



**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 - Aquatic Management Area Acquisition (3.5)

Project Manager: Rick Walsh

Affiliation: MN DNR

Address: 500 Lafayette Rd, Box 20

City: St Paul **State:** MN **Zipcode:** 55155

Telephone Number: (651) 259-5233

Email Address: rick.walsh@state.mn.us

Web Address:

Location:

Counties Impacted: Dakota

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

Total ENRTF Project Budget:	ENRTF Appropriation \$:	300,000
	Amount Spent \$:	0
	Balance \$:	300,000

Legal Citation: M.L. 2011, First Special Session, Chp. 2, Art.3, Sec. 2, Subd. 04i3.5

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 6 – 3.5 – DNR Aquatic Management Area Acquisition

II. PROJECT SUMMARY: This project 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 acquired in fee title and will be managed as Aquatic Management Areas (AMAs).

This request is driven by a recent report submitted to the DNR entitled “Minnesota’s Aquatic Management Area Acquisition Plan 2008-2033”. The planning committee has identified a need to acquire an additional 1,100 miles of AMA lake and stream critical habitat over the next 25 years to provide sustainable populations of fish and other aquatic species and greater opportunities for angling recreation for future generations. The report recommends accomplishing this goal by the year 2032.

III. PROJECT STATUS UPDATES:

Project Status as of Feb 1, 2012

Project Status as of Aug 1, 2012

Project Status as of Feb 1, 2013

Project Status as of Aug 1, 2012

IV. PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES:

ACTIVITY 1: Land Acquisition

Description: This project will secure fee title on approximately 35 acres, with 0.6 miles of shoreline, and leverage about 15 acres of acquisition through partner funds. 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. This request includes \$20,000 for professional services to be used for appraisals, legal fees, surveys, environmental assessments, closings, etc. Approximately \$5,000 will be used to insure that all parcels meet minimum maintenance standards, including but not limited to signage and parking.

Projects will occur anywhere on the Vermillion River in Dakota County, depending on priorities, risk of development, and potential partners. Collaborative partnerships will be promoted in order to acquire key lands. Project money is expected to generate additional non-state funded acres and shoreline miles, for a grand total of 50 acres and 0.8 miles of critical shoreline habitat

Summary Budget Information for Activity 1:

ENRTF Budget: \$ 300,000
Amount Spent: \$ 0
Balance: \$ 300,000

Activity Completion Date:

Outcome	Completion Date	Budget
1. This project will have secured fee title on approximately 35 acres, with 0.6 miles of shoreline, and have leveraged about 15 acres of acquisition through partner funds.	June 30,2013	\$ 300,000

Activity Status as of Feb 1, 2012

Activity Status as of Aug 1, 2012

Activity Status as of Feb 1, 2013

Activity Status as of Aug 1, 2012

Final Report Summary:

V. DISSEMINATION:

Description: Accomplishment will be reported through DNR press releases, and acquisitions will be added to Statewide PRIM maps. Acquisition parcels will also be found on DNR.s website, with increased information as the site is improved.

Status as of Feb 1, 2012

Status as of Aug 1, 2012

Status as of Feb 1, 2013

Status as of Aug 1, 2012

Final Report Summary:

VI. PROJECT BUDGET SUMMARY:

A. ENRTF Budget:

Budget Category	\$ Amount	Explanation
Fee Title Acquisition:	\$ 275,000	Fee title Acquisition on Vermillion River Watershed
Professional Services for Acq:	\$ 20,000	Lands & Minerals, AGs Office, Survey, etc
Initial Development	\$ 5,000	Minimum Maintenance Standards
TOTAL ENRTF BUDGET:	\$ 300,000	

Explanation of Use of Classified Staff: NA

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

Number of Full-time Equivalent (FTE) funded with this ENRTF appropriation: NA

B. Other Funds:

Source of Funds	\$ Amount Proposed	\$ Amount Spent	Use of Other Funds
Non-state			
	\$ 50,000	\$	Fee Title Acquisition
State			
	\$ 80,000	\$	Fee Title Acquisition
TOTAL OTHER FUNDS:	\$ 130,000	\$	

VII. PROJECT STRATEGY:

A. Project Partners: Dakota County and local fundraising for non-state funding. Bonding or OHF for other potential State funding.

B. Project Impact and Long-term Strategy: The Vermillion River is one of the last remaining trout streams in the Seven County core Metropolitan Area and provides quality fishing for brown trout, where anglers are able to access the river. The Vermillion River AMA/WMA complex provides a large hunting/angling area within a 30 minute drive of downtown St. Paul. The complex provides recreation on nearly 4,000 acres, with 3.75 miles of troutstream, acquired in part with ENRTF dollars. The plan is to build on this complex as long as there is still quality habitat available, and provide a legacy that will forever be appreciated by future anglers, hunters, and other outdoor enthusiasts.

