



# Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) M.L. 2014 Work Plan

**Date of Report:** January 29, 2014  
**Date of Next Status Update Report:** February 1, 2015  
**Date of Work Plan Approval:**  
**Project Completion Date:** June 30, 2016  
**Does this submission include an amendment request?** No

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**PROJECT TITLE: Wolf Management Education**

**Project Manager:** Darcy Berus  
**Organization:** International Wolf Center  
**Mailing Address:** 3410 Winnetka Ave. N., Ste. 101  
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**Email Address:** dberus@wolf.org  
**Web Address:** www.wolf.org

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**Location:** Twin Cities metro: Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott, Sherburne, Washington, Wright counties

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<b>Total ENRTF Project Budget:</b>	<b>ENRTF Appropriation:</b>	<b>\$120,000</b>
	<b>Amount Spent:</b>	<b>\$0</b>
	<b>Balance:</b>	<b>\$120,000</b>

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**Legal Citation:** M.L. 2014, Chp. 226, Sec. 2, Subd. 09i

**Appropriation Language:**

\$120,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the International Wolf Center for outreach to metro area kindergarten through grade 12 classrooms and nature centers to help children understand wolf management issues.

## **I. PROJECT TITLE: Wolf Management Education**

### **II. PROJECT STATEMENT:**

The purpose of this project is to bring a Twin Cities-based International Wolf Center outreach specialist into K-12 classrooms and nature centers in the nine-county Twin Cities metro area (Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott, Sherburne, Washington, and Wright counties) to help children understand the complicated issues surrounding the return of wolves to state management.

This project will provide engaging, unbiased, in-depth programs about wolves and the loss of wilderness habitat for children in Minnesota, the next generation of stewards of our wildlife and environment. Wolf Management Education programs will be provided in 90-minute and three-hour formats. Programs lasting 90 minutes will educate students about the social and political challenges wolves face in today's society, as well as basic information regarding wolf biology, wolf behavior, wolf habitat, physical and social adaptations, predatory/prey relationships, pack dynamics, and loss of habitat in Minnesota. Programs lasting three hours will include these topics and provide an expanded opportunity for students to role-play in a game in which they practice critical thinking to make wolf-management decisions.

This project will be valuable because the hunting of wolves is a hot topic in Minnesota. Public opinion is sharply divided following the recent removal of wolves from the endangered species list and the return of wolves to state management for the first time in almost 40 years. The transition from being a federally protected species to one that is hunted and trapped has caused heated and polarized public debate. Chasms divide people on all sides of the issue around wolf management—rural, urban and suburban communities; hunters and non-hunters, trappers and non-trappers, residents and non-residents of areas with wolf populations; and more.

Why are wolves important in a balanced ecosystem? How will the loss of wilderness areas in Minnesota affect wolves and other animal populations? What role can children play in protecting the environment for future generations? These topics and more will be core to the most aggressive effort we've ever made to educate our next generation of citizens about the challenges wildlife face in our quickly changing world. Educating the public—especially young people, the next generation of stewards of our natural resources—about these apex predators is more critical now than ever.

Using the current conflicts around wolves as a catalyst to discuss larger issues about wilderness and the environment, the goals of this project are to: 1) Teach children about wolves and their important role in the ecosystem and in Minnesota, in particular; 2) Foster an ethic of stewardship of wilderness in young people; 3) Empower children to develop critical thinking skills and explore perspectives of various stakeholders; 4) Expand the conversation with our next generation of citizens around larger biological and environmental topics; and 5) Engage children in discussions about the issues faced by human populations in wolf areas and current controversial issues around wolf management.

Participants will be surveyed pre- and post-program using Turning Point survey technology that will collect data on participant attitudes on and knowledge of wolves and wolf management. These real-time surveys will provide context for a facilitated discussion about these important issues affecting Minnesota wilderness, and public opinions that affect the survival of wolves and their habitats. The results of these surveys will be shared with participants, in *International Wolf* magazine, and will be available on the Center's web site.

