

Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund 2009 Phase 1 Request for Proposals (RFP)

LCCMR ID: A06

Project Title: Restorable Wetlands Inventory

Total Project Budget: \$ \$301,000

Proposed Project Time Period for the Funding Requested: July 2009 - June 2012 (3 yrs)

Other Non-State Funds: \$ 56,000

First Name: Darin

Last Name: Blunck

Sponsoring Organization: Ducks Unlimited, Inc.

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Region:	County Name:	City / Township:
Northwest, Central	Clay, Mahnomen, McLeod, Meeker, Nicollet, Norman,	

Summary: Addressing demand for accurate baselines of Minnesota's wetland resources; drained wetlands will be mapped in 6,120mi² of the tallgrass-prairie ecoregion, finalizing the State's digital inventory of restorable wetlands.

Main Proposal: 0808-1-009-proposal-Main Proposal 2009 - Restorable Wetlands Inventory.doc

Project Budget: 0808-1-009-budget-Ducks Unlimited - RWI 2009 Project Budget.xls

Qualifications: 0808-1-009-qualifications-Project Manager Qualifications 2009 - Restorable

Map: 0808-1-009-maps-2009 RFP - Proposed RWI Mapping .jpg

Letter of Resolution: Letter of Resolution

MAIN PROPOSAL

PROJECT TITLE: Restorable Wetlands Inventory

I. PROJECT STATEMENT

The Restorable Wetlands Inventory (RWI) is a complement to the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) completed in late-1980s by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. An administrative decision was made developing the original NWI not to map wetland basins in Minnesota identified as completely drained. The number and acreage of unmapped wetlands is significant. In Pope County alone, 25,000 wetland acres were missed in the NWI mapping process—nearly 19% of the total wetland resources in that county. RWI project resolves the data deficiency by identifying and digitizing completely-drained depressional wetlands that were originally omitted and unmapped. Restorable wetlands mapping is based upon protocols established for NWI allowing seamless integration of the two datasets.

To date, Ducks Unlimited, Inc., U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, LCCMR, and the Restorable Wetlands Working Group have mapped nearly 20,500 mi² (see **Status Map**). Around 5,540 mi² are currently being mapped via a 2008 LCCMR grant proposal. This proposal seeks LCCMR funding to the final, remaining RWI mapping for the glaciated, tallgrass prairie region of Minnesota – an additional 6,120 mi².

II. DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT RESULTS

Result 1: Red River Valley Complex Mapping Budget: \$ 125,000

Within **Clay, Mahnomen, Norman, and Wilkin Counties**, RWI product will be mapped for **72 Townships** (see Work Plan Map #1). The protocols, procedures, and deliverables will be the same as described under Result 1, but for the different geographic extent.

Deliverable

1. Imagery Acquisition
2. Photo-interpretation
3. Digitization

Completion Date

January 2010
December 2010
April 2011

Result 2: Prairie-Hardwood Complex Mapping Budget: \$ 171,000

In **Meeker, McLeod, Wright, Renville, Sibley, and Nicollet Counties**, RWI product will be mapped for **106 Townships** (see Work Plan Map #2). National Aerial Photography Program (NAPP) (1:40,000 scale) color infrared (CIR) photographs will be viewed in stereo pairs at 5x magnification using a cartographic engineering stereoscope. Drained depressional wetlands will be delineated on a Mylar overlay using a 6X0 (0.13mm diameter) rapidograph pen and indelible ink. Collateral data will be consulted during the digitization process consisting of published county soil surveys and descriptions of hydric soils, USDA Farm Service Agency compliance slides (aerial 35-mm slides) acquired in 1993 (immediately after a period of intense precipitation), USGS 7.5-minute topographic maps, and National Wetlands Inventory (NWI)

maps. Mylar overlays will be scanned to create draft digital data. The final deliverable consists of distributing the final GIS products on the Minnesota DNR Data Deli and Ducks Unlimited websites.

<u>Deliverable</u>	<u>Completion Date</u>
1. Imagery Acquisition	June 2011
2. Photo-interpretation	February 2012
3. Digitization	June 2012

III. TOTAL PROJECT REQUEST BUDGET

Staff or Contract Services: \$ 301,000

- Contract - South Dakota State University, NWI Laboratory \$ 296,000
- 5% FTE - Project Manager Ducks Unlimited, Inc. \$ 5,000

TOTAL BUDGET: \$ 301,000

IV. OTHER FUNDS AND PARTNERS

A. Project Partners

Dr. Rex Johnson, HAPET Team Leader, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service – Region 3
 Darin R. Blunck, Director of Conservation Services, Ducks Unlimited, Inc.
 Brian Huberty, Regional NWI Coordinator, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service – Region 3

B. Other Nonstate Funds being Leveraged during the Project Period

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service \$50,000 Cash/In-kind Imagery Acquisition and QA/QC
 Ducks Unlimited, Inc. \$6,000 In-kind Project Management

C. Past Spending

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service \$45,000 Cash/In-Kind
 Ducks Unlimited, Inc. \$ 6,000 In-kind
 Habitat Corridors Partnership (LCCMR) \$ 98,000 Cash
 LCCMR 2008 \$245,000 Cash (Allocated, project in-progress)

D. Time

Grant funds will be used predominantly for contract services with timeframes established for deliverables based on approximations of when the contractor estimates feasible delivery of products. LCCMR funding requests will be associated with the delivery of each result: April 2011, and June 2012.

