and submit overall partnership reports twice yearly	June 30, 2013	\$ 7,500
3. Conduct outreach to local communities and landowners with number of activities and target audiences	June 30, 2013	\$ 5,000

**Activity Status as of February 1, 2012:**

**Activity Status as of August 1, 2012:**

**Activity Status as of February 1, 2013:**

**Final Report Summary:**

**ACTIVITY 2: Partnership Mapping and Database Management**

**Description:**

DNR Management Information Services (MIS) staff will provide management of and updates to the GIS-based database developed to track MeCC projects as well as mapping needs of the partnership.

**Summary Budget Information for Activity 2:**

**ENRTF Budget: \$ 20,000**  
**Amount Spent: \$ 0**  
**Balance: \$ 20,000**

**Activity Completion Date:**

<b>Outcome</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>	<b>Budget</b>
1. Maintain current records of accomplishments in the database	June 30, 2013	\$ 20,000

**Activity Status as of February 1, 2012:**

**Activity Status as of August 1, 2012:**

**Activity Status as of February 1, 2013:**

**Final Report Summary:**

**V. DISSEMINATION:**

**Description:**

The Metro Conservation Corridors partnership will periodically distribute information about the program and accomplishments through the various communication methods of our partner organizations and as we conduct coordinated outreach efforts. As projects are completed, the partners involved will publicize accomplishments through press releases and organization newsletters and websites. The MeCC database includes a public web-based map that displays accomplishments. Additionally, the partnership plans to update the MeCC section on the DNR's website.

**Status as of February 1, 2012:**

**Status as of August 1, 2012:**

**Status as of February 1, 2013:**

**Final Report Summary:**

**VI. PROJECT BUDGET SUMMARY:**

**A. ENRTF Budget:**

<b>Budget Category</b>	<b>\$ Amount</b>	<b>Explanation</b>
Personnel: Minnesota Land	\$ 20,000	MLT staff expenses including salaries and benefits

Trust		(FICA, FUTA, SUI, worker's comp health insurance, 401 (k), etc.) to manage and coordinate the program for two years.
Personnel: DNR	\$ 20,000	DNR staff to manage mapping and database for two years.
<b>TOTAL ENRTF BUDGET:</b>	<b>\$ 40,000</b>	

**Explanation of Use of Classified Staff:** Work by DNR on this grant is done by positions that are either partially or wholly funded through a Professional Services arrangement. This is the standard way that the IT section operates and provides programming and database services to DNR divisions, bureaus and external partners.

**Explanation of Capital Expenditures Greater Than \$3,500:** N/A

**Number of Full-time Equivalent (FTE) funded with this ENRTF appropriation:** 0.2 FTE for 2 years

**B. Other Funds:** N/A

**VII. PROJECT STRATEGY:**

**A. Project Partners:**

The Land Trust and DNR are the only entities receiving funds for coordination and mapping, however, work is coordinated with other Metro Conservation Corridors partners (please see the overall work plan for list of project partners).

**B. Project Impact and Long-term Strategy:**

This project advances the long-term strategy of the Metro Conservation Corridors, initiated in partnership with the LCCMR in 2003 to accelerate the protection and restoration of critical habitat in the greater Twin Cities metropolitan area. Progress towards this long-term strategy is ongoing, and MeCC will continue its work as long as urbanization and fragmentation continue to threaten critical habitat.

**C. Spending History:**

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>M.L. 2005 or FY 2006-07</b>	<b>M.L. 2007 or FY 2008</b>	<b>M.L. 2008 or FY 2009</b>	<b>M.L. 2009 or FY 2010</b>	<b>M.L. 2010 or FY 2011</b>
ENRTF – MeCC		\$24,800	\$50,000	\$100,000	\$0

**VIII. ACQUISITION/RESTORATION LIST:** N/A

**IX. MAP(S):** N/A

**X. RESEARCH ADDENDUM:** N/A

**XI. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:**

Periodic work plan status update reports will be submitted no later than February 1, 2012, August 1, 2012, and February 1, 2013. A final report and associated products will be submitted by August 1, 2013 as requested by the LCCMR.

Attachment A: Budget Detail for M.L. 2011 (FY 2012-13) Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund Projects								
<b>Project Title:</b> MeCC VI-3.2 – Protect Significant Habitat by Acquiring Conservation Easements								
<b>Legal Citation:</b> M.L. 2011, Chapter _____, Article _____, Section _____, Subdivision _____								
<b>Project Manager:</b> Sarah Strommen and Bart Richardson								
<b>M.L. 2011 (FY 2012-13) ENRTF Appropriation:</b> \$40,000								
<b>Project Length and Completion Date:</b> June 30, 2013								
<b>Date of Update:</b>								
ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND BUDGET	Activity 1 Budget	Amount Spent	Balance	Activity 2 Budget	Amount Spent	Balance	TOTAL BUDGET	TOTAL BALANCE
BUDGET ITEM	<i>Partnership Coordination, Mapping and Outreach</i>			<i>Partnership Mapping and Database Management</i>				
<b>Personnel (Wages and Benefits)</b> Minnesota Land Trust conservation and support staff expenses including salaries and benefits (FICA, FUTA, SUI, worker's comp health insurance, 401 (k), etc.) for approximately 0.2 FTE for 2 years.	\$20,000		\$20,000				\$20,000	\$20,000
<b>Personnel (Wages and Benefits)</b> DNR conservation and support staff expenses including salaries and benefits (FICA, FUTA, SUI, worker's comp health insurance, 401 (k), etc.) for approximately 0.2 FTE for 2 years.				\$20,000		\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000
<b>COLUMN TOTAL</b>	<b>\$20,000</b>		\$20,000	\$20,000		\$20,000	<b>\$40,000</b>	\$40,000