### **III. PROJECT STATUS UPDATES:**

**Project Status as of February 1, 2015:**

**Project Status as of August 1, 2015:**

**Project Status as of February 1, 2016:**

**Overall Project Outcomes and Results:**

**IV. PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES:**

**ACTIVITY 1:** On site classroom presentations in Twin Cities schools

**Description:** An outreach specialist will deliver on site programs that address the goals of this project to a targeted number of 460 classrooms in the Twin Cities metro area. Programs will serve urban and suburban, underserved and minority students – many of whom have little or no access to or experience with Minnesota’s vast natural resources, wildlife or wilderness – to teach them about the social and political conflicts around the Minnesota wolf hunting controversies and the loss of wildlife habitats throughout the State of Minnesota.

Wolf Management Education programs will be provided in 90-minute and three-hour formats. Programs lasting 90 minutes will educate students about the social and political challenges wolves face in today’s society, as well as basic information regarding wolf biology, wolf behavior, wolf habitat, physical and social adaptations, predatory/prey relationships, pack dynamics, and loss of habitat in Minnesota. Programs lasting three hours will include these topics and provide an expanded opportunity for students to role-play in a game in which they practice critical thinking to make wolf-management decisions.

More specifically, the goals of this project are to: 1) Teach children about wolves and their important role in the ecosystem and in Minnesota, in particular; 2) Foster an ethic of stewardship of wilderness in young people; 3) Empower children to develop critical thinking skills and explore perspectives of various stakeholders; 4) Expand the conversation with our next generation of citizens around larger biological and environmental topics; and 5) Engage children in discussions about the issues faced by human populations in wolf areas and current controversial issues around wolf management.

**Summary Budget Information for Activity 1:**

**ENRTF Budget: \$119,100**  
**Amount Spent: \$ 0**  
**Balance: \$119,100**

**Activity Completion Date: June 30, 2016**

<b>Outcome</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>	<b>Budget</b>
<i>1. Recruit, identify and hire a Twin Cities-based outreach specialist to deliver comprehensive Wolf Management Education programs in Twin Cities schools. With a strong background in environmental education, the outreach specialist will be responsible for educating children in the Twin Cities metro area schools about wolves and the environment through a comprehensive curriculum that encompasses hands-on learning to address the goals of the project as outlined above. Funds from ENTRF will cover the personnel expenses for the outreach specialist.</i>	August 2014	\$ 90,930
<i>2. Conduct programs in 460 classrooms throughout the Twin Cities metro area (estimated 16,100 students). Participating students will have an increased awareness and understanding of wolves, wolf biology, wolf behavior, pack dynamics, predator/prey relationships, habitat, the loss of habitat in Minnesota, and the important role this keystone predator plays in the ecosystem.</i>	June 2016	\$ 28,170

**Activity Status as of February 1, 2015:**

**Activity Status as of August 1, 2015:**

**Activity Status as of February 1, 2016:**

**Final Report Summary:**

**ACTIVITY 2:** Collect data on student attitudes regarding controversial wolf hunting issues and loss of Minnesota wildlife habitat and disseminate post-program survey results of participating students.

**Description:** Participating students will be surveyed pre- and post-program on their knowledge, perceptions, impressions, and understanding of the topics covered in the Wolf Management Education programs. Data on student attitudes will be measured using a Turning Point survey tool, a response technology that allows the Wolf Management Education outreach specialist to quantify and assess students’ knowledge, understanding and opinions before, during and after program delivery. This survey tool also actively engages students through technology, encouraging classroom participation. Data from students’ feedback is immediately gathered for real-time use in the classroom to gauge understanding during program delivery and for later use in program evaluation.

A comprehensive summary will be prepared of student attitudes regarding controversial wolf hunting issues and loss of Minnesota wildlife habitat and disseminate this information in *International Wolf* magazine (distributed nationally and internationally), on the IWC web site [www.wolf.org](http://www.wolf.org), the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, the 2017 Midwest Wolf Stewards Conference, the 2017-18 International Wolf Symposium, and Minnesota news media. This summary will help measure the success of the program in increasing awareness and understanding of wolves, wolf hunting issues and loss of Minnesota wildlife habitat and in reaching the project goals (stated above).