C. Spending History:

Funding Source	M.L. 2005 or FY 2006-07	M.L. 2007 or FY 2008	M.L. 2008 or FY 2009	M.L. 2009 or FY 2010	M.L. 2010 or FY 2011
ENRTF	570,000	672,000	650,000	600,000	100,000
Bonding	1,050,000		1,000,000		500,000
OHF				5,748,000	1,775,000

VIII. ACQUISITION LIST:

AMA Name	Property Owner	Feet of Shoreline	Acres
Vermillion River AMA	Kaman	3,900	52
Vermillion River AMA	Petrofsky	3,400	32
S Br. Vermillion River AMA	Kasel	6,500	62
Vermillion River AMA	Additional Parcels as Available		

IX. MAP(S): See attached

X. RESEARCH ADDENDUM: NA

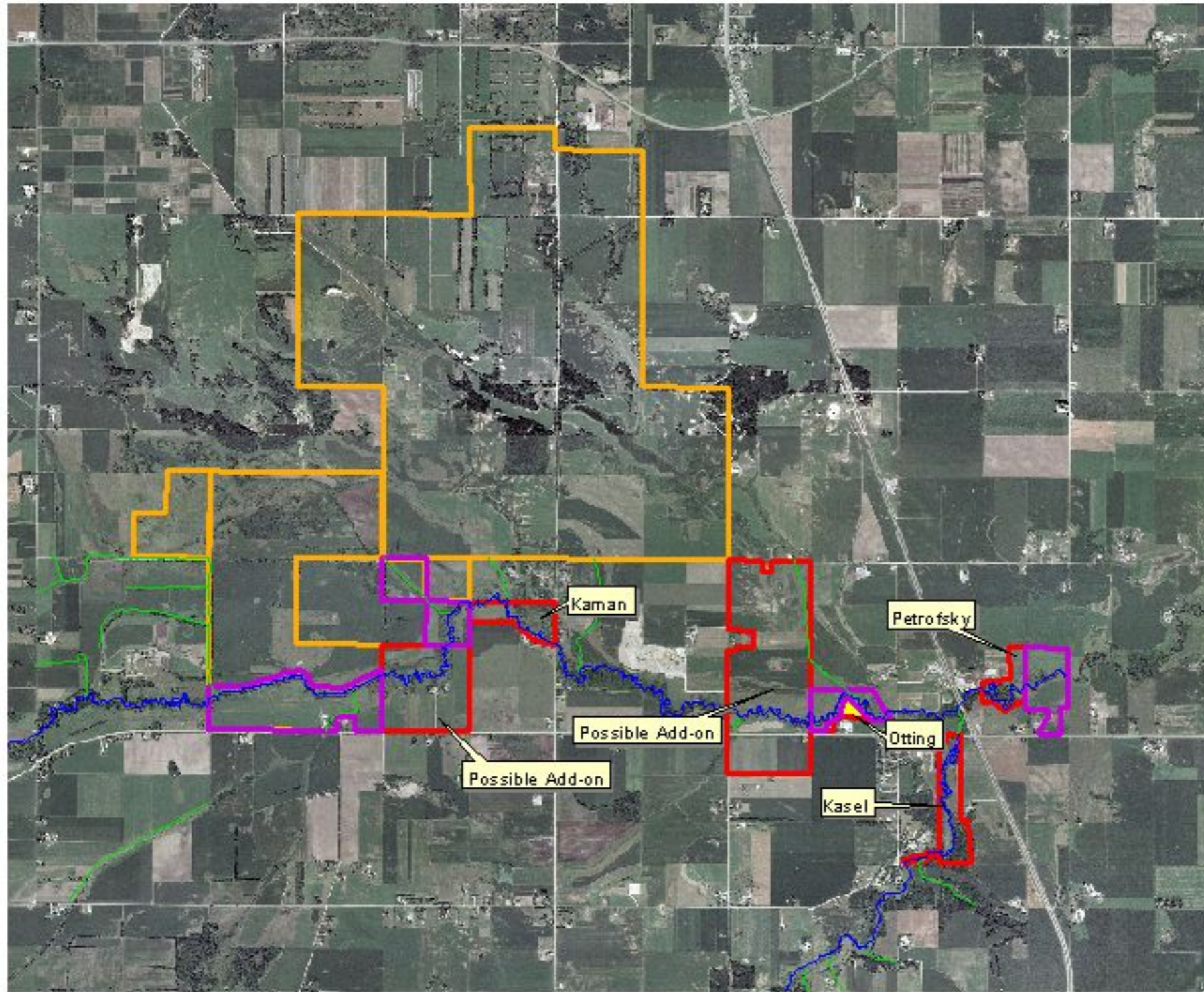
XI. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:

Periodic work plan status update reports will be submitted not later than Feb 1, 2012, Aug 1, 2012, and Feb 1, 2013. A final report and associated products will be submitted between **June 30 and 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

Project Title: MeCC 6 – 3.5 – DNR Aquatic Management Area Acquisition					
Legal Citation: Pending					
Project Manager: Michael Halverson					
M.L. 2011 (FY 2012-13) ENRTF Appropriation: \$ 300,000					
Project Length and Completion Date: June 30, 2013					
Date of Update: May 12, 2011					
ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND BUDGET	Activity 1 Budget	Amount Spent	Balance	TOTAL BUDGET	TOTAL BALANCE
BUDGET ITEM	<i>Fill in your activity title here.</i>				
Fee Title Acquisition	275,000	0	275,000	275,000	275,000
Professional Services for Acquisition	20,000	0	20,000	20,000	20,000
Initial Development	5,000	0	5,000	5,000	5,000
COLUMN TOTAL	\$300,000	\$0	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$300,000

Vermillion River AMA/WMA Complex Dakota County



- Trout Stream Designation**
- Designated Trout Stream
 - Tributary to Trout Stream
- Existing AMA**
- Existing WMA**
- AMA - Proposed**

Kaman

Petrofsky

Possible Add-on

Otting

Possible Add-on

Kasel