Project Budget

INSTRUCTIONS AND TEMPLATE (1 PAGE LIMIT)

(One page limit, single-sided, 10 pt. font minimum Retain the bold text and remove all instructions typed in italics. Add or delete rows as is necessary. If a category is not applicable you may write "N/A", leave it blank, or delete the row.)

IV. TOTAL PROJECT REQUEST BUDGET

BUDGET ITEM <i>(See list of Eligible & Non-Eligible Costs, p. 17)</i>	AMOUNT	% FTE
Personnel: <i>Who is getting paid to do what and what is the % of full-time employment for each position? List out by position.</i>	\$ -	%
Project Manager, Ducks Unlimited, Inc.	\$ 5,000	4%
	\$ -	%
Contracts: <i>With whom and for what? List out by item.</i>	\$ -	
NWI Laboratory, South Dakota State University - Photo-interpretation, Digitization	\$ 296,000	
	\$ -	
Equipment/Tools: <i>What? List general description of needs.</i>	\$ -	
Acquisition (Including Easements): <i>List # of acres and who will hold title (e.g., DNR, Non-profit)</i>	\$ -	
Restoration: <i>List # of acres.</i>	\$ -	
Other: <i>List by item and explain.</i>	\$ -	
	\$ -	
TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET REQUEST TO LCCMR	\$ 301,000	

V. OTHER FUNDS

SOURCE OF FUNDS	AMOUNT	Status
Remaining \$ From Previous Trust Fund Appropriation (if applicable): <i>How much Trust Fund money remains not spent or legally obligated from any previous Trust Fund appropriation for any directly related project of the proposing project, project manager, or project organization? Specify the appropriation.</i>	\$ 245,000	M.L. 2008, Subd. 5(e); Unspent, Project Underway
Other Non-State \$ Being Leveraged During Project Period: <i>What additional non-state cash \$ will be spent on the project during the funding period? For each individual sum, list out the source of the funds, the amount, and indicate whether the funds are secured or pending approval.</i>	\$ 25,000	USFWS - Pending
Other State \$ Being Spent During Project Period: <i>What additional state cash \$ (e.g. bonding, other grants) will be spent on the project during the funding period? For each individual sum, list out the source of the funds, the amount, and indicate whether the funds are secured or pending approval.</i>	\$ -	
In-kind Services During Project Period: <i>What in-kind services will be provided during the funding period? List type of service(s) and estimated value. In-kind services listed should be specific to the project.</i>	\$ 31,000	USFWS - \$25k; DU \$6k
Past Spending: <i>List money spent or to be spent on this specific project, cash and/or in-kind, for 2-year timeframe prior to July 1, 2009</i>	\$ 49,500	USFWS - \$45k; DU \$4.5k

PROJECT MANAGER QUALIFICATIONS AND ORGANIZATION DESCRIPTION

PROJECT TITLE: Restorable Wetlands Inventory

PROJECT MANAGER QUALIFICATIONS

Project Manager: Darin R. Blunck, Director of Conservation Services
Ducks Unlimited, Inc., Great Plains Region

Education: Bachelor of Science, Wildlife and Fisheries Science, *South Dakota State University*
Masters of Science, Environmental Science, *Indiana University*

Qualifications: Mr. Blunck provides regional oversight of an \$21 million annual budget and, along with a staff of grant coordinators and compliance officers, ensures compliance with state and federal regulations. Additional responsibilities include the supervision of project coordinators, accounting staff, information systems specialists, and GIS staff. Pertinent to the Restorable Wetland Inventory request for funding, Mr. Blunck has 15 years of technical expertise in the field of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and remote sensing.

Ducks Unlimited, Inc. (DU) has extensive experience working with LCCMR receiving Trust funds primarily through the Habitat Corridors Partnership. Because of this experience, DU has a thorough understanding of LCCMR expenditure restrictions and reporting requirements and has in place the project management capability sufficient to successfully deliver projects under the this Request for Proposal.

ORGANIZATION DESCRIPTION

Ducks Unlimited, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) organization whose mission is to conserve, restore, and manage wetlands and associated habitats for North America's waterfowl and for the benefit of other wildlife and people dependent upon the proper function of those habitats.

Restorable Wetland Inventory - LCCMR

Minnesota Mapping Status 2008