**Summary Budget Information for Activity 2:**

**ENRTF Budget: \$ 900**  
**Amount Spent: \$ 0**  
**Balance: \$ 900**

**Activity Completion Date: June 30, 2016**

<b>Outcome</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>	<b>Budget</b>
<b>1. For pre- and post-program evaluation, the Turning Point survey tool will be used to gather data on students’ attitudes and knowledge about wolves and wilderness that inform their opinions and understanding about wolf hunting issues and loss of Minnesota wildlife.</b>	June 2016	\$ 900

**Activity Status as of February 1, 2015:**

**Activity Status as of August 1, 2015:**

**Activity Status as of February 1, 2016:**

**Final Report Summary:**

**V. DISSEMINATION:**

**Description:** The International Wolf Center will share the results of the participant surveys in *International Wolf* magazine, with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, the 2017-18 International Wolf Symposium,

Minnesota news media, and on the Center’s web site ([www.wolf.org](http://www.wolf.org)). Project evaluation data may also be presented at the Midwest Wolf Stewards Conference if the Center’s budget allows for staff to attend.

Status as of February 1, 2015:

Status as of August 1, 2015:

Status as of February 1, 2016:

Final Report Summary:

**VI. PROJECT BUDGET SUMMARY: JUNE 2014-JUNE 2016**

**A. ENRTF Budget Overview:**

Budget Category	\$ Amount	Explanation
Personnel:	\$ 90,930	Outreach Educator (1 FTE) salary and benefits = \$45,465/year x 2 years
Equipment/Tools/Supplies:	\$ 12,403	Turning Point survey unit + clickers \$900; Handouts \$11,503 (partial of total estimated \$12,075 for total 460 schools x 35 students/class x \$0.75 each) (one-time costs)
Travel Expenses in MN:	\$ 16,667	Travel Expenses \$16,667: Mileage for outreach educator (460 schools x avg. 55 miles x \$0.565/mi. = \$14,294) + 8 trips for outreach educator to and from Twin Cities-Ely @ 525 miles x \$0.565/mi. = \$2,373
<b>TOTAL ENRTF BUDGET: \$ 120,000</b>		

Explanation of Use of Classified Staff: N/A

Explanation of Capital Expenditures Greater Than \$5,000: N/A

Number of Full-time Equivalents (FTE) Directly Funded with this ENRTF Appropriation: 2 = 1 FTE x 2 years

Number of Full-time Equivalents (FTE) Estimated to Be Funded through Contracts with this ENRTF Appropriation:

**B. Other Funds:**

Source of Funds	\$ Amount Proposed	\$ Amount Spent	Use of Other Funds
Non-state			

Unrestricted support from donors TBD	\$ 3,672	\$	\$3,672 in Handouts (balance not covered by ENTRF funds)
<b>TOTAL OTHER FUNDS:</b>	<b>\$ 3,672</b>	<b>\$</b>	

**VII. PROJECT STRATEGY:**

**A. Project Partners:** The Wolf Management Education project will serve children in schools and nature centers within the Twin Cities metro area seven counties. This is intended to include schools within the following school districts: Anoka County (Anoka-Hennepin ISD #11); Carver County (Howard Lake-Waverly-Winsted ISD #2687, Waconia ISD #110, Belle Plaine ISD #716, Chaska ISD #112, Glencoe-Silver Lake ISD #2859, Minnetonka ISD #276, Norwood-Young America ISD #108, Watertown-Mayer ISD #111); Dakota County (Burnsville-Eagan-Savage ISD #191, Cannon Falls ISD #252, Farmington ISD #192, Hastings ISD #200, Inver Grove Heights ISD #199, Lakeville ISD #194, Northfield ISD #659, Randolph ISD #195, Rosemount-Apple Valley-Eagan ISD #196, South Saint Paul Special District 6, West St. Paul-Mendota Heights-Eagan ISD #197); Hennepin County (Minneapolis Special ISD #1, Anoka-Hennepin ISD #11, Waconia ISD #110, Watertown-Mayer ISD #111, Hopkins ISD #270, Bloomington ISD #271, Eden Prairie ISD #272, Edina ISD #276, Minnetonka ISD #276, Westonka ISD #277, Orono ISD #278, Osseo ISD #279, Richfield ISD #280, Robbinsdale ISD #281, St. Anthony ISD #282, St. Louis Park ISD #283, Wayzata ISD #284, Brooklyn Center ISD #286, Elk River ISD #728, Buffalo ISD #877, Delano ISD #879, Rockford ISD #883); Ramsey County (Roseville ISD #623, St. Paul ISD #625, Mounds View ISD #621, North St. Paul-Maplewood ISD #622, St. Anthony-New Brighton ISD #282, White Bear Lake ISD #624); Scott County (Belle Plaine, Burnsville, Jordan, Lakeville, LeSueur-Henderson, Minnesota River Valley Special Ed Coop., New Prague, Prior Lake-Savage, Shakopee); Sherburne County (Becker ISD #726, Elk River ISD #728, Princeton ISD #477); Washington County (Chisago Lakes ISD #2144, East Metro Integration ISD #6067, Forest Lake Area ISD #831, Hastings ISD #200, Mahtomedia ISD #832, North St. Paul-Maplewood-Oakdale ISD #622, Northeast Metro ISD #916, South Washington ISD #833, Stillwater ISD #834, White Bear Lake Area ISD #624, Valley Crossing Community School ISD #916); Wright County (Albertville-St. Michael ISD #885, Annandale-Silver Creek-South Haven ISD #876, Buffalo-Hanover-Montrose ISD #877, Cokato-Dassel ISD #466, Delano ISD #879, Glencoe Silver Lake ISD #2859, Howard Lake-Waverly-Winsted ISD #2687, Kaleidoscope Charter School ISD #4118, Maple Lake ISD #881, Monticello ISD #882, Otsego-Elk River ISD #728, Rockford ISD #883, St. Cloud ISD #742, Watertown Mayer ISD #111, Wright Technical Center).

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

This Wolf Management Education project will have a deep and long-lasting impact on Minnesota’s wildlife and wilderness by empowering young citizens through an unbiased understanding of important issues facing our natural resources – thus educating, informing and empowering the next generation of environmental stewards. The goals of this critical project are at the heart of the International Wolf Center’s mission – to advance the survival of wolf populations by teaching about wolves, their relationship to wildlands and the human role in their future. While the Center will sunset this project as outlined in this workplan upon completion, elements of this project will continue to be engrained in future education and outreach efforts through service to Minnesota students and teachers in classrooms and online.

**C. Spending History:**

Funding Source	M.L. 2008 or	M.L. 2009 or	M.L. 2010 or	M.L. 2011 or	M.L. 2013 or
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	<b>FY09</b>	<b>FY10</b>	<b>FY11</b>	<b>FY12-13</b>	<b>FY14</b>
ENTRF (for MN WolfLink videoconferencing programs)				06/2011 \$35,698	01/2013 \$27,732
				02/2012 \$61,823	11/2013 \$32,174
				09/2012 \$32,991	

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

**IX. VISUAL ELEMENT or MAP(S):** See attached graphic.

**X. ACQUISITION/RESTORATION REQUIREMENTS WORKSHEET:** N/A

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

**XII. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:**

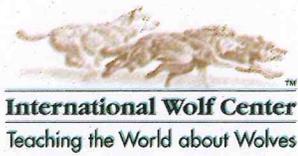
Periodic work plan status update reports will be submitted on February 1, 2015, August 1, 2015, and February 1, 2016. A final report and associated products will be submitted June 30, 2016.



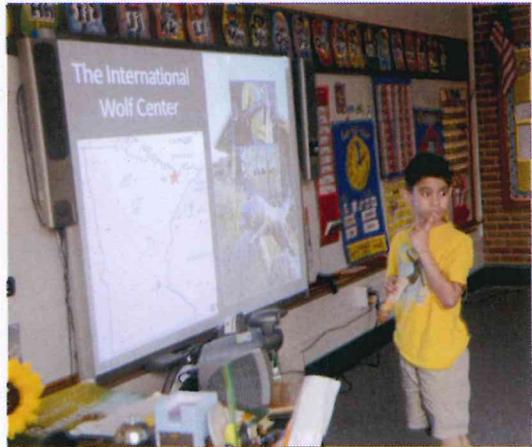
<b>Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund</b>								
<b>M.L. 2014 Project Budget</b>								
<b>Project Title:</b> <i>Wolf Management Education</i>								
<b>Legal Citation:</b> <i>M.L. 2014, Chp. 226, Sec. 2, Subd. 09i</i>								
<b>Project Manager:</b> <i>Darcy Berus</i>								
<b>Organization:</b> <i>International Wolf Center</i>								
<b>M.L. 2014 ENRTF Appropriation:</b> \$ 120,000								
<b>Project Length and Completion Date:</b> <i>2 Years, June 30, 2016</i>								
<b>Date of Report:</b> <i>January 29, 2014</i>								

<b>ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND BUDGET</b>	<b>Activity 1 Budget</b>	<b>Amount Spent</b>	<b>Activity 1 Balance</b>	<b>Activity 2 Budget</b>	<b>Amount Spent</b>	<b>Activity 2 Balance</b>	<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>TOTAL BALANCE</b>
<b>BUDGET ITEM</b>	<i>On site classroom presentations in Twin Cities schools</i>			<i>Disseminate post-program survey results of participating students (non-ENTRF funded)</i>				
<b>Personnel (Wages and Benefits)</b>								
<i>Outreach Educator salary and benefits (\$45,465/year x 2 years)</i>	\$90,930	\$0	\$90,930				\$90,930	\$90,930
<b>Equipment/Tools/Supplies</b>								
<i>Turning Point survey unit &amp; clickers (purchase of participant assessment tool to be used before and after program and post-program in evaluation)</i>				\$900	\$0	\$900	\$900	\$900
<i>Handouts (partial of estimated \$12,075 for total 460 schools x 35 students/class x \$0.75 each)</i>	\$11,503	\$0	\$11,503				\$11,503	\$11,503
<b>Travel expenses in Minnesota</b>								
<i>Mileage for outreach educator (460 schools x avg. 55 miles x \$0.565/mi. = \$14,294) + 8 trips for outreach educator to and from Twin Cities-Ely @ 525 miles x \$0.565/mi. = \$2,373</i>	\$16,667	\$0	\$16,667				\$16,667	\$16,667
<b>COLUMN TOTAL</b>	<b>\$119,100</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$119,100</b>	<b>\$900</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$900</b>	<b>\$120,000</b>	<b>\$120,000</b>

**The Wolf at Our Door: A Workshop for Young Citizens**  
LCCMR Grant Application 2014  
Images of Education Outreach Programs\*



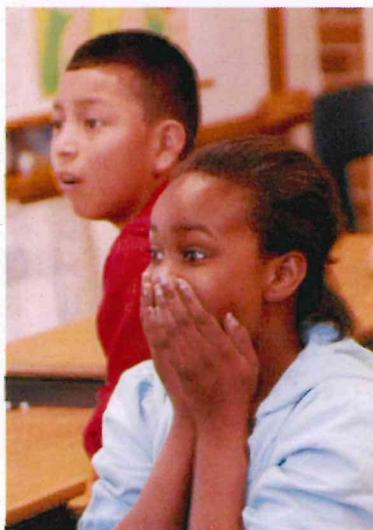
Child comparing his hand size to a wolf track



Child locating his hometown relative to Ely, MN



Children exploring wolf artifacts



*\*Note: Images shown are from previous off-site programs and used here to illustrate engaging education programs with children around wolves and wilderness. LCCMR grant funds would support a new education outreach initiative and would not be used to fund existing programs.*

